

STEM Summer Academy for 11th and 12th Graders

Or...*Emerging Technologies and Language
Summer Academy*

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Who?

- Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
 - Urban, at-risk and non-traditional students
- SW Ohio TechPrep
 - Greater Cincinnati



GOALS

- Build confidence in students who might not consider college otherwise
- Give high school students the opportunity to earn college credits
- Expose students to emerging careers
- Give students an opportunity to learn a language
- Expose students to Cincinnati State Technical and Community College



The Plan

- 3 tracks: Renewable energy, Bioscience, Spanish
- COMPASS testing
- All tuition, books, fees
- Lunch allowance daily
- Bus tokens or parking passes
- Student stipends
- Academy coordinator paid position



Grant process

- Application to the Ohio Board of Regents
Summer '08
- Presentations in front of a committee of the ~15
finalists Nov. '08
- Funds awarded to 8 programs throughout Ohio
by January 2009



Recruitment and Applications

- Packets passed out by TechPrep/website
- College NDS application, release forms, transcripts, essay, letters of recommendation, COMPASS test
- 116 applicants
- Many not college-ready
- Math requirement upheld
- Student “contract”



Academy design

- 15 students per “track”
- 2-3 existing college courses condensed into 6 weeks, M-Th, 8 am – 4 pm
- Spanish students-3 sublevels
- Common Time for lunch and 2:30-4 pm
- Students earn 9-10 college credits
- Full-fledged college students, dual enrollment
- All college support services available
- Coordinator
- First Year experience course (college survival)



Renewable Energy



Implementation

- College faculty
- TechPrep staff
- Coordinator
- College support services
- Mandatory parent meeting/Orientation
- Inquiry-based delivery
- Closing “ceremony” and student expo



Spanish



Challenges

- Accelerated schedule
- Student expectations
- Student jobs
- ESL students (must have SS #)
- Class and cohort management
- Unidentified learning difficulties
- Communication



Successful strategies

- Personal meetings with faculty
- Coordinator interaction and involvement
- FYE course/Common time
- Stipend!
- Clear attendance policy
- Separation of levels for language
- Emphasis on active learning
- Set expectations early
- Entrance and exit surveys



Student expo/Closing Ceremony



Survey says...

STRENGTHS--PARENTS

- “The teachers were good, providing lots help and tutoring if needed. Everything was thought of from parking passes to lunch money.”
- “The enthusiasm of all of the faculty and their belief in the program and CTC.”
- “Engages the seniors to activate their minds on serious educational areas they may not do in the summer.”
- “Mr. Nolan and his staff were excellent. Their application of tough love struck the perfect balance.”
- “Was very well organized, good idea overall for summer 4 times a week with Friday off for 6 weeks is very good versus 5 times a week for 5 weeks compared to other programs.”



Survey says...

STRENGTHS FROM STUDENTS

- “College experience.”
- “The free classes and credit hours.”
- “Teachers and learning new material.”
- “Actually showing job opportunities.”
- “The challenging courses and solid education.”
- “Support...The teachers’ ability to help us. The professors really worked with the students to help them understand the course work.”
- “The people skills that everyone has that makes everyone comfortable.”



Changes?

SUGGESTIONS FROM PARENTS

- “I know kids would hate it but maybe longer than 6 weeks. For some the stress was too high trying to cram in the classes.” “Expand it- offer it to more students- more subjects.” ...”Maybe expand to other areas like nursing or programs that other students may be interested in. 6 weeks is a bit long””Maybe longer courses or less work in short time.”
- “I think this was an excellent program for my child to get her prepared for college and taught her diversity is encouraged.”
- “I think this type of program should be offered year round with evening classes during the school year as well as an accelerated program in the summer.”



Changes??

SUGGESTIONS FROM STUDENTS

- (weakness) “Lecture class.”
- “Only 6 dollars for lunch.”
- “The long hours””Time.” ...”The length of time we’re here each day.”
- “Lots of work load.”
- “Not enough time to understand the material.”
- “More communication of daily schedules.”
- “It was a smidge unorganized; make sure our time is filled.”
- “No need to shorten the allotted time for it just makes it harder for the students.”
- “Offer a wider range of classes for future students to go to.”

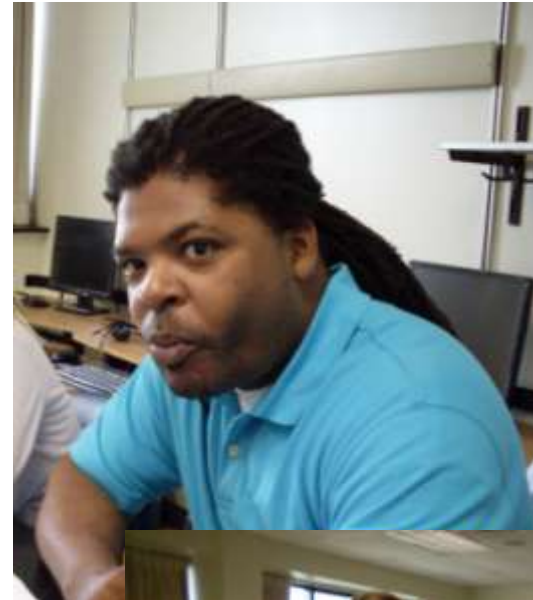


What changes do you see in yourself as a result of the Academy?

- I am more focused when I do things in life.
- I am able to handle tough situations now. I'm more prepared for college!
- I have learned how to speak Spanish and do better in my academic work.
- I might be able to actually see myself in a college course.
- I met a lot of new people who opened my mind to new ways of thinking.
- More patience and better time management. Know how to handle a college experience.
- I am more knowledgeable in choosing my path in college.
- I see the discipline and responsibility increased so much. Managing my time was definitely an extremely important change.



Biotechnology





Cincinnati State

TECHNICAL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE