



Final Report, Fall 2017

Program Statistics

- SLA was offered with 16 courses and 38 sections, compared to the 15 courses and 37 sections offered last fall. There were 28 facilitators, 15 of which were first-time facilitators.
- A total of 22 faculty members participated in SLA compared to 19 last fall.
- SLA served 950 students in Fall 17. This compares to 862 students in Fall 16. This is up 88 students from last fall.

New Courses and Initiatives

- MATH 109 was a new SLA course offering.

Outcomes for Fall 17

There were several courses that stood out this semester, including:

- The SLA sections of ACCT 201 had an 83% pass rate compared to 81% for both the NSLA and SLAC sections. This was despite a lower average HS GPA for the SLA sections.
- The SLA sections of BIOL 108 had an 81% pass rate while the SLAC sections had a 70% pass rate.
- The SLA section of BIOL 122 had a 94% pass rate while the SLAC sections had a 75% pass rate.
- The SLA for RADI 121 had a pass rate of 98% with 4 withdrawals and 0 failures compared to a pass rate of 91% with 3 withdrawals and 0 failures from Fall 2016.
- The SLA for EEET 124 had a pass rate of 100% with 0 withdrawals and 0 failures compared to a pass rate of 71% with 0 withdrawals and 0 failures from Fall 2016.
- The SLA for MATH 010 had a pass rate of 88% with 0 withdrawals and 3 failures compared to a pass rate of 54% with 0 withdrawals and 5 failures for the NSLA section.
- The SLA for MATH 109 had a pass rate of 100% with 2 withdrawals and 0 failures while the NSLA sections had a 77% pass rate with 0 withdrawals and 5 failures.
- The SLA for MATH 110 had a pass rate of 82% while the NSLA and SLAC sections had pass rates of 75% and 79% respectively.
- The SLA for MATH 115 had a pass rate of 72% while the SLAC sections had a pass rate of 48%.

- The SLA for CHEM 114 had a pass rate of 85% while the NSLA and SLAC sections had a 71% and 82% pass rate respectively.
- The SLA for CHEM 121 had a pass rate of 89% while the NSLA and SLAC sections had a 90% and 83% pass rate respectively. The SLA section had a significantly lower GPA than the other sections.

Challenges

- The SLA for CHEM 103 had a pass rate of 80% with 2 withdrawals and 8 failures compare to a pass rate of 92% with 5 withdrawals and 3 failures from Fall 2016.

Student Comments

- *I greatly appreciated the help it provided and was very happy with it.*
- *I thought it was really helpful to my overall grade.*
- *Very good instructor! He definitely has a knack for accounting. This allowed me to understand the course material to a higher degree. I feel as though I might not have passed this course without the help of SLA.*
- *It helped me a lot and wish there was another one for accounting 202.*
- *I would not have been able to pass the class without taking SLA with this class. It was an extremely difficult course even after spending time on the homework and learnsmart assignments.*
- *It was helpful to understand material and the practice testing helped me understand what I need to work on.*
- *I enjoyed having SLA extra practice. Ferris should offer more SLA courses for the tougher classes.*
- *Overall, SLA does not really need to be changed. Being able to “test” out of SLA is a huge benefit, as it provided an incentive to perform well in the class.*
- *I liked it. Just not how late it was.*
- *My SLA experience was good and it really helped me plan out what I was going to study and how I studied the material.*
- *Set them for earlier times.*
- *Between SLA and the tegrity lectures there should be no way to fail. SLA was a monumental help with class.*
- *I got value out of each SLA meeting and performed much better on exams when I went.*
- *It was super. Favorite part of my day.*

Faculty Comments

1. What information shared by the SLA facilitator about the way students are receiving or understanding your course material has had the greatest impact on your instructional process?

- *Could go back and review, if needed (and time permits).*
- *Lab activity perspectives.*
- *Having two ways / people through which to communicate with students.*
- *If there is a specific topic or concept that the students need additional “in class” review, the SLA facilitator might be the 1st to know.*
- *None. I’ve been teaching this course for over 20 years, so nothing she says about SLA surprises me.*
- *Make improvements to wording of online questions used for homework, quizzes, tests.*
- *No change to my instructional process, since our communications didn’t focus on “receiving or understanding course material”.*

2. Do you feel being involved in the SLA Program has helped to improve your own teaching?

In what ways? (Please be specific.)

- *Mickey has done the job for many years and helps others around her excel.*
- *Yes. The facilitator makes me think about things differently.*
- *Yes, helps to improve communication with students.*
- *It allows for students to “take another bite out of the apple” – that is a second live exposure after (listening in class, listening to Tegrity, working in group and then attending SLA sessions).*
- *Not really.*
- *My involvement in SLA and tutoring helped me communicate the benefits of both programs to students and as a result hopefully an improvement in the understanding of MATH 115 for students.*

3. Can you offer any suggestions about additional information, skills, or strategies that might be helpful for future SLA Faculty orientation/training sessions?

- *None. (as Mickey is very skilled, experienced at this role)*
- *No.*
- *N/A*
- *Mix-up the problems. Review old problems.*

- *No.*
 - *None.*
4. **Is there anything that the SLA Program Supervisor can do to assist you more in your involvement with the SLA Program? Is communication, training, information, etc. satisfactory?**
- *All good!*
 - *No.*
 - *N/A*
 - *See #5 below (3rd bullet)*
 - *No. It's all good!*
 - *None.*
 - *No.*
 - *No and yes satisfactory.*
5. **Please share any additional comments you feel would help in the evaluation of the SLA Program.**
- *Two evaluations per semester is fine.*
 - *N/A*
 - *The success of the SLA experience lies heavily on the individual selected for SLA ...*
 - *I had an awesome SLA facilitator this semester! Way to go Miranda!*
 - *Maybe fewer student evaluations? Videos on grit, growth mindset etc.?*
 - *None at this time.*
 - *Karl did a great job! My only requirement of Karl was providing students with 2 pre-tests. I believe it reduces test anxiety and stress. Students not required to attend SLA would attend the pre-tests. Great program for students!*

Training

- SLA Faculty and Facilitator Meet and Greet held August 25, 2017
- Informal training conversations with SLA Faculty occur periodically
- New SLA facilitator training was held August 23th – 25th, 2017
- Monthly meetings are held for SLA Facilitators