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 expired on May 1, 2022.
- Program certification submitted for CRLA International Peer Educator Training Program Certification. Submission currently under review.

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
2021-22	83	2,015	8,090
Total	578	16,034	73,090

Fall 2021 MLC Hybrid Attendance (In-person + Online)

	8+ Sessions	4-7 Sessions	1-3 Sessions	No sessions	Total
A	70%	53%	40%	28%	33%
B or better	89%	74%	65%	51%	56%
C or better*	96%	89%	81%	67%	71%
DFW**	4%	11%	19%	33%	29%
Total Students	118	194	707	2909	3928

Of those who attended eight or more times, 96% earned a C or better; and 70% earned an A. The DFW rate was 29 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 26% participated.

Spring 2022 MLC Hybrid Attendance (In-person + Online)

	8+ Sessions	4-7 Sessions	1-3 Sessions	No sessions	Total
A	65%	48%	43%	27%	32%
B or better	86%	80%	77%	54%	60%
C or better*	97%	94%	91%	75%	79%
DFW**	3%	6%	9%	25%	21%
Total Students	137	170	611	2541	3459

Of those who attended eight or more times, 97% earned a C or better or a Satisfactory grade; and 65% 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 27% participated.

Summer 2022 MLC Hybrid Attendance (In-person + Online)

	8+ Sessions	4-7 Sessions	1-3 Sessions	No sessions	Total
A	100%	56%	47%	31%	36%
B or better	100%	89%	77%	63%	67%
C or better*	100%	100%	92%	84%	87%
DFW**	0%	0%	8%	16%	13%
Total Students	1	18	60	206	285

Of those who attended eight or more times, 100% earned a C or better or a Satisfactory grade; and 100% earned an A. The DFW rate was 16 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 28% participated.