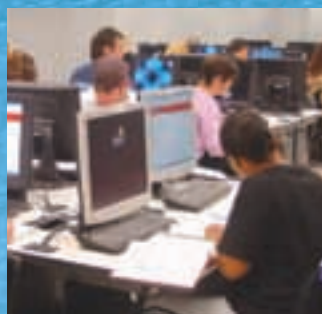


# Math programs meet student needs

By Jason Downey, Mathematics Coordinator  
Division of Mathematics and Technical Education

When Bossier Parish Community College adopted the QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan), the plan was specifically created to assist students in mathematics. In fall 2008, as a result of the QEP, the Division of Mathematics designed and implemented three unique alternative preparatory math systems: Full-Service, Two-for-One, and L.A.M.P. Course retention and student success have been the goals of these math systems.



## Full-Service

**Definition:** Students reap the benefits of a traditional lecture class and the added benefit of an hour of instructor-assisted computer lab time.

## Two-for-One

(or Fast-Track)

**Definition:** Students complete either MATH 097-098 or MATH 098-099 in a single semester. In either combination, the first course in the series is completed during the first eight (8) weeks of the semester – immediately followed by the second course, which is completed during the remaining eight (8) weeks of the semester. The Two-for-One is ideal for students who either work well at an accelerated pace OR who feel they would benefit from increased time-on-task.

## L.A.M.P.

(Learning Outcomes Achieved at Mastery Proficiency)

**Definition:** Students enjoy a unique curriculum based on ability. The LAMP model provides students an option to either complete MATH 097 or both MATH 097 and MATH 098 in a single semester.

A major problem facing developmental mathematics instruction that adds to the failure rate is that mathematics concepts build upon one another. When students fail to understand concepts in the first chapter, they are still required to move on to the next chapter. Students are required to demonstrate competency in specified skills, which can be used to document learning.

## Computer-based

**Definition:** Another beneficial math system that has proven helpful to students is the computer-based section. This model provides students the opportunity to complete all three preparatory math classes (MATH 097, 098, 099) in a lab-based setting with instructor assistance. A student may complete more than one math course during a single semester. The computer-based model is ideal for students who are self-starters and who require minimal instructor assistance.

## Primary initiatives of BPPC 1st

- Enhance BPPC's student success
- Increase the number of first-time, full-time associate degree-seeking students who re-enroll from one semester to the next
- Increase the number of first-time, full-time associate degree-seeking students who complete preparatory courses and move to credit-bearing courses



### Accreditation Statement

Bossier Parish Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the associate degree and certificate. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Bossier Parish Community College.

### Nondiscrimination Statement

Bossier Parish Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, qualified disability, marital status, veteran's status, or sexual orientation in admission to its programs, services, or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of their operations. Bossier Parish Community College does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices.



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6220 East Texas Street  
Bossier City, LA 71111



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[www.bppc.edu/bppcfirst](http://www.bppc.edu/bppcfirst)

### BPPC 1ST CORE TEAM

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Mathematics and Technical Education
- Peggy Fuller**  
Academic Advising
- Marjoree Harper**  
Student Life
- Gail Hendrix**  
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- Quintina Miles**  
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- Dee Dee Mitchell**  
Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Karen Musgrove**  
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Mathematics and Technical Education
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Core Team Lead
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- Dr. Sherri Huffman**  
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# The Solution for Success



*It's about you!*



BPPC 1st is a 3-year student success initiative aimed at improving success outcomes for first-year students.

The three strategies for achieving that success include the following:

- Student Success course
- Academic Advising for first-time students
- Intervention Strategies for Students in Developmental Math

# Got questions? We've got answers!

One of the newest courses taught on the BPCCC campus is College Success Skills (EDUC 099).

## College Success Skills (or EDUC 099)

### Definition:

A course designed to help students utilize college resources to achieve success in academic coursework while exploring career interest in the different degrees the college has to offer.

However, to a first-time student or transfer student that definition fails to clarify what the course actually involves. Therefore, to put it simply, the College Success Skills course generally does the following:

- Familiarizes the student with services and programs the College offers
- Connects the student with other students through group projects and interaction
- Helps the student understand how to "navigate the college system"
- Exposes the student to available majors and careers

In fall 2009, BPCCC filled eleven sections of EDUC 099 with 329 students. Starting in the spring 2010, those students will be armed with information that should make their college careers more fulfilling and more successful.

### A message from the instructor



"It's amazing to see the transformation of students during the semester. First day of class, they're scared, nervous, and confused about their college plans. Through this class, they discover what BPCCC has to offer in terms of programs, degrees, student services, and resources. The students take career assessments that allow them to explore areas of interest. At the end of the semester, I see those once-tentative students making confident decisions about their career options, college majors, and life choices. I am proud to know that I have been a part of that incredible transformation."

Marjoree Harper, Director of Student Life and Instructor of EDUC 099: College Success

## So, what do students think about the course?



"Through this class I have learned you are responsible for your own success or failure in college."  
Jessica Watson, EDUC 099 student

"Coming from a four-year college back to BPCCC was such a relief – and a burden lifted. This course opened my eyes."

Lauren Wood, EDUC 099 student



"EDU 099 has taught me a lot of things I didn't know or understand. One thing I learned is the importance of maintaining a strong GPA. I also recognize the significance of being a responsible college student."  
Leonard Kelly, EDUC 099 student

## Students ask: How does my personality affect my career choice?

One important component of the new College Success Skills course at BPCCC is the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI). All students in the EDUC 099 class take this personality test. The Counseling Center provides career counseling to the students based on the results of the test.

The MBTI is a standardized assessment that helps students discover their personality among 16 distinct personality types. After taking the MBTI, students receive an in-depth personalized Career Report that helps them understand how their personality type affects their career exploration and discusses the benefits of choosing a job that is a good fit for their type.

The Career Report details such items as work environments and occupational categories. Students receive a listing of some of the most popular and less popular occupations for people with their same personality type. The goal is for the students to make informed decisions on career/degree choices that will be a good fit for them.

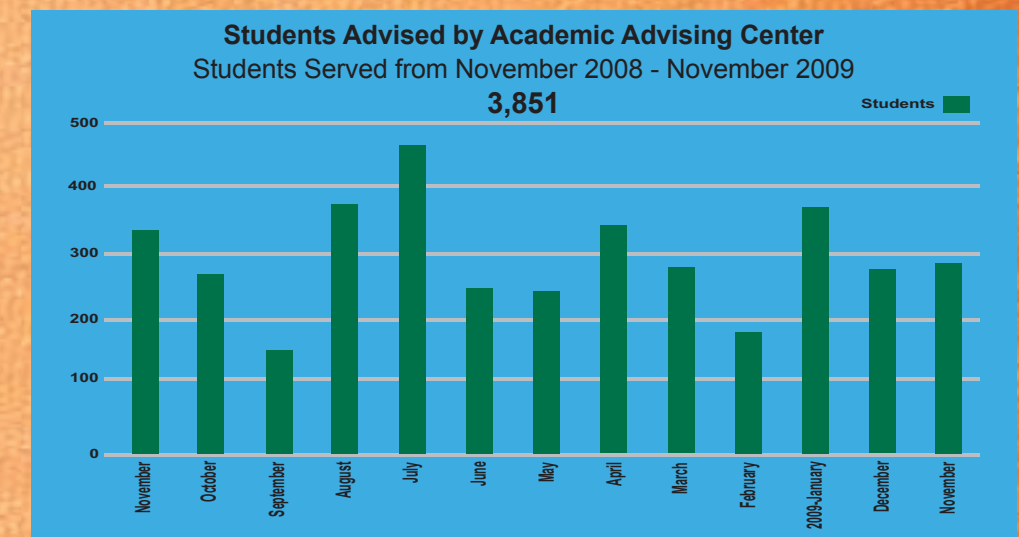
## Academic Advising Center — the first stop for students

Too often, prospective students come on campus and meander through the "academic process." They have no plan, no goals. That's bad.

To address this problem, BPCCC created the Academic Advising Center, which is located in Building A just as people enter the double doors. Stopping to visit the counselors in this office adds purpose and focus to students' educational pathways. Armed with accurate information, students successfully navigate the college process.

### The Advising Center helps students —

- Wade through unfamiliar paperwork
- Decipher college lingo
- Determine transfer credits
- Choose a major
- Locate appropriate college resources



678-6489 for appointment  
Office hours:  
Monday 7:30 am-6:30 pm  
Tuesday-Friday 7:30 am-4:30 pm

Academic Advising Center staff: Karen Jackson, Counselor; Peggy Fuller, Director; Toni Brown (front) Administrative Assistant.

