

Amarillo's Summer School Grades
Heat Up with ODYSSEYWARE®

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PROFILE

DISTRICT

School: Amarillo Independent School District
 Location: Amarillo, Texas
 Location Type: Midsize city

ODYSSEYWARE

Enrollment: 200 students
 Focus: Summer school
 Grades Using ODYSSEYWARE: 9-12
 Period Examined: 2009 summer school

BACKGROUND

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In 2008, Amarillo Independent School District (AISD) implemented ODYSSEYWARE as a replacement for two e-learning products deemed ineffective for its students. AISD initially enrolled 81 students in the ODYSSEYWARE program; within a year, enrollment increased nearly 14 times to include over 1,130 students.

Currently, AISD uses ODYSSEYWARE for the following circumstances:

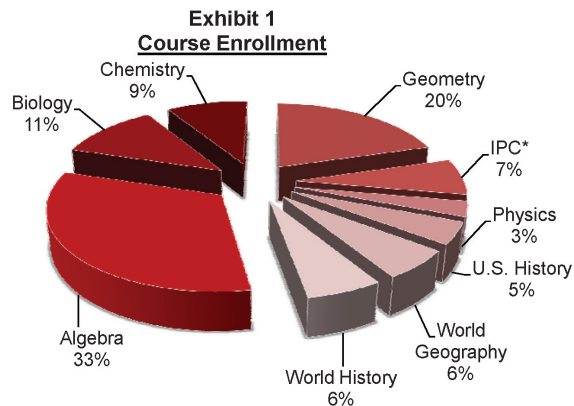
- Summer school
- Special education
- Credit recovery
- Electives
- Accelerated learning
- Instruction for suspended students

The scope of this case study focuses on ODYSSEYWARE'S effectiveness during the 2009 summer school session. Note that the data presented herein relates only to students using ODYSSEYWARE, who accounted for 24 percent of the total 2009 summer school cohort.

PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

Exhibit 1 depicts ODYSSEYWARE course enrollment, by subject, for summer school 2009.

As shown in the exhibit, all ODYSSEYWARE courses taken were in core-area courses (i.e. math, science, social science, and/or language arts). The majority of course enrollments were in math, representing over half of all enrollments. At 16 percent, social science courses contained the fewest number of course enrollments.



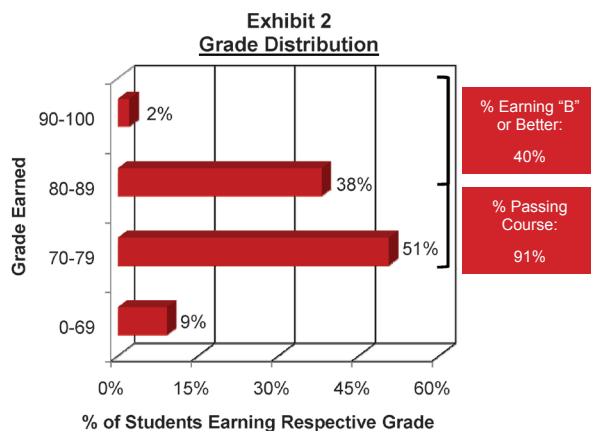
Math:	53%
Science:	30%
Social Science:	17%

*IPC denotes Integrated Physics and Chemistry.
 Source: ODYSSEYWARE, summer school, 2009.

RESULTS

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Exhibit 2 illustrates the grade distribution for all ODYSSEYWARE students during summer school 2009.



Note: Data shown above represents only those who utilized ODYSSEYWARE.
 Source: Amarillo Independent School District, summer school, 2009.

According to Exhibit 2 shown above, 91 percent of all ODYSSEYWARE students passed their courses with a grade of 70 or better. Moreover, 40 percent earned an 80 or better.

DETAILED GRADES

Exhibit 3 below depicts the class average and pass rates for each summer school 2009 course.

**Exhibit 3
Class Average & Pass Rates**

Course	Class Average	Percent Passed
Mathematics		
Algebra I, Semester I	72	78%
Algebra I, Semester II	71	77%
Algebra II, Semester I	77	100%
Algebra II, Semester II	75	83%
Geometry, Semester I	78	96%
Geometry, Semester II	77	95%
Science		
Biology, Semester I	81	100%
Biology, Semester II	79	97%
Chemistry, Semester I	78	100%
Chemistry, Semester II	78	94%
IPC*, Semester I	78	100%
IPC*, Semester II	78	91%
Physics, Semester I	78	100%
Physics, Semester II	78	100%
Social Science		
U.S. History, Semester I	81	100%
U.S. History, Semester II	79	93%
World Geography, Semester I	79	100%
World Geography, Semester II	82	100%
World History, Semester I	81	100%
World History, Semester II	83	100%

Note: Data shown above represents only those who utilized ODYSSEYWARE.

**IPC denotes Integrated Physics and Chemistry.*

Source: Amarillo Independent School District, summer school, 2009.

As shown in the exhibit above, students earned highest grades and pass rates in the social sciences field. With the exception of second-semester U.S. History, every student taking a social sciences course passed.

A close second to student performance in the social sciences is performance in the sciences. Overall, the pass rates were nearly perfect, with the exception of second-semester IPC and second-semester chemistry.

CONCLUSION

Disappointed with the performance of previous e-learning software, administrators at Amarillo Independent School District upgraded their curriculum, choosing to implement ODYSSEYWARE's technology-based learning environment for use in their summer school program. Those administrators saw dramatic results.

Despite enrollment in some of the most rigorous math, sciences, and social studies courses ever offered by AISD, an incredible 91 percent of summer school students passed their courses. In fact, science and social studies students experienced unprecedented success, collectively achieving pass rates at or near 100 percent.

So how were these Texas students able to achieve such success? The simple answer is ODYSSEYWARE. The features of this innovative online curriculum are designed to be delivered to a diverse mix of students at a pace that suits their individual learning styles. In addition, thousands of multimedia elements engage students and allow them to receive information through multiple interactive channels to accommodate visual, auditory, linguistic, and kinesthetic learners. Perfect for summer school and other alternative learning programs, ODYSSEYWARE allows students to log on and learn anytime and from any computer with an Internet connection.

Perhaps the success of Amarillo's summer school students explains why ODYSSEYWARE enrollment has grown 14-fold, from 81 students to 1,130 within a year and why hundreds of thousands of students and teachers nationwide use ODYSSEYWARE!

“ODYSSEYWARE allows students who need flexibility to facilitate their own learning at school as well as from home. One big advantage to ODYSSEYWARE is that it allows teachers to customize individual students' instruction. It is vital for many students, who are in an alternative education setting, that teachers are able to develop students' lessons based on individual strengths and weaknesses. ODYSSEYWARE is a powerful tool for North Heights and is an essential part to our students' success.”

*Kathy Johnson, Alternative Education Coordinator
North Heights Alternative High School, Amarillo Independent School District*