

Las Positas College ESL Student Survey: Results Spring 2015

The ESL Student Survey was administered to students enrolled in ESL courses during the spring semester. The survey was administered by the instructor and filled out during class. The purpose of this survey was to provide the ESL faculty a better understanding of their students' backgrounds and learning needs. A total of 242 ESL students responded to the survey. The results of the survey are below.

1. How did you hear about Las Positas College? <i>(more than one selection possible per respondent)</i>	Num	Pct
Someone working at my high school recommended it	13	5%
A friend or family member recommended it	178	74%
My employer recommended it	10	4%
Someone at an adult school or library recommended it	23	10%
I attended an open house for adult school and library students	7	3%
An advertisement/flier in the community (store, restaurant, church, etc.)	12	5%
An advertisement/flier was mailed to my home	5	2%
I heard an advertisement on the radio	0	0%
A professional recruiter recommended it	13	5%
Total Unique Responses	239	100%

2. Why are you taking ESL classes at LPC? <i>(more than one selection possible per respondent)</i>	Num	Pct
For employment (to get a promotion or a better job)	74	31%
To communicate with my children and/or my children's teachers	50	21%
For personal development (to improve myself or to gain self-confidence)	131	54%
To prepare for a test (TOEFL, IELTS, TOEIC, SAT, GRE, etc.)	15	6%
To earn a Certificate	44	18%
To earn an Associate Degree	49	20%
To transfer to a university	65	27%
Other (please specify):	13	5%
<i>Improve my English level</i>	-	-
<i>Be an English writer</i>	-	-
<i>CBEST Essays</i>	-	-
<i>To complete required Au-Pair's hours</i>	-	-
<i>Do another course - Interior Design or landscaping</i>	-	-
<i>Learn English</i>	-	-
<i>MBA</i>	-	-
<i>I didn't pay attention to my TOEFL test</i>	-	-
<i>To learn writing and grammar</i>	-	-
Total Unique Responses	242	100%

3. Overall (for most of your ESL classes) what is the quality of your ESL classes at LPC?	Num	Pct
Excellent	88	37%
Very Good	116	49%
Okay (so-so)	35	15%
Bad	0	0%
Total	239	100%

4. Would you recommend Las Positas ESL classes to someone?		
	Num	Pct
Yes	208	87%
Maybe	31	13%
No	1	<1%
Total	240	100%

5. Which ESL classes are you taking this semester?		
<i>(more than one selection possible per respondent)</i>		
	Num	Pct
Speaking and Listening	45	19%
Pronunciation	31	13%
Reading and Writing	191	80%
Grammar or Editing	157	65%
Total Unique Responses	240	100%

6. How many semesters, including this semester, have you taken ESL classes at LPC?		
	Num	Pct
First semester taking ESL	77	32%
2 semesters	63	26%
3 semesters	49	20%
4 semesters	25	10%
5 semesters	13	5%
6 or more semesters	13	5%
Total	240	100%

7. How many hours per week do you spend on homework for your ESL classes?		
	Num	Pct
0-5 hours	85	35%
6-10 hours	84	35%
11-15 hours	37	15%
16-20 hours	25	10%
21-30 hours	8	3%
More than 30 hours	3	1%
Total	242	100%

8. Which class time is best for you?		
	Num	Pct
Morning (9:00am - 1:00pm)	157	66%
Afternoon (12:00pm - 4:00pm)	14	6%
Evening (5:30pm - 9:20pm)	55	23%
Combo 1: Morning and Afternoon	1	<1%
Combo 2: Morning and Evening	11	5%
Combo 3: Afternoon and Evening	1	<1%
Total	239	100%

Note: Originally the questions allowed only one selection. We opted to include responses with more than one selection because of the observed pattern.

9. Would you take an ESL class (probably Speaking/Listening or Vocabulary Development) if it is offered in the summer?		
	Num	Pct
Yes	137	57%
Maybe	51	21%
No	53	22%
Total	241	100%

10. In past fall semesters, ESL classes started in the first week of September. Beginning this year (fall 2015) ESL classes will start two weeks earlier, on August 17. Will you be able to attend?		
	Num	Pct
Yes	156	65%
Maybe	47	20%
No	38	16%
Total	241	100%

11. How old are you?		
	Num	Pct
19 or younger	20	8%
20-24	39	16%
25-29	43	18%
30-39	70	29%
40-49	47	20%
50 or older	19	8%
Total	238	100%

12. What is your gender?		
	Num	Pct
Female	162	68%
Male	76	32%
Total	238	100%

13. How many units are you taking this semester?		
	Num	Pct
less than 3 units	13	6%
3-5 units	28	12%
6-8 units	56	24%
9-11 units	69	29%
12-14 units	48	20%
15 or more units	22	9%
Total	236	100%

14. What was the highest level of education you completed before taking classes at Las Positas?		
	Num	Pct
Elementary School	1	<1%
Junior High or Middle School	8	3%
High School	85	36%
Some College (no degree)	43	18%
Associate Degree or Certificate	25	11%
Bachelor's Degree	50	21%
More than a Bachelor's Degree	24	10%
Total	236	100%

15. Do you have a Student Education Plan?		
	Num	Pct
Yes	147	62%
No	90	38%
Total	237	100%

16. Have you ever met with a counselor at LPC?		
	Num	Pct
Yes	173	73%
No	63	27%
Total	236	100%

17. Which support services for ESL have you used? <i>(more than one selection possible per respondent)</i>	Num	Pct
A tutor from the LPC Tutorial Center that I met all semester	52	28%
Drop-in (one time) tutoring in the LPC Tutorial Center	23	12%
A private tutor that I meet off campus	16	9%
The Reading and Writing Center (inside the Tutorial Center)	41	22%
ESL instructor's office hours	109	59%
Total Unique Responses	186	100%

18. Would a counselor's visit to your ESL class be helpful?	Num	Pct
Yes	192	86%
No	32	14%
Total	224	100%

19. Do you receive financial aid from Las Positas?	Num	Pct
Yes	86	36%
No	152	64%
Total	238	100%

20. What is your average annual household income before taxes?	Num	Pct
under \$17,505	63	29%
\$17,505- \$29,999	46	21%
\$30,000-\$39,999	16	7%
\$40,000-\$54,999	21	10%
\$55,000-\$69,999	18	8%
\$70,000-\$84,999	10	5%
\$85,000-\$109,999	12	6%
\$110,000 +	31	14%
Total	217	100%

21. How many people (living with you or not) does this income support?	Num	Pct
1 person	58	25%
2 people	47	21%
3 people	44	19%
4 people	46	20%
5 people	19	8%
6 people	8	4%
7 people	2	1%
8 or more	4	2%
Total	228	100%

22. How many hours per week do you work (at a job)?	Num	Pct
none	121	52%
1-20 hours per week	37	16%
21-34 hours per week	18	8%
35+ hour per week	57	24%
Total	233	100%

23. Do you have children under 18 that you are responsible for?	Num	Pct
Yes	105	44%
No	133	56%
Total	238	100%

24. What is your immigration/visa status?	Num	Pct
Native Born (U.S. Citizen)	19	8%
Foreign Born (Immigrant, Permanent Resident, or U.S. Citizen)	146	62%
International Student (in the U.S. on an F1 visa)	48	20%
In the U.S. on another type of visa	23	10%
Total	236	100%

25. What country are you from?	Num	Pct
Mexico	42	17%
China	36	15%
Korea	26	11%
Afghanistan	12	5%
Iran	11	5%
India	10	4%
Brazil	10	4%
Other Africa	2	1%
Other Central America	8	3%
Other South America	9	4%
Other East Asia	6	2%
Other Southeast Asia	10	4%
Other Middle East	6	2%
Other Asia	9	4%
Other Europe	4	2%
Other Oceania	1	<1%
United State of America	3	1%
Unknown	2	1%
Decline to state	35	14%
Total	242	100%

26. How many years have you been in the U.S.?	Num	Pct
Less than one year	19	8%
1-2 years	62	26%
3-4 years	45	19%
5-6 years	29	12%
7-10 years	38	16%
More than 10 years	45	19%
Total	238	100%