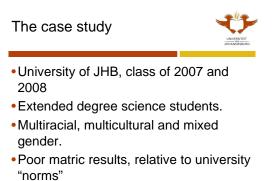
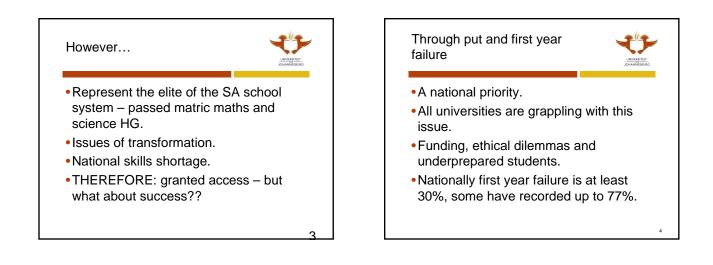
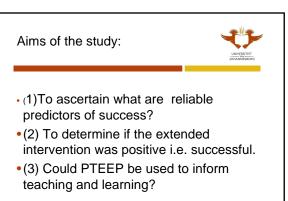


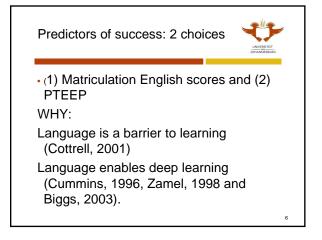
Using PTEEP scores to restructure an extended degree programme

•Tracey Morton McKay •University of Johannesburg





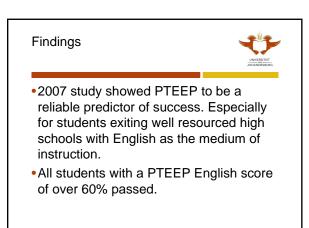




Placement Test in English for Educational Purposes (PTEEP) of UCT

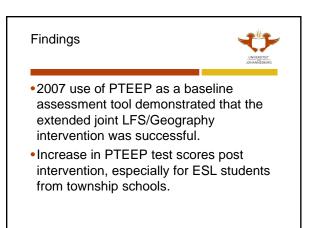


- To widen access id students who can cope at university or who need additional support if admitted.
- De Groot (2003):PTEEP as a better predictor of success than matric English.
- Valid predictor of success at UCT.



Findings: Predictions of PTEEP in 2007

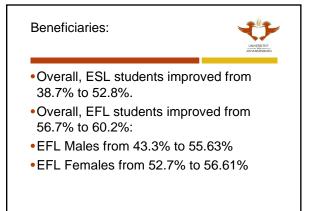
- Pre intervention PTEEP mean was 46.19%.
- Geography term 1 results, mean: 44.81%
- June exam: 47.67%
- November exam: 51.2%
- Year: 55.4%
- Final: 53.5% (calculated on a 50:50)
- Post intervention PTEEP: 56%



Pre and post intervention scores, 2007

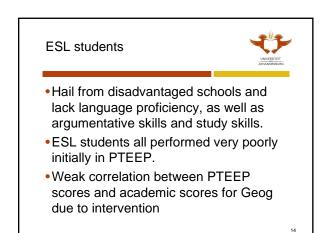


- •Mean pre intervention PTEEP was 46.19%.
- •Mean post intervention PTEEP was 56%.
- Most improvement was with ESL students:
- Females: 46.3 % to 54.5%
- Males: 34.9% to 51.2%



The intervention:

- Integrated language and academic course.
- Study manual (not textbook).
- Extended time for assessment
- Team teaching with AD.
- Small classes
- Extended time and additional support (tutors and writing consultant)
- Student centred approach
- Overt teaching of academic skills.

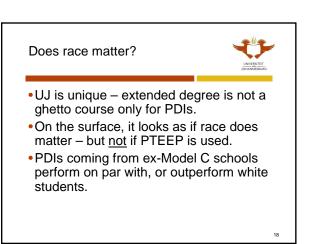


EFL students Analysis Matric EFL appears to be a reliable indicator They have the language proficiency and of success, but with a cravat (motivation). perform well in PTEEP (although scores are lower than for matric). • Matric ESL clearly lack language proficiency. • But some demonstrate a surface • Discrepancy of 20% between matric scores and PTEEP for ESL students. approach to learning. Academic performance is still strongly Additionally, individual motivation correlated with language proficiency appears to be a crucial factor. DESPITE the intervention. 15

Gender issues

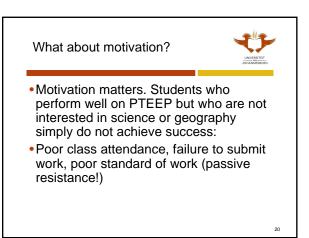


- On the surface, gender does not matter, but:
- Female students outperformed males on PTEEP and in Geography.
- Female ESL students benefitted the most from the intervention.
- Outperformed their PTEEP from the beginning.
- · Were able to adopt a deep approach quicker?



School matters!!

- Students entering university from well resourced schools with EFL are at a significant advantage over those who write ESL and hail from a poorly resourced school.
- Thus: PTEEP scores are an indictor of preparedness for university.

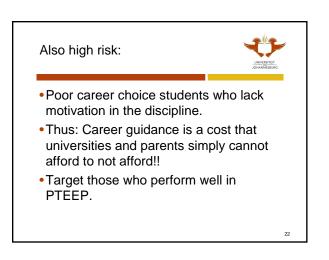


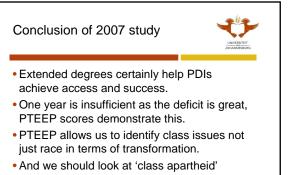
So who are the high risk students?



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- Students from poorly resourced schools in general due to language deficiencies.
- Black male students from these schools in particular due to the extra time needed to develop a deep approach to learning.
- EFL students with surface approach and lack of motvation





• PTEEP a better predictor than matric English

Way Forward: 2008
-Can quickly ID at risk students from PTEEP scores and focus on them.
-Motivation (esp with EFL students.)
-Tackle the surface approach to learning.
-Even more contact time: Tutors and writing consultants time formalised.
-Scaffolded assignments and examination support.

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2008 restructuring: Writing



- 2 hour weekly writing classes run by a Geog graduate who was training in teaching academic writing skills.
- Used the content from the Geog to scaffold skills.
- Linked writing class activities to assignments.

2008 restructuring: Peer teaching

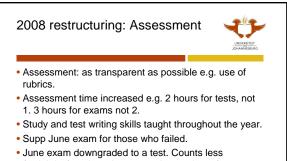


- Timetabled 2 one hour tuts per week for whole year.
- Tutor is post-grad Geog student.
- Assists with assignments, takes content to greater depth, actively engage with material.

2008 restructuring: Drafting



- All students must submit 2 drafts of assignments.
- Get academic writing feedback, addressing the question/s; logic, cohesiveness etc.
- Use this feedback to redraft and resubmit.

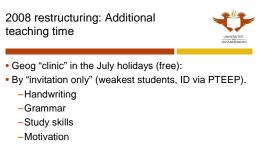


• June exam downgraded to a test. Counts less (weighting) and can be returned to students for discussion and as a teaching tool.

2008 restructuring: Mentoring



- Extensive mentoring by lecturer
- Follow up on absenteeism.
- Sms students.
- Encourage personal contact.
- Know each student.



- -Reading
- -Writing
- -Use Geog content

To date:



- Only 2 students do not have a pass mark for mid year.
- Once again, no student with 60% or more for PTEEP has failed.
- Overt targeting of the black male township students is successful. They have significantly outperformed their PTEEP scores.
- Motivation is still an issue students with good PTEEP who fail or do not perform well.