

Miner Learning Center

Director: Vanessa Martinez



Background

The Miner Learning Center (MLC) is a campus-wide academic support structure established in 2015. The MLC provides assistance in challenging core curriculum classes in order to improve academic performance. Academic support services include tutoring and peer-led study sessions known as Peers Assisting Student Success (PASS) sessions, a student-led intervention based on the widely researched Supplemental Instruction model originating at the University of Missouri – Kansas City.

Mission and Focus

The MLC aims at helping students pass historically difficult courses at a higher rate thereby improving overall retention rates. This course-specific, peer-led program seeks to promote active, collaborative learning and self-empowered, critical thinkers.

Contributions to Student Success

MLC contributes to the institutional goal of enhancing retention rates, graduation rates, GPA success, and satisfaction levels of UTEP students by:

- Offering peer-led, weekly study sessions for students enrolled in challenging courses
- Providing an environment where students learn to ask thoughtful, course-specific, conceptual questions, and become more invested in their own learning
- Increasing students' confidence in engaging in difficult course material
- Providing study strategies and creating an inclusive learning environment
- Encouraging faculty to:
 - a. Understand the purpose and best practices of the MLC program
 - b. Consider linking their course with the MLC
 - c. Assist with the selection of MLC PASS Leaders & Tutors

Designations and Recognition

- CRLA International Tutor Training Program Certification awarded to the Miner Learning Center: Student Success Tutor Training Program
- Program certification began October 2017 and expired in May 2022.
- CRLA International Peer Educator Training Program Certification awarded to the Miner Learning Center: Student Success Peer Educator Training Program.
- Program certification began October 2022 and will expire in December 2024.

UTEP Miner Learning Center at a Glance

Academic Year	Classes engaged with MLC	Individual Students Served	Total Student Contact Hours
2015-16	74	1,750	6,909
2016-17	74	1,653	7,559
2017-18	85	2,886	12,408
2018-19	79	2,763	11,870
2019-20	101	2,690	11,526
2020-21	82	2,277	14,728
2021-22	83	2,015	8,090
2022-23	112	2,713	10,885
Total	690	18,747	83,974

MLC 2022-2023 Grade Summary Information

Fall 2022 MLC Attendance

	8+ Sessions	4-7 Sessions	1-3 Sessions	No sessions	Total
A	68%	49%	42%	35%	38%
B or better	88%	78%	65%	60%	63%
C or better*	94%	91%	81%	75%	78%
DFW**	6%	9%	19%	25%	22%
Total Students	177	251	741	3354	4523

Of those who attended eight or more times, 94% earned a C or better; and 68% earned an A. The DFW rate was 19 percentage points higher for those who never attended when compared with those who attended 8 or more times. Of students enrolled in MLC eligible courses, approximately 26% participated.

Spring 2023 MLC Attendance

	8+ Sessions	4-7 Sessions	1-3 Sessions	No sessions	Total
A	57%	45%	42%	34%	37%
B or better	82%	74%	70%	59%	63%
C or better*	95%	89%	89%	77%	81%
DFW**	5%	11%	11%	23%	19%
Total Students	185	234	810	3160	4389

Of those who attended eight or more times, 95% earned a C or better or a Satisfactory grade; and 57% earned an A. The DFW rate was 18 percentage points higher for those who never attended when compared with those who attended 8 or more times. Of students enrolled in MLC eligible courses, approximately 28% participated.

Summer 2023 MLC Attendance

	8+ Sessions	4-7 Sessions	1-3 Sessions	No sessions	Total
A	93%	85%	59%	53%	60%
B or better	93%	99%	88%	78%	84%
C or better*	100%	100%	99%	91%	95%
DFW**	0%	0%	1%	9%	5%
Total Students	15	71	130	293	509

Of those who attended eight or more times, 100% earned a C or better or a Satisfactory grade; and 93% earned an A. The DFW rate was 9 percentage points higher for those who never attended when compared with those who attended 8 or more times. Of students enrolled in MLC eligible courses, approximately 42% participated.