

# Fall 2014 AWE Placement Satisfaction Survey Results

The Assessment of Written English (AWE) is an English writing test used by Mt. San Antonio College to assess students' writing abilities in order to place them into appropriate writing courses. It will place tested students into one of eight writing courses: ESL (non-credit), AMLA41W, AMLA42W, AMLA43W, LERN81, ENGL67, ENGL68, and ENGL1A. The American Language writing courses (AMLA) tend to the needs of non-native students for language skills enhancement.

## Purpose

This report summarizes results of the fall 2014 AWE Placement Satisfaction Survey conducted during the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> week in 93 randomly selected classes from AWE related courses. Both faculty and students from these 93 classes participated in the survey. Faculty members were asked to rate each enrolled student's level of preparedness in their class. Although 2600 faculty ratings of their students and 2103 student responses from these classes were collected, only surveys from 1197 students who attempted the placed course for the first time based on their initial AWE test placement, and who completed the survey along with their instructor were used for the following analysis (see Table1). Survey results are intended to be used as data to support the consequential validity of using AWE for placement of Mt. SAC students into English writing courses.

**Table1**

Survey Participation	AMLA 41W	AMLA 42W	AMLA 43W	LERN 81	ENGL 67	ENGL 68	ENGL 1A	Total
# of Sections Surveyed	3	8	7	15	19	20	21	93
# Students Rated by Faculty	89	187	200	293	608	597	626	2600
# Students completed survey	82	171	187	224	482	480	477	2103
Eligible Surveys (filtered*)	61	119	83	174	398	264	98	1197

\* Only students who enrolled in placed course for the first time based on their initial AWE test placement and who completed the survey along with their instructor are included.

## Results

Overall, 89.1% of faculty ratings of their students (see Table2) and 82.9% of student self-ratings (see Table3) indicated proper placement by AWE which exceeded the 75% index recommended by the California Community College Chancellor's Office. However, faculty rating in AMLA43W classes was slightly below the index (74.7%). Students, if not satisfied with their placement, were more likely to rate that they should be placed higher rather than lower (15.2% versus 1.9%).

*This report is only possible because of Nico Martinez from the Assessment Center who coordinated AWE survey administration and did survey scanning, and IT for providing access to the Mt. SAC data warehouse.*

Prepared by Maria Tsai, Senior Research Analyst, RIE, 3/25/2015. Number of hours used to complete data analysis and reporting: 25

**Table2**

Fall 2014 AWE Placement Satisfaction Survey		Faculty Rating (N=1197)							Total
		AMLA 41W	AMLA 42W	AMLA 43W	LERN 81	ENGL 67	ENGL 68	ENGL 1A	
Should be placed lower	#	2	8	14	14	12	22	14	86
	%	3.3%	6.7%	16.9%	8.0%	3.0%	8.3%	14.3%	7.2%
Belongs at the course level	#	58	104	62	153	372	234	84	1067
	%	95.1%	87.4%	74.7%	87.9%	93.5%	88.6%	85.7%	89.1%
Should be placed higher	#	1	7	7	7	14	8	0	44
	%	1.6%	5.9%	8.4%	4.0%	3.5%	3.0%	0.0%	3.7%

**Table3**

Fall 2014 AWE Placement Satisfaction Survey		Student Rating (N=1197)							Total
		AMLA 41W	AMLA 42W	AMLA 43W	LERN 81	ENGL 67	ENGL 68	ENGL 1A	
Should be placed lower	#	0	1	0	7	7	5	3	23
	%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	4.0%	1.8%	1.9%	3.1%	1.9%
Belongs at the course level	#	53	109	71	141	325	203	90	992
	%	86.9%	91.6%	85.5%	81.0%	81.7%	76.9%	91.8%	82.9%
Should be placed higher	#	8	9	12	26	66	56	5	182
	%	13.1%	7.6%	14.5%	14.9%	16.6%	21.2%	5.1%	15.2%

Ratings by faculty and students of this survey are 77.1% in agreement indicating that both faculty and students' views on the AWE placement are fairly consistent. The biggest discrepancy exists where faculty believed there was proper placement for those students who thought they should be placed higher (13.1%).

**Table4**

Fall 2014 AWE Placement Satisfaction Survey		Student Rating			Faculty Rating Total
Faculty Rating		Should be placed lower	Belong at the course level	Should be placed higher	
Should be placed lower	#	10	68	8	86
	%	0.8%	5.7%	0.7%	7.2%
Belongs at the course level	#	13	897	157	1067
	%	1.1%	74.9%	13.1%	89.1%
Should be placed higher	#	0	27	17	44
	%	0.0%	2.3%	1.4%	3.7%
Student Rating Total	#	23	992	182	1197
	%	1.9%	82.9%	15.2%	100.0%

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