

After reviewing the most recent data on teacher to same teacher comparison here are a few items I noticed and recommendations based on this information. First it is important to note that 66% of the LC's classes had either higher retention and/or persistence percentages compared to the instructors non LC classes. While not always a statistically significant difference there does seem to be a general tend for greater success in the LC classes.

In two of the classes that were not as successful both experienced a mid semester switch in teachers. It is difficult to say how much this affected the classes but antidotal evidence from students indicates that it had a strong adverse effect. If these two classes are not considered in the analysis the LC classes have higher retention and/or persistence percentage rates in 75% of the classes.

One of the most significant findings is that for the AFFIRM LC history classes, the ONLY class that showed higher passing and retention percentage rates was the Spring 2008 class that was not embedded in a larger history class.

Spring 2008 (two section #'s for the same class)

History 30B Sections 31942, 92271 (Both Learning Community) and 76074 (Comparison)						
	Passed		Retained		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Comparison Section Students	84	70.6%	85	71.4%	119	85.6%
Learning Community Students	17	85.0%	17	85.0%	20	14.4%
<i>Total</i>	<i>101</i>	<i>72.7%</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>73.4%</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

Fall 2008

History 30A Sections 27021 (Learning Community) and 74670 (Comparison)						
	Passed		Retained		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Comparison Section Students	38	73.1%	41	78.8%	52	63.4%
Learning Community Students	21	70.0%	21	70.0%	30	36.6%
<i>Total</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>72.0%</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>75.6%</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

Spring 2009

History 30A Sections 55214 (Learning Community) and 32818 (Comparison)						
	Passed		Retained		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Comparison Section Students	96	67.6%	100	70.4%	142	81.6%
Learning Community Students	20	62.5%	22	68.8%	32	18.4%
<i>Total</i>	<i>116</i>	<i>66.7%</i>	<i>122</i>	<i>70.1%</i>	<i>174</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

History 30B Sections 87062 (Learning Community), 74565 and 59616 (Both Comparison)						
	Passed		Retained		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Comparison Section Students	214	66.3%	249	77.1%	323	92.0%

Learning Community Students

19

67.9%

20

71.4%

28

8.0%