



Institutional Effectiveness, Research & Planning

SUMMER BRIDGE 2013 - ENGLISH EVALUATIONS

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Summer Bridge 2013 - English Evaluations

Introduction

The Summer Bridge Program at Crafton Hills College (CHC) is a 2-week program required for students who are accepted to the Left Lane Program¹ and led by staff at the Tutoring Center. The Summer Bridge Program objectives are to 1) orient students to the college campus life and 2) prepare them to the content that they will be taking in the Fall semester. Students are placed in either the English or mathematics tracks based on the following criterion: 1) their assessment scores, 2) their track preference, and 3) the space available in each track (the program usually accommodates 200 students in each track). Students in the program participate in Bridge activities that include general academic skills in large groups such as time management, study skills, an introduction to campus life, college expectations, discipline-specific content, and others. Students also preview content for courses they will take in the Fall in conjunction with strategies for success. This report analyzes the results of the English Summer Bridge Program evaluation completed by student respondents who participated in the Summer 2013.

Summary of Results

Sample

117 students responded to the English Evaluation

- 59% of the respondents attended the **Morning session**
- 41% of the respondents attended the **Afternoon session**

97% or more of the respondents **Agreed** or **Strongly Agreed** with the following statements about Summer Bridge:

- My math skills improved because of the Summer Bridge Program.
- The Bridge facilitator was knowledgeable about the subject matter.
- The Bridge facilitator's presentation style and techniques were effective.
- I feel more prepared for the start of classes because of the Summer Bridge Program.
- I found the math handouts and materials helpful.
- I would recommend the Summer Bridge Program to others.

81% or more of the respondents assigned a **rating of 5 or 4** [utilizing a five-point scale where 5 = Extremely Valuable and 1 = Not at all valuable] to the following questions about Summer Bridge sessions and activities:

- How easy was it to understand material provided in the program?
- How valuable was the time management session?
- How valuable was the Reading in College session?
- How valuable was the In-the-Classroom session?
- How valuable was the Prepping for Tests session?
- How valuable were the Tutoring Center/Study Groups session?
- How valuable was the Campus Tour?

Results from the **open-ended comment** tables:

- Respondents mostly indicated that the Summer Bridge Program material did not need improvements and that it was fairly simple.
- Respondents stated that the Summer Bridge Program helped them be better prepared for college and improve their English skills.
- For the most part, respondents were very satisfied with the program and felt that it is very successful as it stands.

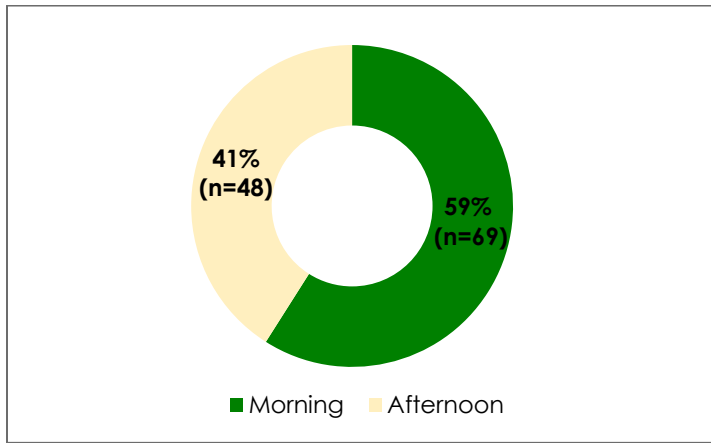
1. The Left Lane Program is designed to serve developmental (formerly basic skills) students by shortening the time to degree, certificate, or transfer from five years to three years.

Methodology

A paper evaluation with subject specific questions related to the English Summer Bridge track was administered to respondents at the end of the program in the Summer 2013. The evaluation consisted of multiple-choice questions where respondents were asked to provide their level of agreement with statements about Summer Bridge and to rate how valuable were various sessions they participated in. In addition, respondents were also asked to provide open-ended feedback about the Summer Bridge Program. Individual names mentioned in the open-ended comment tables have been removed and replaced with “[Name]” to protect identities. Respondent comments were categorized by the researcher. A limitation to the categorized comments is that reviewers of the comments might group them differently. Although 117 students completed the evaluation, any “not-applicable” or “missing” answers were omitted. Figure 1 and Tables 1-5 illustrate the results of the evaluation.

Findings

Figure 1. Number and Percentage of respondents' attendance to sessions of the day.



Tables 1-2 illustrate the results of the responses from the evaluation participants. Ninety-seven percent or more of the students who participated in the Summer Bridge *Strongly Agreed* or *Agreed* with six statements about the program. Eighty-one percent or more of the respondents assigned a value rating of 5 or 4 to seven of eight questions regarding the Summer Bridge sessions and activities. Respondents assigned the lowest value rating to the Transfer Center/STEM session (72.4%).

Table 1. Respondents' level of agreement with Summer Bridge statements.

Statements	Strongly Agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
My English skills improved because of the Summer Bridge Program.	37	31.6	79	67.5	1	0.9	0	-	117
The Bridge facilitator was knowledgeable about the subject matter.	82	70.1	35	29.9	0	-	0	-	117
The Bridge facilitator's presentation style and techniques were effective.	72	61.5	44	37.6	1	0.9	0	-	117
I feel more prepared for the start of classes because of the Summer Bridge Program.	72	61.5	42	35.9	3	2.6	0	-	117
I found the English handouts and materials helpful.	64	54.7	50	42.7	2	1.7	1	0.9	117
I would recommend the Summer Bridge Program to others.	94	81.0	22	19.0	0	-	0	-	116

Note: “Not Applicable” responses were removed from this table.

Table 2. Respondents' value ratings to questions regarding Summer Bridge sessions and activities.

Statements	5 - Extremely Valuable		4		3		2		1 - Not at all valuable		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
How easy was it to understand material provided in the program?	45	38.5	55	47.0	17	14.5	0	-	0	-	117
How valuable was the time management session?	70	59.8	39	33.3	6	5.1	1	0.9	1	0.9	117
How valuable was the Reading in College session?	57	48.7	49	41.9	9	7.7	2	1.7	0	-	117
How valuable was the In-the-Classroom session?	66	56.4	41	35.0	8	6.8	2	1.7	0	-	117
How valuable was the Prepping for Tests session?	66	56.4	36	30.8	14	12.0	0	-	1	0.9	117
How valuable was the Transfer Center/STEM session?	50	43.1	34	29.3	22	19.0	9	7.8	1	0.9	116
How valuable were the Tutoring Center/Study Groups session?	70	59.8	33	28.2	13	11.1	1	0.9	0	-	117
How valuable was the Campus Tour?	69	59.5	26	22.4	16	13.8	4	3.4	1	0.9	116

Note: "Missing" responses were not included in this table.

In Table 3, respondents mostly indicated that the Summer Bridge Program material did not need improvements and that it was fairly easy. Some respondents, however, stated that for them, the material needed to be explained better.

Table 3. Respondents' categorized comments about how Summer Bridge can improve program material.

Material was easy; no improvements needed (n=11)

- The material was easy to understand that help us improve our skills
- It's easy because the materials were divided evenly in these past 8 days/2weeks
- The material was easy; just paid attention to the class the whole time
- It was perfect. I understand everything so clearly now
- The reason it was easy was the way Summer Bridge made us understand materials.
- Material was too easy. I was able to understand
- I already knew everything, wish I was in the Math Bridge.
- Fairly simple/ helpful
- Our teacher explained it well
- For a person who hasn't been in school for 30 years I found the Summer Bridge program very helpful. it reminded me of things I thought I had completely forgotten
- N/A great job/ very helpful

Better explanation of material (n=5)

- More examples
- Give a bit more examples and hand some work; overall bridge was great!
- Some of the things the professor was teaching, I wouldn't really understand. But it has been better if they broke it down even more and gave more examples.
- The material was somewhat confusing but [Name] was able to explain and elaborate more for me to understand.
- Slow down a little on the power points

Level of difficulty of material was balanced (n=3)

- The material was sometimes really easy and sometimes hard to understand. But as long as you ask questions; where you're stuck you will be fine always ask questions. Especially if you get stuck in something.
- The material was not too easy, but not too hard, it was all a great review!
- It wasn't easy or hard it was a perfect way to learn and remember.

Material was challenging (n=2)

- It was a good challenge, it kept my mind going.
- It was challenging and great. [Name] was a great teacher. She explained everything perfect.

In Table 4, respondents mostly indicated the benefits from their participation in the Summer Bridge Program. They stated that it helped them be better prepared for college and improve their English skills. They also applauded the program and its staff, as well as the benefits they received from activities and sessions they participated in.

Table 4. Respondents' categorized comments about the help they received through the Summer Bridge program.

Preparation for college and/or English skills needed (n=20)

- Before Summer Bridge I was worried and panicky about classes and new people. Now going through Summer Bridge I feel prepared for classes and I made new friends.
- Got rid of some fear for my first day and now I feel better prepared and ready.
- Got to meet new people and learn and review English skills
- Help me get a little prepared college English
- Helped me get ready for my class before the class help me review the main points to be successful on college
- Helped by preparing me skills in reading and in English. I am now confident for all my classes thanks to this program
- Helped improve my grammar and time management skills.
- Helped me get an overall better idea of my future English class
- Helped me prepare for long essays and how to write a thesis
- Helped me understand the basic of reading and writing
- Helped refresh skills that I haven't worked on in awhile
- Helped with English skills.
- Helped with preparing for classes.
- I feel more prepared for my classes now.
- I feel more prepared more ready for college. Very helpful hints and guidelines given.
- I got to understand English more.
- I had helped me understand how to write better essays and thesis; improve on my sentence skills I need for my classes at Crafton Hills College.
- I had a great time and more prepared for when the semester started.
- I learned too many things that I never heard about before, and they taught me how to be prepared for Fall.
- In registering for classes and finding out other school info that otherwise I wouldn't know of.

Program commendations (n=7)

- The summer bridge program was very helpful.
- Very helpful
- Very useful
- Yes good preparation
- Yes it was
- Yes, Summer Bridge was very helpful to me.
- Personally I hate grammar, but the class was fun.

Staff commendations (n=6)

- I had no idea where any of my classes where until we took a campus tour. [Name] helped me be more understanding when it came to grammar check.
- [Name] school. I refreshed my brain on some things I had forgot. Thanks so much.
- Extremely helpful. My teacher was a great help. I was surprised that I learned as much as I did. It was a great experience and it exceeded all my expectations.
- It refreshed my memory, my instructor was very knowledgeable, and had a very fun yet effective teaching style.
- Summer Bridge was helpful to me because of all the information the facilitator's provided.
- It was very helpful. [Name] is very knowledgeable and has a good teaching method.

Activities and sessions benefits (n=7)

- It was very helpful most of the material was review. The time management is and will be one of the most

valuable things.

- P.S. registration/ group tutoring
- The summer bridge program was helpful because I got to learn new stuff on time management, preparing for test, study groups; also I got to review some English materials.
- The Summer Bridge program was really helpful for me because I learned how to manage my time, how to prepare for a test, tutoring, etc. The English program was really helpful and the tutor/teacher was nice.
- In all of these sessions I found the classroom the best. The other sessions were extremely valuable but the class was where I found the most help and experience.
- It was helpful to hear different thoughts.
- It helped me distinguish things my high school teachers couldn't do.

Benefits from the campus tour (n=4)

- It helped me find where my classes will be located and it also helped me improve my English skills.
- It helped me with grammar, and it also helped me when we went around school.
- It gave me a tour of the school.
- Showed me around classes and made me more prepared

Comments stating a level of dissatisfaction (n=2)

- It was helpful, but I signed up for the math program because that's what I really needed help with.
- It gave me something to do for two weeks.

In Table 5, respondents mostly indicated that they did not have any feedback to provide on how to improve the Summer Bridge Program. For the most part, respondents were very satisfied with the program and felt that it very successful as it stands. Those respondents that recommended improvements indicated that the manner in which activities are delivered could be improved, offering students the opportunity to take both math and English sessions would be very beneficial, and that improving the campus tour and program scheduling would also help.

Table 5. Respondents' categorized comments on how to improve the Summer Bridge Program.

No improvements needed/commendations (n=27)

- Did great! don't fix it if it's not broken
- It was great!
- Just keep growing program. It will be very successful
- Keep all the activities it really helps
- Keep up the good work!
- Keep up the great job.
- No; you're good.
- No suggestions keep up the good work
- None - It was awesome.
- No suggestions ;)
- Nope!! You guys rock!! Thank you ;)
- Not really because it was just perfect to me and very helpful.
- No suggestions, you guys did a very great job outing summer bridge together thank you ;)
- Nope. Everything was perfect and I emerged it. Thank you for all you went there.
- Not really; it was really good.
- The program is great already; no need to fix.
- Nothing to change
- I think it is very good as is at this time.
- Everything is good
- I think everything went very well and shouldn't change anything about it
- Keep helping college students
- I enjoyed the writing assignments. It helped doing this as a group. You are a great tutor, I can't think of anything I need to review.
- The Summer Bridge program was extremely helpful. It was really helpful to go over certain topics that we are going to learn this semester.
- I'm very proud to be a member in the Left Lane program. I've been in and out of college for years now. But since starting this program, I feel I've been given the tools to be a successful student. Thank you.

- I really enjoyed this program. At first, my motive was for the best priority, but as it fooled me into tutoring and mandatory meetings, as bad as I want an education now. I accepted I needed tutoring help. English was my choice because I was lazy with essays and never understood how to write sentences. As far as what I've learned now compared to then, I've learned a lot. I now have an advantage for when school starts. This program enhanced my attitude. Thanks for everything!
- I like how Summer Bridge is divided into two sections (auditorium/classroom). Both very helpful, especially classroom. I learned a lot of new things and refreshed on things I forgot. Great program.
- This program really helped me feel better prepared for college.

Improve delivery of activities (n=9)

- It could be a little more interactive
- Make it more fun with activities
- Do activities during program; reasons to get students involved more quickly
- Do more video and decisions group; it was awesome.
- Maybe make it a little more entertaining. I grew tired of the same schedule after the first few days.
- Meetings throughout the year. Activities especially for L.L. students and the summer bridge program longer.
- To have a little more activities
- STEM was very boring. the only reason I give it a two is because of the TC information
- Talk slower.

Offer students both English and Math sessions (n=8)

- Let students pick if they want to be in math or English because if their put in one they are already good at their bored out of their minds
- Make sure to try and get students help with the program that they choose.
- I signed up for the math bridge and got put on the English. I didn't want to take the English one. I would have preferred the math.
- Maybe one week of English and one week of Math.
- One week should be English then the next should be math.
- I requested the Math program but I didn't get it b/c the classes were full. I think it would be better to have one week English and the other week Math so we all get the help we actually need with both subjects.
- I think having 4 days of English and 4 days of math would be very helpful for new students, so they can get a feel for both subjects instead of just one.
- Summer Bridge program should have one week of the English program and the second week of the math program; that would be really helpful.

Improve campus tour (n=6)

- Better campus tours
- A better campus tour; not just point to building out by a distance.
- More in-depth tour of the school
- Improve just a little bit more info on the campus tour
- Improve the campus tour, the tour guide I were awful
- Perhaps, slow down for questions in the tour.

Improve program scheduling (n=6)

- Instead of 3 hours make it 2 hours
- Start earlier!!!
- Have a 30 min break where you make people get to know each other.
- I wish the afternoon session could be later in the day, may be around 3-6 or 4-7, because I had to miss half of my work hours in order to attend the session, thanks.
- 4 hrs. is a lot, but squeezing an extra hour in the program would be better.
- The only improvement me that I really think it should only be 1 week

Staff commendations (n=5)

- No but I think [Name] was great :)
- No, tutors were great!!
- [Name] is awesome
- I liked the writing assignments and getting to practice what we learned and get feedback on how to

improve. Our instructor [Name] was very relatable and makes the class very comfortable. Thank you [Name].

- I want to bring food on Thursday. [Name] you are the best. Shout out.

Activities to improve the classroom experience(n=4)

- More information towards classes
- To have more seats in class
- Independent/dependent clauses
- More about what tests are like

Concerns with priority registration (n=2)

- Keep priority B for students.
- All summer bridge students should keep their priority registration.