

LEAD

Latina/o Empowerment at De Anza

A cohort community featuring English composition courses
from Basic Skills through Transfer Level

*Familia *Social Justice *Community Service



Familia

LEAD students

- Succeed in cohort classes
- Mentor and tutor one another
- Create emotionally and academically sustaining relationships
- Provide continuing support through the LEAD club

LEAD alumni

- * Offer guidance to bridge the transfer experience
- * Return to De Anza to offer life-long learning opportunities



LEAD Community Partners



**CENTER FOR
FARMWORKER FAMILIES**



Social Justice Projects

LEAD Students Make Their Writing Public. They:

- Create and Conduct workshops on immigrant rights
- Tutor and mentor K-12 students in literacy and leadership skills
- Lobby legislators and march on Sacramento and San Francisco to fight educational budget cuts
- Collect and publish oral histories of migrant farm workers and their children
- Have written and now fund a community service award for undocumented students
- Teach basic English to adult farm workers
- Staff a summer camp for migrant children
- Work in a family literacy program through Project READ

LEAD students succeed

Institutional research shows that students in LEAD EWRT courses exceed those in comparator courses, with:

- consistently higher success rates --
as high as 93% compared to 82% in comparator courses
- consistently higher persistence rates --
as high as 71% compared to 52% in comparator courses
- significantly lower withdrawal rates --
typically less than 3% compared to an average of 9% in comparator courses
- consistently higher GPA's --
typically higher than 3.1 compared to an average of 2.8 in comparator courses

LEAD Students complete their education and transfer.
They also go to graduate school!



LEAD – What makes it work?

- Relevant Curriculum -- emphasizes immigrant rights, leadership development, community change, and alliance building
- Familia – provides a sense of belonging, a way back when you're lost, continuing support and acceptance through graduation, and far beyond
- Community Service – connects classroom learning to community realities in immediately empowering and transformative ways
- Social Justice – focus on community change and making writing public enhance respect for diversity and reaffirm students' ability to make a tangible impact on the world

What's next for LEAD?

Spring 2012 LInC
with Sociology 20

Ongoing collaboration
with other De Anza
cohort communities

Writing course
in development:
“Critical Thinking for
Community Change”

