

Dallas County Community College District—Eastfield College, TX

Two Year • Fewer than 10,000 Students • MyMathLab

Eastfield College's developmental mathematics program is motivated by student success and retention. In the past, as a response to the diversity of its students' abilities and learning styles, multiple instructional formats were offered with mixed results. In 2011, the school's Computerized Modular Mathematics committee embarked on a redesign of the program—and selected MyMathLab as a consistent and unifying element across redesigned computerized instructional courses.

Vital components of the redesign include mastery learning, pretests to customize homework assignments, tutors to provide immediate assistance, and minilectures to support student learning. A total of 75 students registered for the first 8-week courses. The learning gains of this group far exceeded the committee's expectations.

- **Retention increased 22 percentage points**—from 58 percent under the previous computerized instruction model to 80 percent with MyMathLab. Retention rates for the college's traditional lecture developmental math courses is 70 percent.
- **Success rates (a final course grade of A, B, or C) more than doubled**—from 35 percent under the previous model to 73 percent with MyMathLab. The success rate for traditional lecture developmental math courses is 55 percent.

Student surveys reveal that students aren't just learning more, they're enjoying it, too: 92.9 percent of students strongly agreed or agreed with the statement, "I enjoyed using MyMathLab software." Their personal comments include:

- "I've been out of math since my sophomore year of high school and out of high school for four years, so I really needed a refresher. This class helped—I got the help I needed and felt comfortable asking questions. I give it an A+."
- MyMathLab is a really good program. I like that I can retest for a better grade and that I am corrected while actually doing the work. It saves me from earning really bad grades, while I'm in the process of learning."

Eastfield College instructors enjoy using MyMathLab and appreciate the program's benefits.

- "Our previous computer instruction model was boring. I couldn't interact with my students or get to know them in the way that I can now."
- "I've seen more students progress in these first weeks than I ever saw before."

According to Yolanda Manzano, mathematics professor, the college is eager to track the program's progress in the coming semesters. "Although these results are preliminary, we're very excited about the way that MyMathLab has helped Eastfield College transform its developmental mathematics sequence into a dynamic, engaging, and exciting program."

—Submitted by Yolanda Manzano, Professor