

BAYLOR

UNIVERSITY

IRT Series

Vol. 08-09, No. 48

September 17, 2008

Retention and Graduation Rates of Baylor Interdisciplinary Core (BIC) Students Fall 1995 – Fall 2008

Executive Summary

An analysis of retention and graduation rates for entering BIC students and all first-time freshmen was performed. The following conclusions were drawn:

- BIC students have a higher one-year retention rate compared to all first-time freshmen.
- BIC students graduate at a higher rate compared to all first-time freshmen.

Detailed Report

The Baylor Interdisciplinary Core (BIC) option for the general education degree requirements began in the fall of 1995. This report examines the retention and graduation rates for entering BIC students. Comparisons are made to retention and graduation rates for all first-time freshmen. For the purpose of this study, entering BIC students are defined as first-time freshmen for a specific fall term who registered for BIC courses or who were coded with the BIC flag for the fall term.

For each entering BIC class, the student's position in four categories for subsequent fall terms is determined:

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 category does not consider BIC status but only whether the entering BIC student from the specified class graduated from Baylor

The following table compares one-year retention rates and graduation rates between students who entered the University in the BIC program and all first-time freshmen. These rates represent a five-year average. The table also compares the four-year and six-year graduation rates for the same two cohort groups.

	BIC Students	First-Time Freshmen
One-Year Retention Rate	87.7%	84.2%
Four-Year Graduation Rate	57.6%	49.0%
Six-Year Graduation Rate	76.0%	72.4%

Retention and Graduation Rates
Baylor Interdisciplinary Core
Fall 1995 - Fall 2008

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
	N	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Fall 1995	188	76.6	11.2	12.2	66.5	11.1	22.3	60.1	13.3	26.1	0.5	22.9	6.9	27.1	43.1	5.3	0.0	25.0	69.7	0.5	0.5	26.6	72.4
Fall 1996	188	75.5	7.5	17.0	64.9	8.5	26.6	60.1	12.2	16.6	1.1	22.9	5.9	27.6	43.6	3.2	0.5	27.1	69.2	0.5	0.0	26.1	73.4
Fall 1997	193	78.2	5.7	16.1	51.8	20.7	27.5	54.4	16.6	29.0	0.0	18.6	10.9	35.8	34.7	1.6	2.6	32.6	63.2	0.5	1.0	31.1	67.4
Fall 1998	202	63.4	24.8	11.8	57.4	20.8	21.8	53.0	23.7	21.3	2.0	17.8	9.9	26.2	46.1	5.9	0.5	26.3	67.3	1.0	1.5	21.8	75.7
Fall 1999	199	76.9	10.5	12.6	65.8	13.6	20.6	63.8	11.1	23.6	1.5	23.1	2.5	29.7	44.7	2.5	0.5	23.6	73.4	1.5	0.5	22.1	75.9
Fall 2000	204	80.9	9.3	9.8	67.7	13.2	19.1	76.0	2.0	22.0	0.0	22.6	2.4	22.1	52.9	1.5	0.5	21.6	76.4	1.0	0.0	21.6	77.4
Fall 2001	232	76.7	12.1	11.2	77.1	5.2	17.7	70.7	10.3	18.6	0.4	15.1	6.0	19.4	59.4	0.9	1.3	20.7	77.1	0.4	0.4	20.2	79.0
Fall 2002	200	81.5	2.5	16.0	67.0	8.5	24.5	62.0	13.5	23.5	1.0	12.5	9.0	24.5	54.0	1.0	2.0	25.5	71.5	0.5	2.0	25.5	72.0
Fall 2003	197	75.1	11.7	13.2	64.5	16.7	18.8	65.0	15.2	19.8	0.0	15.2	4.6	20.8	59.4	3.1	1.0	21.8	74.1				
Fall 2004	180	74.4	13.9	11.7	57.2	22.2	20.6	57.8	18.9	20.6	2.8	12.2	3.3	22.2	62.2								
Fall 2005	203	78.8	9.9	11.3	65.5	17.7	16.8	68.0	11.8	19.2	1.0												
Fall 2006	186	81.2	7.0	11.8	65.1	14.5	20.4																
Fall 2007	148	79.1	7.4	13.5																			
Fall 2008	147																						
Average		76.8	10.3	12.9	64.2	14.4	21.4	62.8	13.5	21.8	0.9	18.3	6.1	25.5	50.0	2.8	1.0	24.9	71.3	0.7	0.7	24.4	74.1
5-Year Avg.		77.7	10.0	12.3	63.9	15.9	20.2	64.7	13.9	20.3	1.0	15.5	5.1	21.8	57.6	1.8	1.1	22.6	74.5	0.9	0.9	22.2	76.0

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.