

Inquiry: Hartnell College is considering a transition to eight-week formatted courses.

Problem: Although institutions such as Amarillo and Odessa Community Colleges have qualitative and quantitative data suggesting the move to eight-week courses is universally beneficial to students, both school systems share similar demographics, including geography, that may make the data unique.

Solution: In order to test the feasibility of such a transition at Hartnell College, a test pilot for academic year 2024/2025 will be conducted using the 8-week format.

Participants and Structure: Four cohorts, each of 31 students ($n= 124$), will be recruited from Panther Prep and incentivized (TBD) to participate in the pilot. Using a pre-planned schedule (Table A), students will have their entire academic year (2024/2025) scheduled (24 units total) and will take all courses with their same cohort. Participating faculty will also be incentivized using the FIG model.

Resources will include embedded tutors, instructional specialists, embedded librarians and/or dedicated student specialists support.

Data Analysis: Key quantitative metrics, such as persistence and success, will be measured for the cohort and compared to historical data. Key qualitative metrics, such as faculty and student experience, will be analyzed for key benefits and concerns.

TABLE A: 8-WEEK PILOT COURSE SCHEDULE

	FALL A 2024	FALL B 2024	SPRING A 2025	SPRING B 2025
COHORT #1	COU 1 (3) ENG 1A (3) or ENG 1AX (4)	BUS 199 (1) LIB 2 (1) SCIENCE LEC/LAB (4)	COM 1 (3) TAC 1 (3)	COU 30 (1) MAT 13 (4) or MAT 13/213 (5) PEAC xx (1)
COHORT #2	COU 1 ENG 1A or ENG 1AX	SCIENCE LEC/LAB LIB 2 BUS 199	COM 1 TAC 1	COU 30 MAT 13 or MAT 13/213 PEAC xx
COHORT #3	COU 1 ENG 1A or ENG 1AX	SCIENCE LEC/LAB LIB 2 BUS 199	COM 1 TAC 1	COU 30 MAT 13 or MAT 13/213 PEAC xx
COHORT #4	COU 1 ENG 1A or ENG 1AX	SCIENCE LEC/LAB LIB 2 BUS 199	COM 1 TAC 1	COU 30 MAT 13 or MAT 13/213 PEAC xx