

iRead – “a world of possibilities”

Quality Enhancement Plan - North Lake College 2013

The purpose of the iRead project is to accelerate the path and increase the number of developmental reading students who transition and succeed in college-level course work and degree programs. Toward that end, the project includes three major initiatives:

1. Redesign and acceleration of the developmental reading curriculum to pair developmental reading courses with a corresponding college-level student success course.
 - The acceleration model combines two levels of developmental reading and provides students a path into college level core classes after one semester.
 - A redesigned curriculum created with a backward design approach offers detailed lessons, assignments and instructor notes.
 - Pairing all upper level developmental reading courses with a three-credit, college level, transferrable Learning Framework course, EDUC 1300, provides deliberate opportunities for contextualized learning. This course is structured to provide the concepts, strategies and educational planning needed to meet immediate and long term goals of students in a supported environment.
2. Comprehensive professional development to incorporate best instructional practices, utilize instructional technology, and integrate student success principles in developmental reading courses
 - Ongoing support for instructors in both developmental reading and learning framework courses includes active and cooperative learning, as well as activities that align with learning outcomes.
 - A Peer Evaluation Program (Teaching Squares) allows developmental reading and learning framework faculty to observe one another using new strategies in the classroom.
3. Supplemental support for developmental reading students through the creation of a tutoring lab and a required academic advising component.
 - Students are required to complete ten hours outside of class in one-on-one or group tutoring or additional lab work. An iRead lab was created in conjunction with the Academic Skills Center.
 - Educational Advising is embedded in the Learning Framework course through presentations and degree plan activities coordinated through the advising office. Students are required to visit their assigned advisor one-on-one to review and discuss educational plans.

Strategies and outcomes have been identified for each of these initiatives as part of a comprehensive assessment plan that provides both formative and summative data on the project’s progress toward achieving stated goals. The project also includes a five-year implementation plan, key personnel within an effective organizational structure, and a budget that provides sufficient resources to support project activities.

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