

CHAPTER 9

COURSE OFFERINGS & ENROLLMENT



Sections, Seats, and Enrollments

Figure 9-1 below presents five-years of data on the number of seats available, enrollments, and percentage of seats filled. The number of seats available increased substantially in Fall 2006 and reached a five year historically high point in Fall 2008. Table 9-1 displays that for the past five years the number of sections offered and seats available have steadily increased. Additionally, the enrollments per student have also increased.

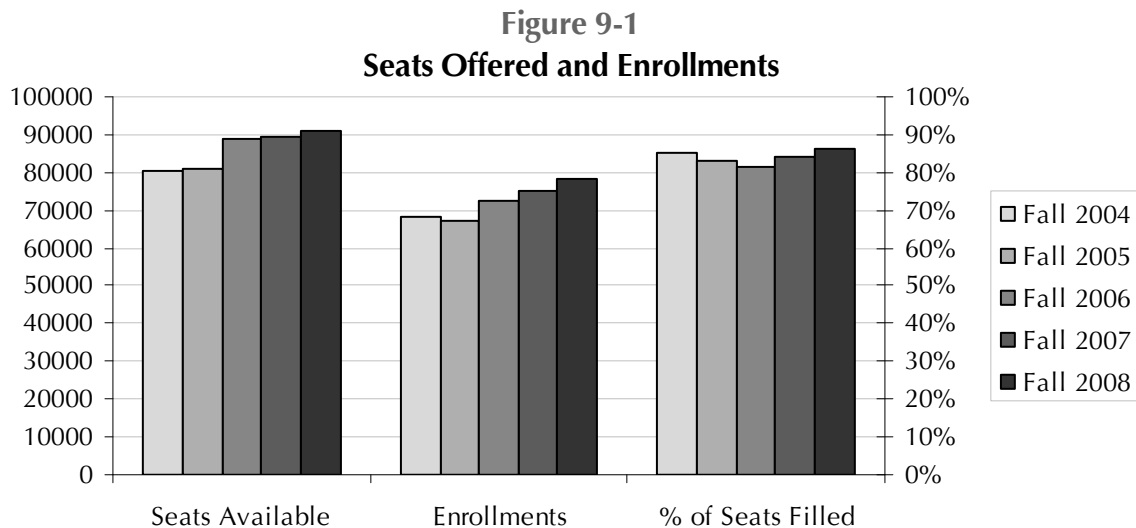


Table 9-1
Sections, Seats, Students, and Enrollments

	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007	Fall 2008
Sections	2643	2649	2885	2950	2881
Seats	80423	80976	89014	89604	90762
Seats/Section	30.4	30.6	30.9	30.4	31.5
Students	25162	24822	25132	25901	26863
Enrollments	68423	67460	72403	75305	78431
Enrollments/Student	2.72	2.72	2.88	2.91	2.92
% of Seats Filled	85.1	83.3	81.3	84.0	86.4

Table 9-2
Sections and Seats for
Day and Evening

		Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007	Fall 2008
<i>Number</i>						
Day						
	Sections	1912	1913	2073	2108	2092
	Seats	57405	57749	62963	62769	64867
Evening						
	Sections	731	736	812	842	789
	Seats	23018	23227	26051	26835	25895
<i>Percent</i>						
Day						
	Sections	72.3	72.2	71.9	71.5	72.6
	Seats	71.4	71.3	70.7	70.1	71.5
Evening						
	Sections	27.7	27.8	28.1	28.5	27.4
	Seats	28.6	28.7	29.3	29.9	28.5

Course Sections

The number of sections provides a measure of class availability. Enrollment is the number of students who take certain courses.

PCC offers a wide variety of courses each term. Figure 9-2 shows the numerous sections offered by PCC's 15 instructional divisions in Fall 2008. The Performing/Communication Arts Division offers the most sections, followed by the Social Science Division. Among the major instructional divisions, Health Sciences offers the fewest sections, with the Engineering and Technology Division just above it.

Although the Performing/Communication Arts Division offers the most sections, in Fall 2008, the Social Sciences Division has the highest number of enrollments (as shown in Figure 9-3), followed by Performing/Communication Arts, Mathematics, and the Visual Arts.

In Fall 2006, the English Composition Program instituted co-requisite credit courses. The Program includes English 900, 901, and 902 which are co-requisite for English 1A, 100 and 400 respectively. Prior to Fall 2006 the co-requisite courses were required, but were offered as non-credit.

Figure 9-2
Fall 2008 Sections Offered by
Division

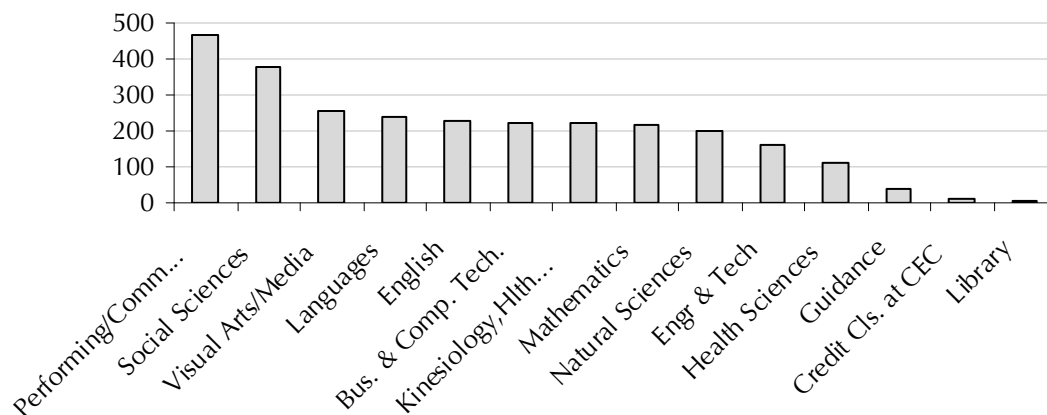
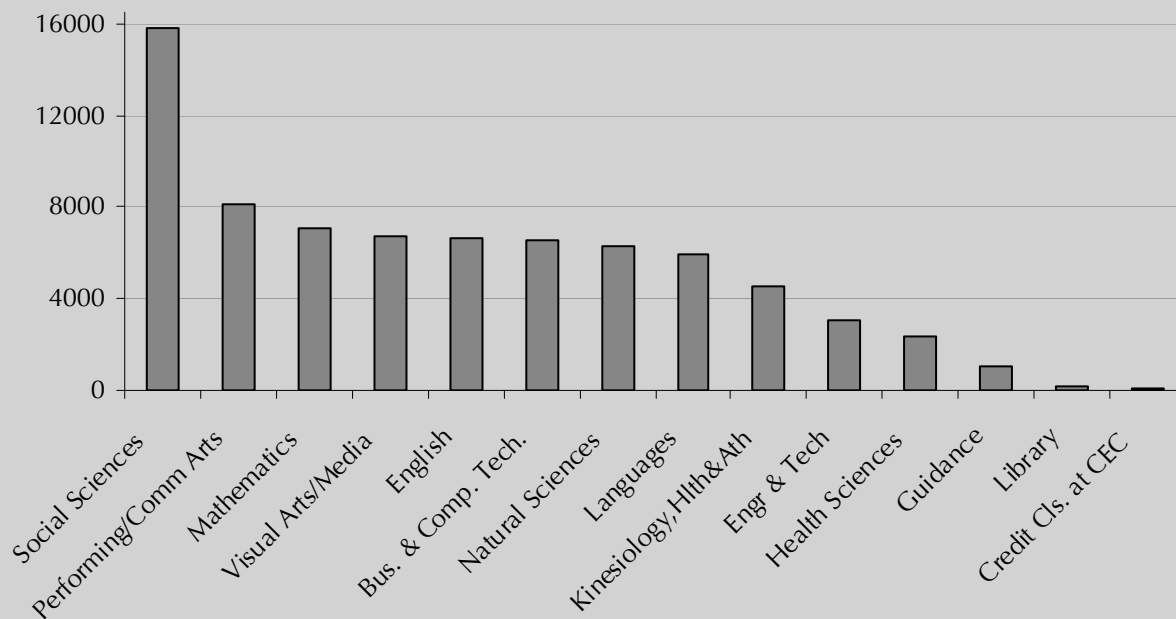


Figure 9-3
Fall 2008 Enrollments by
Division



Basic Skills Enrollment

PCC offers basic skills classes in English, ESL, and Math. These courses are designed to assist students who need remedial help with arithmetic, reading, writing, and understanding the English language. In this section, we examine the number of credit students enrolled in basic skills classes in the Fall terms from 2004 to 2008. Because students can only enroll in classes that have seats available, and these classes tend to fill quickly, the enrollment trends closely match changes in the number of sections offered in basic skills. Note that data are on all basic skills courses, not just those in the core sequence.

The percent of credit students who enrolled in at least one basic skills class has remained relatively stable for the past five years. The number is approximately 9% in Fall 2008. Enrollment in basic skills Math has remained stable at 3% in Fall 2007 and Fall 2008. In Fall 2008, 2% of credit students enrolled in basic skills ESL classes.

Figure 9-4
Basic Skills Enrollment in
Fall Terms

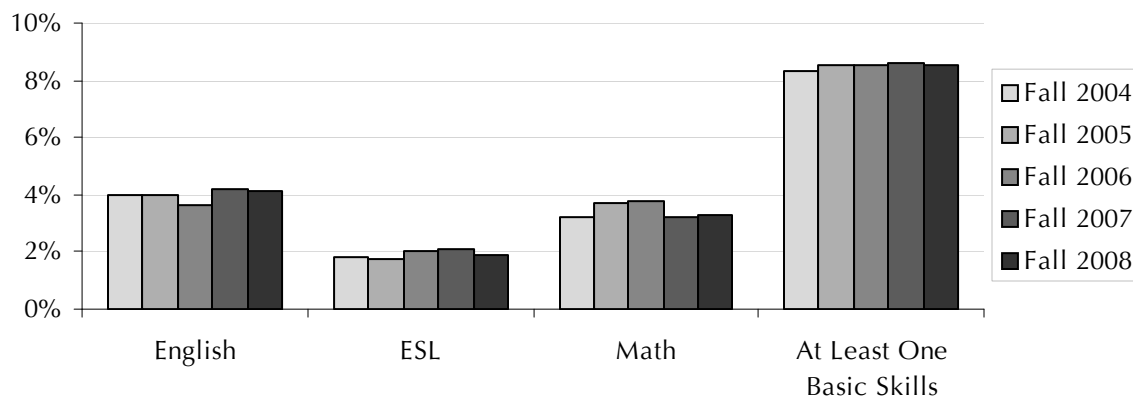


Table 9-3
Basic Skills Enrollment in
Fall Terms

		Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007	Fall 2008
<i>Number</i>						
	English	996	996	915	1092	1076
	ESL	461	442	518	551	486
	Math	806	914	956	825	845
	At Least One Basic Skills	2101	2126	2136	2235	2201
<i>Percent of All Students</i>						
	English	4.0	4.0	3.6	4.2	4.2
	ESL	1.8	1.8	2.1	2.1	1.9
	Math	3.2	3.7	3.8	3.2	3.3
	At Least One Basic Skills	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.5

Table 9-4
Basic Skills Enrollment of
First-time Students

		Fall 2002	Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006
<i>Number</i>						
	English	1033	904	894	806	899
	ESL	314	240	222	241	271
	Math	794	992	828	782	889
	At Least One Basic Skills	1672	1663	1525	1444	1611
<i>Percent of Cohort</i>						
	English	19.9	17.1	16.8	15.2	16.9
	ESL	6.1	4.5	4.2	4.5	5.1
	Math	15.3	18.7	15.6	14.7	16.7
	At Least One Basic Skills	32.2	31.4	28.7	27.2	30.3

Basic Skills Enrollment of First-time Students

Historically, information on the number of basic skills students was based on the number of students who enroll in basic skills classes in any one semester. This tends to be 8% to 11% of the credit students. However, these classes often fill to capacity and concern arose as to whether more students were in need of basic skills classes. Thus, it was decided to track new first-time college students for two years and examine what proportion of the cohort took a basic skills class within two years. Using this type of cohort analysis, the proportion of students who took at least one basic skills class decreased from 32% in Fall 2002 to 27% in Fall 2005. Fall 2006 shows a slight increase over Fall 2005 (3%).

Enrollments in basic skills English for first time students have declined steadily since Fall 2002 but in Fall 2006 there was a noteworthy increase in enrollments. Both the Fall 2006 basic skills ESL and Math cohort enrollments increased compared to the previous two fall terms.

Figure 9-5
Basic Skills Enrollment of
First-time Students

