

Fast-Tracking Student Success

Andrea Ronaldi, Mathematics, Physics &
Engineering

Kim Donnelly, Languages & Literature

Key Question



- How to help students with borderline placement scores to

Review deficient skills

+

Succeed in next course(s)

REAL STUDENTS. REAL STORIES.
Realize your potential

FastTrack to College Success

Accelerated learning sessions designed to enhance students' knowledge in reading, math and English in order to either place into a higher level course or perform better in an existing course.

FastTrack Student Benefits:

- Targeted reading, math, and English courses
- Program-specific instructors and teaching assistants
- Small class sizes
- Only \$25 per session
- Ability to re-take Placement Tests (COMPASS) at no cost
- Priority placement in class of student's choice after successful completion of FastTrack program, as needed

Seats Limited! Register Now!
Use registration form on back.

2010 Summer FastTrack Programs

July 6 – 16 (Tuesday – Friday)

Reading I SSC-7070, 1 – 3:30 p.m.

Reading II SSC-7080, 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

July 20-30 (Tuesday – Friday)

English I SSC -7020, 1 – 3:30 p.m.

English II SSC-7030, 9:30 a.m. -12 p.m.

August 2 – 12 (Monday – Thursday)

Math I SSC-6010, 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Math II SSC-6020, 1 – 3:30 p.m.

Math III SSC-6030, 12 – 2:30 p.m.

Math IV SSC-6040, 3 – 5:30 p.m.

August 16 – 26 (Monday – Thursday)

Study Skills SSC-7090, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Saturdays: July 10, 17, 24, 31 and August 7

Reading II SSC-7080, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

English II SSC-7030, 1 – 5 p.m.

For More Information, Contact:
CSM Student Success Center
301-934-7657
StudentSuccess@csmd.edu



www.csmd.edu/StudentSuccess

STU-7100: FastTrack Math (2 CEU's)

Summer 2011

This two week course is designed for the student whose **COMPASS Math Placement Test (Prealgebra) score is 17-27 or 41-51**. The course is designed to help that student review math skills in an effort to reduce the time the student needs to spend taking developmental math courses. In this course, each student will use a **personalized curriculum** and software to review and improve math skills. The course will be facilitated by a CSM math faculty member; a course teaching assistant/tutor (TA) will be provided when warranted by class size. **At the conclusion of the course, each student will have an opportunity to retake the COMPASS Math Placement Test.**

Instructor	
Class Section	STU-7100-
Class times and location	
Teaching Assistant (TA)	
TA hours	
E-Mail	Instructor: TA:
Phone	Instructor:
Campus Closings	800-650-4023
Texts	None
Materials	Paper, pencils, calculator
Prerequisite	Placement in course

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

On the first day of class, students will take the **COMPASS Math Diagnostic Test**. This will help identify individual strengths and weaknesses that will guide personal practice. On the last day of class, students will take the COMPASS Math Placement Test. This will provide a demonstration of skill improvement and may permit advancement beyond a student's original placement.

PLANNING YOUR TIME

As you can see, all this practicing is going to require a commitment of your time. Like anything else—from playing a video game to playing guitar—the only way to improve your Math is to practice. Please expect to spend at least **TWO hours** per day outside of class working on course material. Please be sure you are able to make this commitment of time and energy.

Absences

Our class will meet for just 8 sessions. You need to lock in your transportation, child care, and other logistics today. Naturally, things will come up. For instance, please don't come to class with a fever and spread your cold to your classmates; however, class has to be one of your top priorities if you intend to succeed. **You must attend 80% of the class meetings (i.e., 6.5 of the 8 sessions) to complete the course and be eligible to retake the placement test.**



COURSE GRADES

The grades in Fast Track – Math 3 are CMP, ATT, I and WD.

A grade of **CMP** indicates that you completed the course, met required competencies and earned CEUs. CEUs are awarded when the student has attended 80% or more of the course and, in the instructor's judgment, has met the competencies for which the course was designed. This judgment may be based on observation, evaluative measures, demonstrations, feedback, or other appropriate means.

A grade of **ATT** indicates that you attended the course, but no CEUs were awarded. This result is given when a student has attended at least 80% of the class sessions but, in the judgment of the instructor, did not meet the competencies at an acceptable level to be awarded CEUs.

A grade of **I** (Incomplete) is given only when students, due to an emergency at the end of the semester, are unable to complete the last day or two of the course. An I is given only rarely in a FastTrack course. Before giving a grade of I, the instructor must confer with the division chair.

A grade of **WD** indicates that the student withdrew. A student who does not attend 80% of the class sessions and is not issued an "I" (incomplete) must be issued a WD by the instructor. A student may also initiate a WD result at any time during the course. (Students should use the drop/add form found in the continuing education schedule.)

Best-Practices for Logistics

- Training for instructor
- Intensity model, held on consecutive days outside of regularly scheduled classes
- Tutor available one hour before and one hour after session
- Individualized student consultation when placing in higher level course
- Guaranteed seat in higher level course

How FastTrack Is Set Up

Prior to Registration

Prospective students identified by Compass Placement (either almost placing into a higher class, or barely placed into a course) or returning adults needing a brush-up



Day 1

Introductions, Course Selections, Contracts, Introduction to Tutorial Software, Diagnostic test to identify student strengths and weaknesses that will guide student practice



Day 2-7

Student-directed self-paced use of Tutorial Software. Instructor and/or Teaching Assistant circulate to provide individual or small group instruction as needed.



Day 8

Compass Placement

Course Reservation Form

- **FastTrack Math/Algebra Course Request** **Summer 2011**
- **Student:** _____ **CSM ID:** _____
- **Fall 2011 current enrollment course information:**
MTH-____(course number) - _____(section number)
- **Fall 2011 requested course section (in case of higher placement):**
MTH-____(course number) - _____(section number)
- **FastTrack Math/Algebra Instructor:** _____

A Typical 2 ½ Hour Class Session

- 0:00 No-fail topic starter (topic based on common theme in pre-test results), whole group practice
- 0:20 Individual/small group practice, whole group review
- 0:45 Individual practice in software, tutor and instructor circulate
- 2:15 Wrap-up and homework practice

Inference

The Old Man and the Sea

By Ernest Hemingway

1952

A Skiff



Drascombe Association

<http://www.drascombe-association.org.uk/drascombe.htm?drascombetext.htm~info>

The Old Man and the Sea

- He was an old man who fished alone in a skiff in the Gulf Stream and he had gone eighty-four days now without taking a fish.
- In the first forty days a boy had been with him.

[Home](#) > Study Plan

Search :

 Search Study Plan

Click on a topic to begin working. Use the drop down menu to choose from your "To Do List", your "Mastered Topics," or Topics."

Reading Skills

View Calendar

Key Icon Key

All Topics

[Reading Skills Diagnostic Pre-Test \(Required\)](#)[Active Reading Strategies](#)[Vocabulary](#)[Main Idea](#)[Supporting Details](#)[Patterns of Organization](#)[Pattern of Organization - Time Order](#)[Pattern of Organization - Spatial Order](#)[Purpose and Tone](#)[Inference](#)[Graphics and Visuals](#)[Memorization and Concentration](#)[Test Taking](#)[Combined Skills](#)

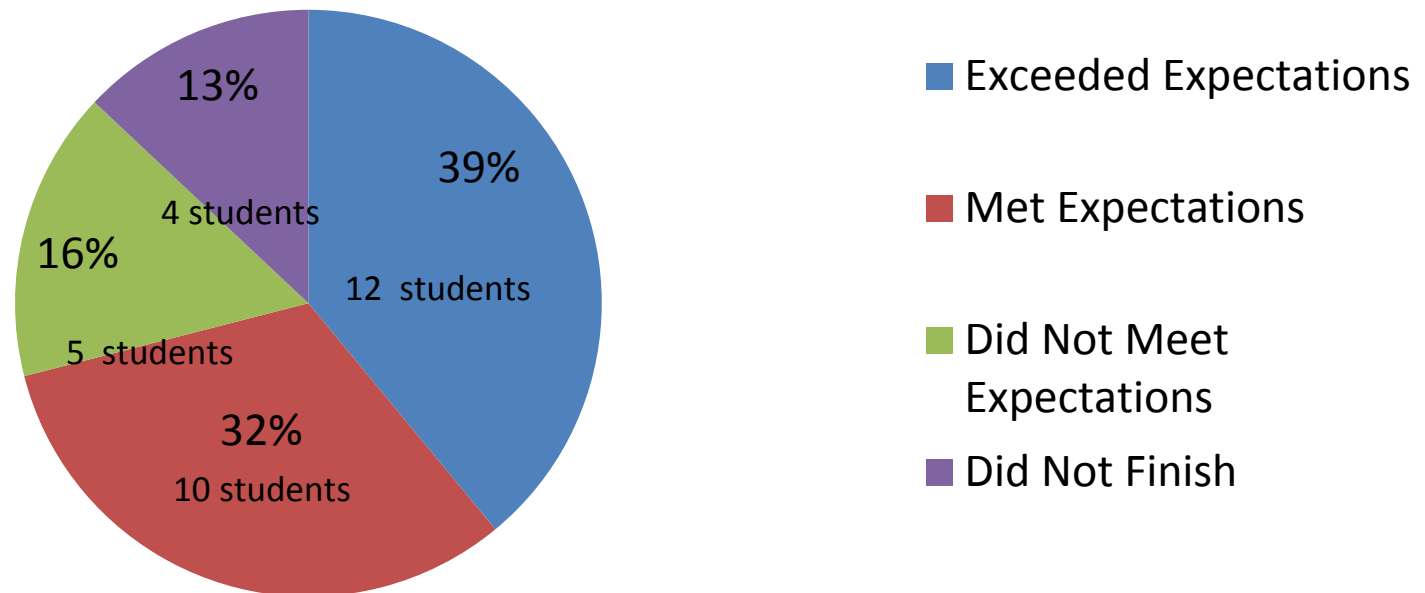
Best-Practices for Learning

- Active-learning, linked to specific student needs
- Individualized, on-demand assistance
- Immediate, automated student feedback
- Ongoing assessment
- Abbreviated learning community

MTH FastTrack

31 Enrollees Summer 2010

Expectation of FastTrack was higher placement

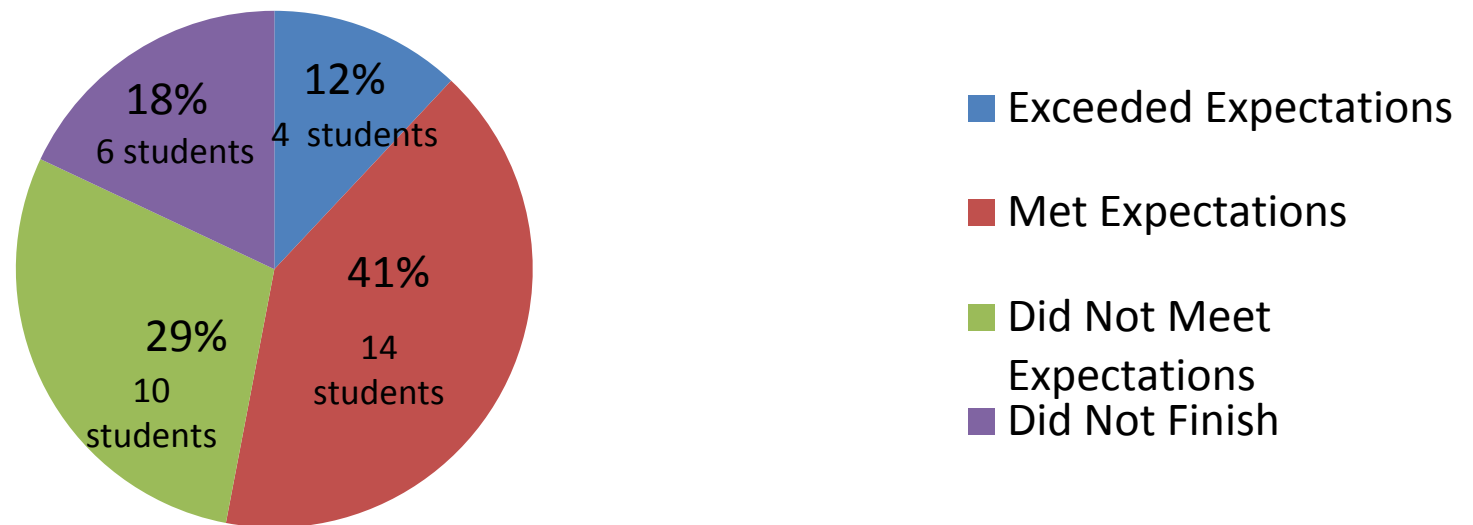


Course	% of Students Passing Follow-On Course
Mathematics	50% (pass rate is 48% for all students)
Algebra	74% (pass rate is 48% for all students)

MTH FastTrack

34 Enrollees Summer 2011

Expectation of FastTrack was higher placement



Course	% of Students Passing Follow-On Course
Mathematics	Data to be collected
Algebra	Data to be collected

LAN FastTracks

104 Enrollees Total, 9 sections

Course	% of Students Improving Placement
Reading	81% (18 students)
English	79% (82 students)

Course (Summer 2010 & Jan. 2011 only)	% of FastTrack Students with Higher Placement Who Passed the Follow-On Course in the Next Semester
Reading	75% (3 of 4 students)
English	43% (9 of 21 students)

Some Observations from Student Participants

- “FastTrack definitely prepared me for the math class that I'm in now. . . I currently have a 98 average in math, if it wasn't for the FastTrack class I'm sure it wouldn't be so high.”
- . . .” I would definitely recommend the FastTrack class to a friend even if they didn't need to improve their placement test scores. The class was excellent at brushing up my skills and preparing me for my math class.”

One Huge Success Story

- One young woman started out with a 15 on COMPASS English.
- She earned a 79 at the end of FastTrack.
- Net gain: skipped one year of dev. English
- She earned an A in ENG 1010T and has a 4.0 GPA.

Thoughts Provoked

1. What about students who have begun the developmental sequence?
2. Can the modular approach be applied to semester courses?
3. How can we attract the right students at the right time?

Your Questions....

Contact Information

- Andrea Ronaldi
 - 301-934-7852
 - andrear@csmd.edu
- Kim Donnelly
 - 301-934-7867
 - kimdon@csmd.edu