Mastery-based, Modularized, Self-paced Courses for Student Success: There is more than one way to Emporium!

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STLCC Mission Statement

St. Louis Community College expands minds and changes lives every day.

We create accessible, dynamic learning environments focused on the needs of our diverse communities.

Wildwood campus
Ten Words to Teach By....

We want students to succeed at St. Louis Community College!

Link to Opening Video

Wildwood campus
What is the Wildwood Lab Format?

In many ways, it is like an Online Course that requires students to be on-task on campus twice a week...
What is the Wildwood Lab Format?

• Students **attend class** an equal number of hours as a traditional lecture student
• While in class, students choose how to spend their time.
• The **Work Components** Include:
  ✓ Lecture Video & Notes
  ✓ Homework
  ✓ Quizzes & Handouts
  ✓ Tests
What Works in Developmental Math

• Student-Faculty Interaction that is “high touch”
• High Expectations
• Structure with Flexibility
• Mastery Learning
• Seamless transition between classes
• Requirements *rather than* Optional
Student-Faculty Interaction that is “high touch”

Our Lab Format allows faculty to work one-on-one with students during class. There is also an *Educational Assistant (EA) working with students.  *One EA covers two classes.

**Tutoring  Advising  Encouraging**
Student-Faculty Interaction that is “high touch”

Students work at a computer and can use a “flag” to request help.
High Expectations

The one-on-one interaction with students allows faculty to communicate with students that their expectation is that everyone will succeed.
Structure with Flexibility

1. “Self-Paced” is not the best option for most students in developmental math courses!

2. We have suggested due dates and encourage all students to keep to these dates.

3. However...when “Life Happens”, and a student gets behind, they can still be successful!
Mastery Learning

1. Students take a “pre-test” that is used to individualize their homework assignments.

2. Students must score 70% or higher on the Module test in order to exit a module.
Mastery Learning

Students are passing our departmental final exam at a higher rate than they have in the past!
Seamless Transition

Problem: What happens when the semester ends and the student is not finished?

It’s Groundhog Day...again!
Seamless Transition

Students can begin the next class as soon as they complete the course work. Students can pick up where they left off the following semester.
Modularized
Each class is divided into 6 modules. When a student who does not complete all six modules re-enrolls the following semester, they can pick up where they left off rather than starting at the beginning of the course.
Student Comments...

What do you like about the Self Paced Lab Class format?

☆ “I like that I can work ahead when I have time”

☆ “I work at my own pace and I don’t feel bored at all.”

☆ “I like it because it is organized.”

☆ “No boring lectures, and you can learn how you want but you can still ask questions when you need help.”

☆ “Going back and reviewing previous assignments for clarification.”

☆ “It’s easy to make up missed assignments and classes.”

☆ “Being able to watch the videos often.”
Student Comments...

What about the Self Paced Lab Class Format has helped you succeed?

★ “The ability to watch the lecture videos more than once.”
★ “The great teachers who help out on any trouble I have.”
★ “Having the lecture notes and self-correcting Homework.”
★ “All of the opportunities to work extra problems.”
★ “I am learning to be organized.”
★ “I don’t have to waste time on the things I already knew.”
Success Information

1. Every student who completed the six modules and took the final exam scored a passing grade on the final exam.

2. Fewer students dropped the course than in past years.

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3. What we don’t yet know...
   • How will this affect our College Algebra success rates?
   • How will students do on the final exam when they took a full year to complete the modules?
Work in Progress

Our Lab Format is a work in progress. We are always looking for ways to improve our student success rates.
Why Lab Format

• Student Success
• Student Self-efficacy
• Flexibility
• Individualized Assistance from an instructor and an assistant
If you are... using some form of emporium model or if you are investigating emporium models, let me know if you would like to discuss the topic further!

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