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

Project READ

SIREN
SERVICES, IMMIGRANT RIGHTS & EDUCATION NETWORK

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 LiInC with Sociology 20

Ongoing collaboration with other De Anza cohort communities

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