

“English Language Learners: Investigation of the Effect of Mobility on Academics”

Brittany N. Clausell

Double Major: Spanish Studies,
Chicano Studies, Minor: Social
Justice. College of Liberal Arts.
2008

Mentor: Leslie Mulder, McNair
Scholars Program Advisor,
University of Minnesota



This study investigates the academic achievement and perceptions of students of color classified as English Language Learners (ELL) participating in high school small learning communities (SLC) programs. Issues of a) mobility, b) maintaining a satisfactory GPA, and c) on track to graduate were used to evaluate academic success. An assessment and investigation of student survey responses and academic performance revealed that ELL and non-ELL students differ in opinions on school pride, interest in course material, and satisfaction with SLC section. There was no statistical significance found on feeling prepared for the next grade. Students enrolled all year had a higher academic performance than students only enrolled for one quarter. Nevertheless, the rate for passing standardized graduation exist exams continues to decrease for both ELL and non-ELL students of color.

Poster Number: Session: