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The Co-requisite Model in MTSU's Stretch Program
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The Co-req Model:
-MTSU's Stretch program used to consist of 1008K (for some students), 1009K, and 1010K. Students were tracked into the Stretch program if they had an ACT score of below 19 or if they had no ACT score (typically non-traditional students.

-We now just have 1010K. This is a one-semester class that consists of four contact hours plus one on-line hour per week.

-Tennessee Promise—We were initially unsure what this would do to our number of students, but we have seen an increase (495 K students in Fall 2014, 578 in Fall 2015, 608 in Fall 2016).

-The Stretch program is largely staffed by full-time temporary faculty.

Initial Reactions:
-Positives: The added in-class hour was universally popular with instructors.
        Some instructors also found the on-line hour to be very useful.

-Negatives: Some instructors struggled with integrating the on-line hour into their class.
        There was fear that the lowest-achieving students would struggle with the new
        model.
        Many instructors wondered if the new model would adequately prepare students
        for 1020.

Institutional Research:
-Our Institutional Research department found that there was no significant difference in the pass rates by students with different ACT English scores.

-1020 pass rates increased from 80.1% from the last year of the old model to 82.1% under the first year of the new model. Statistically, this is virtually the same.

-In all, these numbers support TBR's assertion that the co-requisite moves students through the curriculum more quickly.

Connections:
-The Writing Center is currently producing web videos and activities for instructors to assign or use in class.

-The on-line hour fits in neatly with our composition program's "Literacy for Life" focus, which focuses on non-academic texts, including multi-modal compositions.

-Our university's QEP involves assisting students in creating ePortfolios.

Looking to the Future:
-We are always looking for ways to improve. Right now, we are developing a program where there will be embedded tutors in some sections of 1010K.

Discussion Question:
-How is the co-requisite model working at other universities? What benefits or drawbacks have you seen?