



Research Brief

Fall 2017 Smarthinking Online Tutoring

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Background

During the Spring 2017 semester, Smarthinking tutoring services were made available to all Santa Monica College students enrolled in credit classes including online and on-ground students. In Fall 2017 semester, the services were offered to online and/or hybrid students only. A total of 71 students participated in the online tutoring services during the Fall 2017 semester.

Results

Similar to last Spring 2017 semester results (ENGL 1=48.2%; ENGL 2;16.6%), the majority of students who used Smarthinking online tutoring services received tutoring for ENGL 1 (40.8%) and ENGL 2 (38.0%). Table 1 shows the complete list of courses tutored by the number of students who participated in the online tutoring during the Fall 2017 semester.

Table 2, on the next page, contains the comparison table of the success rates for students in ENGL 1 classes by tutoring

participation between Spring 2017 and Fall 2017 semesters. For comparison purposes, ENGL 1 was used because it has the most acceptable number of students.

Table 1. Course Subject by Number of Students

Course Subject	Number of Students
ACCTG 11	1
BUS 5	1
BUS 31	2
CS 81	1
CS 87A	1
ECE 24	1
ECE 51	1
ECON 1	1
ENGL 1	29
ENGL 2	27
ENGL 49	1
HIST 2	1
JOURN 15	1
MATH 54	1
MEDIA 1	2
Total	71

In both semesters, students who participated in at least one online tutoring session (Spring 2017=82.1%; Fall 2017=79.3%) had success rates that were

higher than students who did not participate (Spring 2017=60.5%; Fall 2017=68.4%).

Figure 1 illustrates the grade distribution in ENGL 1 for both semesters of Spring 2017 and Fall 2017 online tutoring students.

As with Spring 2017 semester, results remain inconclusive due to small sample size of online tutoring students.

Table 2. ENGL 1 Success Rate

Tutoring Type	Success Rate
SPRING 2017	
Online Tutoring	82.1%
Non- Tutoring	60.5%
FALL 2017	
Online Tutoring	79.3%
Non-Tutoring	68.4%

Figure 1. ENGL 1 Course Grade Distribution of Online Students

