We have now offered English 120AC for two semesters, so this report will briefly sum up some of the results of this course.

**Pass rates:**

Pass rates for Eng 120AC so far have been somewhat higher than or comparable to those of Eng. 120 and Eng 98:

**Fall 2013:** 120AC: 68% passed, (compared to 59% in regular 120, and 65% in English 98)

**Spring 2013:** 120AC: 62% passed; (compared to: 58% in regular 120, and 54% in Eng. 98)

### Attempting and succeeding in English 150:

**Spring 2013 students:** 42 began Eng. 120AC, and of the 26 that passed, 20 (76%) enrolled in Eng. 150 the next semester. This compares well with the percent of students who passed Eng. 120 that semester and went on to enroll in English 150 (73%). So about three-quarters of those who succeeded enrolled in the next level right away.

Of the 20 120AC students who enrolled in Eng. 150 in the next semester, 14 (70%) passed. This is somewhat lower than the 80% of Eng. 120 students who passed Eng. 150 the next semester; however, many Eng. 120 students scored higher on the placement test and thus may have had stronger skills overall.

A more accurate comparison might be to students who took English 98 in Fall 2012, because they placed at a similar level as those in Eng120AC. If we look at that group, we can see how many of them succeeded and moved into Eng. 150 within two semesters.

With that in mind, for Fall 2012, there were 148 students in Eng 98, 81 (55%) of whom passed; within two semesters, 35 (43%) of those students had enrolled in English 150 – much lower than the 76% of 120AC students who enrolled in Eng. 150 in less time. Of those 148 students who started in Eng. 98 in Fall 2012, 29 had passed Eng. 150 by the end of the following fall – which is 20% of those who started. In contrast, 33% of those who started in Eng 120AC had passed Eng. 150, within a shorter time period. This is actually similar to the percent of students who started in regular English 120 and then passed Eng. 150 the next semester – for that group, 33% passed Eng 150 (70 out of 209 who started in Eng. 120)

Overall, the success rates are strong because they show how students are finishing the English sequence through transfer level faster, with strong success rates in English 150 that will hopefully improve over time. Eng 120AC students are doing almost as well as students who take the regular English 120 and much better than those who start in English 98, at least in terms of completing English 150.

### Students’ reflections:

Students who succeed in English 120AC overall seem to feel quite confident about their skills by the end of the semester. Certainly those who’ve reported back to us from English 150 say they feel very well prepared. Below are some excerpts from “letters of advice” that students wrote at the end of Eng 120AC, which show what they feel that they learned from the course:

“I began this class high-strung and anxious and finished this class accomplished, and a better writer”

“this class will totally help you prepare yourself in becoming that immensely intellectual person who is fluent in writing that you have always dreamed of being”

“to be honest, the class is a lot of work but worth it in the end”

Many students wrote about learning better time management skills, becoming more comfortable asking for help, gaining confidence in participating in class, and learning that they could do it if they just “never gave
up.” Many wrote that the skills they learned, especially in managing their time and seeking help from others, were skills they used in other classes and that they would continue to use in the future.

**Future plans:**
It would be helpful to look at students’ success over an even greater time period, to see how Eng 120AC students fare compared to those who were placed at a similar level (perhaps in a two or three-year time frame). Clearly the course is getting them through the sequence faster, as it was intended to do. I would like to see the pass rates in English 150 be a bit stronger and more comparable to the pass rates of those who passed regular English 120. We are staying in contact with students as much as we can to see what might be contributing to lack of success in their English 150 courses, to see if there is more we could do in Eng. 120AC to prepare them better.