

Miner Learning Center

Director: Vanessa Martinez



Background

The Miner Learning Center (MLC) is a campus-wide academic support structure established in 2014. The MLC provides assistance in challenging core curriculum classes in order to improve academic performance. Academic support services include tutoring and peer-led study sessions known as Peers Assisting Student Success (PASS) sessions, a student-led intervention based on the widely researched Supplemental Instruction model originating at the University of Missouri – Kansas City.

Mission and Focus

The MLC aims at helping students pass historically difficult courses at a higher rate thereby improving overall retention rates. This course-specific, peer-led program seeks to promote active, collaborative learning and self-empowered, critical thinkers.

Contributions to Student Success

MLC contributes to the institutional goal of enhancing retention rates, graduation rates, GPA success, and satisfaction levels of UTEP students by:

- Offering peer-led, weekly academic study sessions for students enrolled in challenging courses
- Providing an environment where students learn to ask thoughtful, course-specific, conceptual questions, and become more invested in their own learning
- Increasing students' confidence in engaging in difficult course material
- Providing study strategies and creating an inclusive learning environment
- Encouraging faculty to:
 - a. Understand the purpose and best practices of the MLC program
 - b. Consider linking their course with the MLC
 - c. Assist with the selection of MLC PASS Leaders & Tutors

Designations and Recognition

- CRLA International Tutor Training Program Certification awarded to the Miner Learning Center: Student Success Tutor Training Program
- Program certification began October 2017 and is valid until May 1, 2022.

UTEP Miner Learning Center at a Glance

Academic Year	Classes engaged with MLC	Individual Students Served	Total Student Contact Hours
2015-16	74	1,750	6,909
2016-17	74	1,653	7,559
2017-18	85	2,886	12,408
2018-19	79	2,763	11,870
2019-20	101	2,690	11,526
2020-21	82	2,277	14,728
Total	495	14,019	65,000

MLC 2020-2021 Grade Summary Information

Fall 2020 MLC Online Attendance

	8+ Sessions	4-7 Sessions	1-3 Sessions	No sessions	Total
A	67%	62%	56%	34%	40%
B or better	87%	81%	75%	54%	60%
C or better*	97%	94%	87%	73%	77%
DFW**	3%	6%	13%	27%	23%
Total Students	176	141	525	2693	3535

* includes grades marked Satisfactory ** includes grades marked Unsatisfactory

Of those who attended eight or more times, 97% earned a C or better; and 67% earned an A. The DFW rate was 24 percentage points higher for those who never attended when compared with those who attended 8 or more times. Of students enrolled in MLC eligible courses, approximately 24% participated.

Spring 2021 MLC Attendance

	8+ Sessions	4-7 Sessions	1-3 Sessions	No sessions	Total
A	70%	52%	55%	38%	45%
B or better	92%	79%	78%	60%	67%
C or better*	98%	96%	92%	76%	82%
DFW**	2%	4%	8%	24%	18%
Total Students	427	223	626	2885	4161

* includes grades marked Satisfactory ** includes grades marked Unsatisfactory

Of those who attended eight or more times, 98% earned a C or better or a Satisfactory grade; and 70% earned an A. The DFW rate was 22 percentage points higher for those who never attended when compared with those who attended 8 or more times. Of students enrolled in MLC eligible courses, approximately 31% participated.

Summer 2021 MLC Attendance

	8+ Sessions	4-7 Sessions	1-3 Sessions	No sessions	Total
A	42%	35%	40%	42%	41%
B or better	92%	68%	77%	68%	70%
C or better*	100%	89%	89	82%	84%
DFW**	0%	11	11	18%	16%
Total Students	24	37	98	495	654

* includes grades marked Satisfactory ** includes grades marked Unsatisfactory

Of those who attended eight or more times, 100% earned a C or better or a Satisfactory grade; and 42% earned an A. The DFW rate was 18 percentage points higher for those who never attended when compared with those who attended 8 or more times. Of students enrolled in MLC eligible courses, approximately 24% participated.