



Potential Impact on FTES when Modifying Course Caps

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Summary of Findings

- 47 courses were identified as potentially realizing a decrease in FTES if course enrollment caps were reduced by 10%.
- Of the courses identified, the average section cap was 47 students over the last five academic years.
- 72% of identified courses have an average section cap greater than 35 students.

Implications

Faculty, department chairpersons, and instructional deans should consider the possible impact on FTES when proposing course enrollment limit modifications for the following courses:

ACCT-208, AH-090, AH-101, ANTHRO-100, ANTHRO-102, ANTHRO-106, ART-100, ASL-101, BUSAD-100, BUSAD-200, BUSAD-210, CD-105, CD-112, CD-115, ECON-200, ECON-201, EMS-020, EMS-103, GEOG-110, HEALTH-102, HIST-100, HIST-101, HIST-170, HUM-140, JPN-101, KIN/F-168A, MARKET-100, MATH-108/110, MATH-903, MCS-110, MUSIC-100, MUSIC-103, PHIL-101, PHIL-103, POLIT-100, PSYCH-100, PSYCH-102, PSYCH-103, PSYCH-110, PSYCH-111, PSYCH-118, RELIG-100, RELIG-113, SOC-100, SOC-105, SOC-130, SPAN-101

Overview

Course enrollment limits, also referred to as course caps, are established in the course outline of record by faculty through the curriculum process. The Academic Senate is considering a policy for establishing and modifying course and section caps. Primarily, faculty use pedagogical approaches to determine a course enrollment limits that best supports student learning. As Crafton Hills College continues to grow in 2015-2016, the impact on the number of students and full-time equivalent student (FTES) calculations becomes a concern if course caps are reduced for certain courses. As the campus continues discussions on the proposed policy, the Office of Instruction requested the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Research and Planning to analyze the possible impacts of reducing caps on courses. Specifically, does reducing course caps have a negative impact on the number of students enrolled and FTES? If so, which courses would witness this negative impact and to what degree?

The findings of this study are intended to inform decisions regarding policy, and should be used in conjunction with student learning and teaching techniques utilized in each discipline when establishing and modifying the appropriate enrollment limit for each course.

Methodology

Course data including course caps, the number of sections, enrollment at census, and FTES at census for courses offered during the Fall and Spring terms only over the last five (5) academic years was downloaded from the Executive Information System (EIS). Data was aggregated to smooth out enrollment trends, and courses not offered over the last two academic years was excluded. Additionally, honors sections were combined with general sections, repeatable courses were combined together into a single section, and LRC-900 was excluded from the dataset. Reduced section caps were estimated at a 10% reduction truncated to a whole number. Potential FTES calculations were estimated using the average FTES generated per student per course over a five (5) year period.

Findings

Table 1a and 1b on pages 2 and 3, respectively, list courses identified with projected loss of FTES if course caps are reduced by 10%. Forty-seven courses could potentially realize a decrease in FTES. For example, PSYCH-100 would realize a decrease of 56.90 FTES over five years if the course cap were reduced by 10%, SOC-100 would realize a decrease of 46.17 FTES, and HIST-100 would realize a decrease of 27.90. Additionally, the average section cap is 47 students, and 72% of identified courses have an average section cap of 35. Table 1a is sorted by potential loss in FTES in descending order, and Table 1b is sorted by course name in ascending order.

Table Ia.: Courses with projected loss to FTES if course caps reduced (sorted by potential loss to FTES)

Course Name	Number of Sections	Average Section Cap	Enrollment at Census	FTES at Census	Reduced Section Cap (-10%)	Potential Loss in FTES	Potential Loss in Funding
PSYCH-100	81	46	3,880	394.95	41	56.90	(\$259,748.50)
SOC-100	68	57	3,923	398.11	51	46.17	(\$210,766.05)
KIN/F-168A	33	39	1,389	146.08	34	28.08	(\$128,185.20)
HIST-100	48	61	2,911	299.74	55	27.90	(\$127,363.50)
SPAN-101	55	35	1,848	317.63	31	24.58	(\$112,207.70)
CD-105	40	39	1,571	160.78	34	21.59	(\$98,558.35)
HEALTH-102	68	55	3,530	357.60	49	20.06	(\$91,573.90)
MUSIC-103	20	48	1,022	105.34	43	16.70	(\$76,235.50)
ACCT-208	22	39	890	118.67	35	16.00	(\$73,040.00)
BUSAD-100	24	55	1,316	135.44	49	14.41	(\$65,781.65)
HIST-101	51	55	2,636	271.20	49	14.09	(\$64,320.85)
BUSAD-210	19	44	853	87.31	39	11.46	(\$52,314.90)
MUSIC-100	16	50	829	86.19	45	11.33	(\$51,721.45)
ASL-101	35	37	1,238	164.62	33	11.04	(\$50,397.60)
AH-101	24	47	1,092	103.03	42	7.93	(\$36,200.45)
EMS-020	33	41	1,210	432.45	36	7.86	(\$35,880.90)
MATH-108/110	42	37	1,402	188.26	32	7.79	(\$35,561.35)
SOC-105	12	52	624	65.00	46	7.50	(\$34,237.50)
ART-100	19	51	942	96.87	46	6.99	(\$31,909.35)
GEOG-110	10	44	453	46.89	39	6.52	(\$29,763.80)
AH-090	6	52	409	18.96	46	6.17	(\$28,166.05)
PHIL-101	33	48	1,446	148.27	42	6.15	(\$28,074.75)
PSYCH-103	4	45	213	22.35	40	5.56	(\$25,381.40)
ECON-200	18	57	971	95.78	51	5.23	(\$23,874.95)
PSYCH-111	28	41	1,088	107.70	37	5.15	(\$23,509.75)
ANTHRO-102	10	60	585	60.89	54	4.68	(\$21,364.20)
JAPN-101	15	35	490	83.47	31	4.26	(\$19,446.90)
SOC-130	7	52	363	35.91	46	4.06	(\$18,533.90)
PHIL-103	24	36	806	80.86	32	3.81	(\$17,392.65)
PSYCH-102	4	45	195	20.44	40	3.67	(\$16,753.55)
MARKET-100	6	43	263	26.30	38	3.50	(\$15,977.50)
PSYCH-110	4	45	193	19.95	40	3.41	(\$15,566.65)
PSYCH-118	2	45	104	11.09	40	2.56	(\$11,686.40)
HIST-170	7	65	429	44.59	58	2.39	(\$10,910.35)
ANTHRO-106	7	58	381	39.32	52	1.75	(\$7,988.75)
CD-112	5	36	170	17.92	32	1.05	(\$4,793.25)
MATH-903	16	35	512	26.88	31	0.84	(\$3,834.60)
POLIT-100	67	63	3,827	394.53	57	0.82	(\$3,743.30)
EMS-103	10	41	364	50.84	36	0.56	(\$2,556.40)
RELIG-113	1	35	36	3.84	31	0.53	(\$2,419.45)
HUM-140	2	35	67	6.37	31	0.48	(\$2,191.20)
BUSAD-200	4	43	156	15.60	38	0.40	(\$1,826.00)
MCS-110	4	39	139	14.83	34	0.32	(\$1,460.80)
ANTHRO-100	2	58	105	11.20	51	0.32	(\$1,460.80)
RELIG-100	9	48	390	38.96	43	0.30	(\$1,369.50)
ECON-201	18	57	919	92.47	51	0.10	(\$ 456.50)
CD-115	5	40	181	18.01	36	0.10	(\$ 456.50)
TOTAL	1,038	47	48,361	5,483.49	41	433.09	(\$1,977,055.85)

Note: Data is aggregated over five (5) years to smooth out enrollment trends.

Table 1b.: Courses with projected loss to FTES if course caps reduced (sorted by course name)

Course Name	Number of Sections	Average Section Cap	Enrollment at Census	FTES at Census	Reduced Section Cap (-10%)	Potential Loss in FTES	Potential Loss in Funding
ACCT-208	22	39	890	118.67	35	16.00	(\$73,040.00)
AH-090	6	52	409	18.96	46	6.17	(\$28,166.05)
AH-101	24	47	1,092	103.03	42	7.93	(\$36,200.45)
ANTHRO-100	2	58	105	11.20	51	0.32	(\$1,460.80)
ANTHRO-102	10	60	585	60.89	54	4.68	(\$21,364.20)
ANTHRO-106	7	58	381	39.32	52	1.75	(\$7,988.75)
ART-100	19	51	942	96.87	46	6.99	(\$31,909.35)
ASL-101	35	37	1,238	164.62	33	11.04	(\$50,397.60)
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CD-115	5	40	181	18.01	36	0.10	(\$ 456.50)
ECON-200	18	57	971	95.78	51	5.23	(\$23,874.95)
ECON-201	18	57	919	92.47	51	0.10	(\$ 456.50)
EMS-020	33	41	1,210	432.45	36	7.86	(\$35,880.90)
EMS-103	10	41	364	50.84	36	0.56	(\$2,556.40)
GEOG-110	10	44	453	46.89	39	6.52	(\$29,763.80)
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HIST-101	51	55	2,636	271.20	49	14.09	(\$64,320.85)
HIST-170	7	65	429	44.59	58	2.39	(\$10,910.35)
HUM-140	2	35	67	6.37	31	0.48	(\$2,191.20)
JAPN-101	15	35	490	83.47	31	4.26	(\$19,446.90)
KIN/F-168A	33	39	1,389	146.08	34	28.08	(\$128,185.20)
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PHIL-103	24	36	806	80.86	32	3.81	(\$17,392.65)
POLIT-100	67	63	3,827	394.53	57	0.82	(\$3,743.30)
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