

2013-14 Program Review
Best Practices Form

Instructions: *Submit this form as a separate attachment with your completed Program Review.* Programs often do something particularly well; usually they have learned through assessment—sometimes trial and error—what solves a problem or makes their programs work so well. These are often called **Best Practices** and can help others. Please share the practices your program has found to be effective. The contact information lets others know whom to contact for more information. This part of Program Review is linked to the Student Success Strategic Goal: “Become an exemplary model of student success by developing and implementing best practices.” For examples of Best Practices visit the [Program Review Committee’s website](#).

Program/Department: English for Multilingual Students Name of Chair/Director/Manager: Jeannie Parent
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Best Practice(s):

Compressed/Stacked ESL Writing Express

Combining two composition classes in one semester might seem counterintuitive for ESL students, but it is exactly what keeps students engaged, increasing student success because of the daily interaction. Class becomes like a family, with incredible support from classmates and the instructor, and the daily instruction provides reinforcement of skills. Success rates far exceed those of regular classes (by 10 - 15%). Contact Jeannie Parent at jparent@bakersfieldcollege.edu.

Linking Instruction to the Community

ESL Instructors regularly choose books written by visiting authors so that students can connect to the outside and read articles and books that are culturally and journalistically important. Various assignments are given that encourage authentic communication with the authors, such as writing email or creating blogs and websites. Contact Andrew Baker for more information at andrew.baker@bakersfieldcollege.edu or Jeannie Parent at jparent@bakersfieldcollege.edu

Low Stakes Testing

The EMS Department uses a low-stakes portfolio in ENSL B60. It includes an email, multiple-draft essay, and in-class essay. Instead of the all-or-nothing approach of the Final Essay exam, this best practice of having students choose their best work that is representative of writing for different audiences in different environments is intended to lower the affective filter and reflect more accurately their writing abilities. Contact Jeannie Parent for more information at jparent@bakersfieldcollege.edu .