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Retention and Graduation Rates of Baylor Interdisciplinary Core (BIC) Students Fall 1995 – Fall 2005

The Baylor Interdisciplinary Core (BIC) option for the general education degree requirements began in the fall of 1995. This report is a fall to fall retention study of the BIC students. The study looks at new students for each fall term since the beginning of BIC and follows the students' progress through the subsequent fall terms. For the purpose of this study, new BIC students are defined as new freshmen or transfer students for a specific fall term who registered for BIC courses or who were coded with the BIC flag for the fall term.

This study looks at a new BIC class and determines the student's position in four categories for subsequent fall terms:

Enrolled BIC	Still taking BIC courses or coded as a BIC student
Enrolled BU	Still at Baylor as an undergraduate student but no longer taking BIC courses nor coded as a BIC student
GONE	No longer registered at Baylor
GRAD	Graduated from Baylor -- this does not consider BIC status but only whether the entering BIC student from the specified class did graduate from Baylor

The primary purpose of this report is to look at BIC retention -- whether a student who began in the BIC program continued in the program from year to year. Graduation rates indicate whether a student who entered in the BIC program did indeed graduate from Baylor. It does not look to see if the student was in the BIC program at the time of graduation.

The following table compares one-year freshman retention rates between students who entered the University in the BIC program and the overall freshman class. The rates are an average from Fall 1995 to present. The table also compares the four-year and six-year graduation rates for the same two cohort groups. The retention and graduation rates for the BIC students represent persistence at Baylor -- not necessarily persistence within the BIC program.

	BIC Students	Freshman Class
One-Year Retention Rate	86.5%	83.2%
Four-Year Graduation Rate	48.2%	44.4%
Six-Year Graduation Rate	73.0%	71.2%

The above table shows that BIC students have a higher one-year retention rate as compared to the overall freshman class. BIC students also graduate at a higher rate as compared to the overall freshman class.

Retention Rates
Baylor Interdisciplinary Core
Fall 1995 - Fall 2005

Entering Term		After 1st Year			After 2nd Year			After 3rd Year				After 4th Year				After 5th Year				After 6th Year			
		BIC	BU	Gone	BIC	BU	Gone	BIC	BU	Gone	Grad	BIC	BU	Gone	Grad	BIC	BU	Gone	Grad	BIC	BU	Gone	Grad
Fall 1995	N 189	76.2	11.1	12.7	66.7	10.6	22.8	59.8	12.7	27.0	0.5	22.8	6.9	27.0	43.4	4.8	0.0	24.9	70.4	0.5	0.0	26.5	73.0
Fall 1996	190	75.8	5.8	17.4	65.3	7.9	26.8	60.0	12.1	26.3	1.6	23.2	5.8	25.8	45.3	3.2	0.5	26.3	70.0	0.5	0.0	26.3	73.2
Fall 1997	196	78.6	5.6	15.8	52.0	18.9	29.1	53.6	15.8	29.6	1.0	18.9	10.7	34.2	36.2	1.5	2.6	32.7	63.3	0.5	1.0	30.6	67.9
Fall 1998	204	63.2	25.0	11.8	56.9	20.1	23.0	52.5	22.5	23.0	2.0	17.6	9.8	23.5	49.0	5.9	0.5	22.1	71.6	1.0	1.5	22.1	75.5
Fall 1999	200	76.0	10.5	13.5	65.5	12.0	22.5	63.5	11.0	22.5	3.0	23.0	2.5	23.5	51.0	2.5	0.5	24.0	73.0	1.5	0.5	22.5	75.5
Fall 2000	204	80.9	9.3	9.8	67.6	12.3	20.1	76.0	2.0	21.5	0.5	22.6	2.5	22.1	52.9	1.5	0.5	21.6	76.5				
Fall 2001	235	76.6	11.9	11.5	77.0	5.1	17.9	70.6	10.2	18.7	0.4	14.9	6.0	19.6	59.6								
Fall 2002	200	81.5	2.5	16.0	67.0	8.5	24.5	62.0	13.5	23.5	1.0												
Fall 2003	197	75.1	11.7	13.2	64.5	16.8	18.8																
Fall 2004	180	74.4	13.9	11.7																			
Fall 2005	205																						
Average		75.8	10.7	13.3	64.7	12.5	22.8	62.3	12.5	24.0	1.3	20.4	6.3	25.1	48.2	3.2	0.8	25.3	70.8	0.8	0.6	25.6	73.0

Note: Graduation rates are cumulative -- graduates in one term are counted as graduates in all subsequent terms.
If a student graduated prior to the beginning of the specified fall term, then they are counted as graduated.