

# A STUDENT-CENTERED APPROACH TO HIGHER EDUCATION

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# UT AUSTIN FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION RATES

52%

2013

55%

2014

58%

2015

61%

2016

70%

2017





**A Student-Centered Classroom:  
Every Student Earns an A**

**A Student-Centered Campus:  
Every Student Graduates**

## An Incompatibility

- UT Austin agrees to increase 4-year graduation rates from 51% in 2013 to 70% by 2017.
- Introductory courses historically have non-passing rates exceeding 30% as recently as 10 years ago, and in excess of 20% in 2010.

## The Solution

- Student-centered instruction.



# Laude's General Chemistry Course

From traditional instruction to.....



# DATA INFORMS EVERY DECISION

I know each student's most likely  
grade before class begins





# STUDENTS ARE SCHOLARS FIRST

I tell students on the first day that each of them should earn an A in my class



# COMMUNITY BUILDING

500 students = 500 teachers





# ENGAGEMENT WITH TECHNOLOGY

Hybrid Learning Means 24/7 Learning



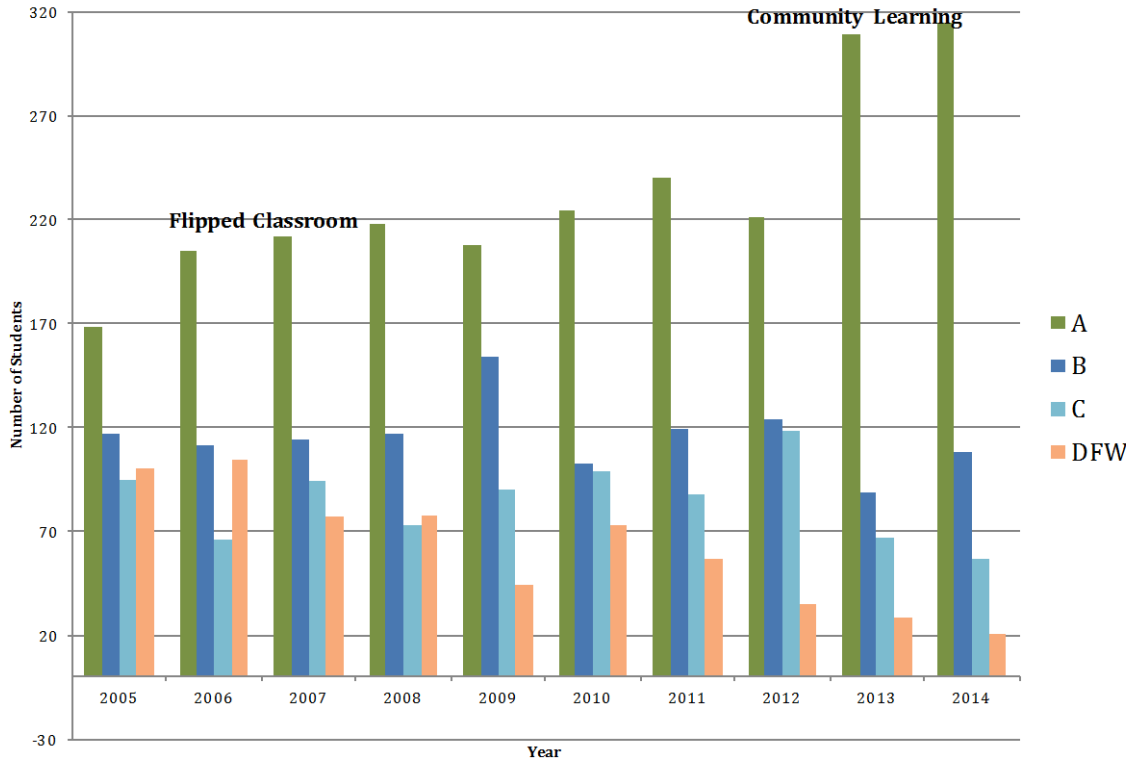
# CRACKING THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Rigid grading structures  
disincentivize learning



# Killing the Grading Curve

CH301 Grades 2005 to 2014





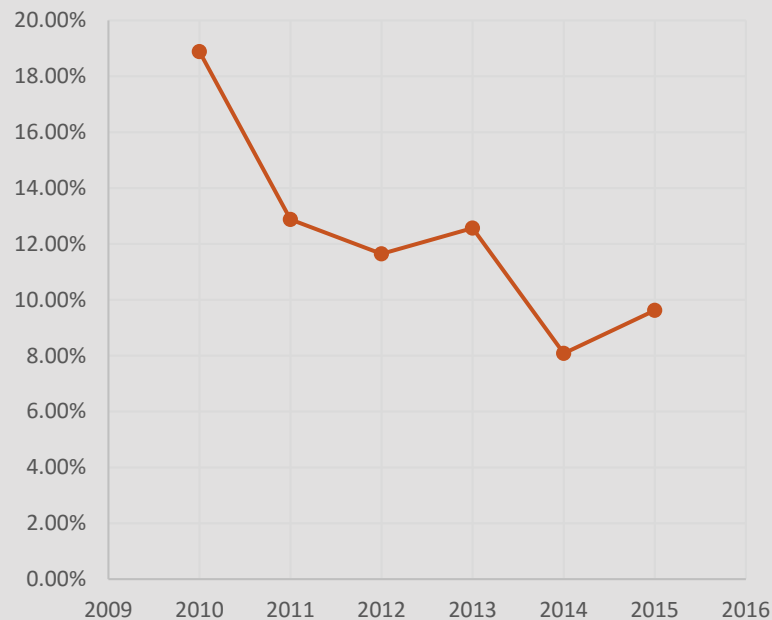
## UT Austin Course Transformation Projects (CTP):

- Three-year awards
- Grounded in technological and pedagogical innovations
- Department-level rather than individual faculty commitment
- First CTP awards given in 2011 to Biology, Chemistry and Statistics
- Cross-discipline best practices disseminated through Center for Teaching and Learning
- Mandated accountability and sustainability components

# General Chemistry DFW Rates

Year	DFW Rate
2010	18.88%
2011	12.87%
2012	11.65%
2013	12.56%
2014	8.08%
2015	9.62%

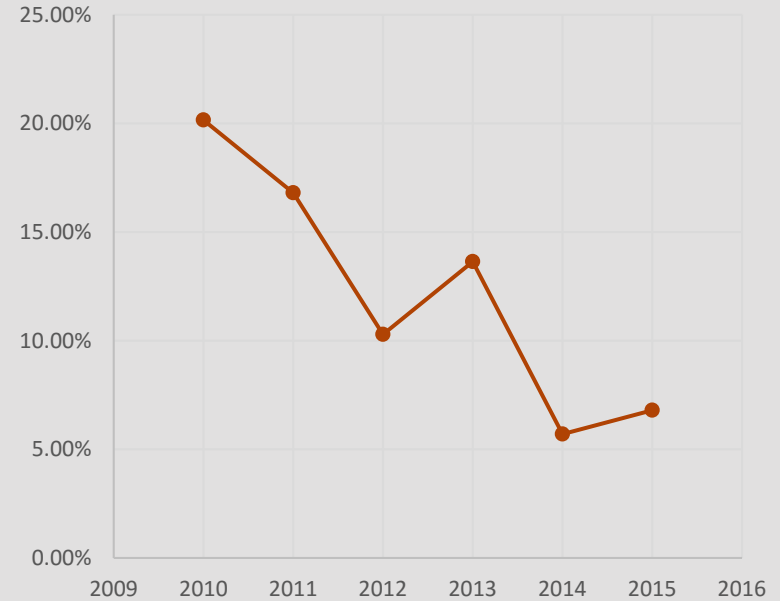
General Chemistry Sequence DFW Rates



# Introductory Biology DFW Rates

Year	DFW Rate
2010	20.15%
2011	16.80%
2012	10.29%
2013	13.64%
2014	5.70%
2015	6.79%

Introductory Biology DFW Rates

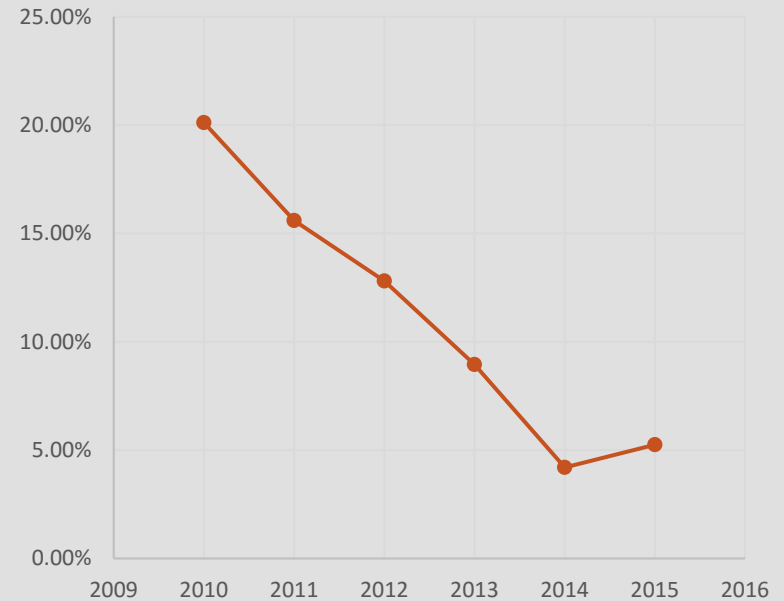




# Introductory Statistics DFW Rates

Year	DFW Rate
2010	20.11%
2011	15.60%
2012	12.80%
2013	8.95%
2014	4.20%
2015	5.25%

Introductory Statistics DFW Rate



# FALL 2016 RESULTS FOR CLASS OF 2017

## HIGHEST IN UT HISTORY

13.0 Avg Hours Passed

3.35 Avg GPA

## LOWEST IN UT HISTORY

1.4% Hours Failed

4.1% Students on Probation





**RECONSIDERING THE  
INSTITUTIONAL MESSAGE:**





**EVERY STUDENT EARNS AN A**



**A STRATEGY FOR IMPROVING GRADUATION RATES:  
FOCUS ON BELONGING**





# BUILDING COMMUNITY

All 8,000 freshmen are placed in a  
360 Connections small community





# ENGAGEMENT WITH TECHNOLOGY

Hybrid & Online Course Experience

A photograph of three students in a field setting. A young man in the foreground is looking at a compass. A young woman with blonde hair is looking at a map on a clipboard. Another young woman is leaning over them, also looking at the map. The background shows a rocky, natural landscape under a clear blue sky. There are orange geometric shapes overlaid on the image.

# EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Freshman Research Initiative



# PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS INFORMS EVERY DECISION

2,000 Freshman with Lowest Four-Year  
Graduation Rate are in Success Programs



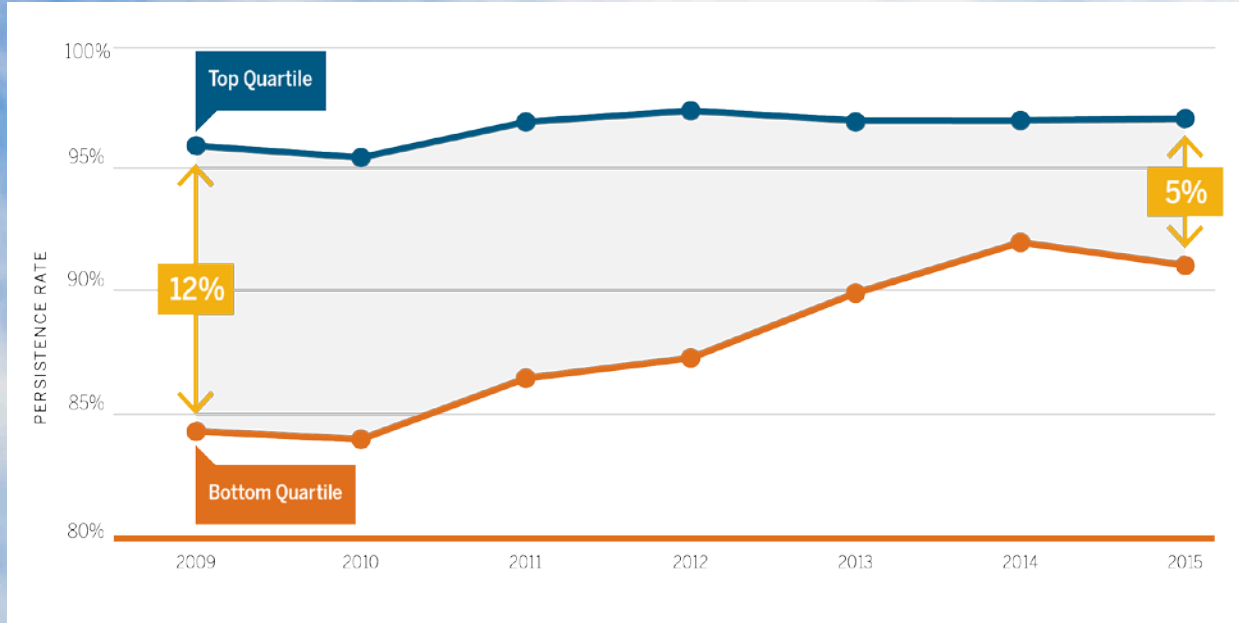
## STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAM COMPONENTS

### Freshman Year Experience:

- Inspired Teaching
- Supplemental Instruction and Advising
- Peer Mentoring
- Community Building



# Student Success Programs: Closing the Persistence Gap



**Top Quartile: 1500 SAT**

**Bottom Quartile: 1050 SAT**



# CHANGING THE EQUATION

Incentive-based Scholarships for  
Economically Disadvantaged Students







# UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP NETWORK

500 Students Started With Predicted  
33% Four-Year Graduation Rate



# UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP NETWORK

Leadership Training & Internships





# UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP NETWORK

Campus & Community Partners



# UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP NETWORK

92% Persisted to Sophomore Year  
82% Persisted to Junior Year  
65% Expected to Graduate in 4 years



# UT AUSTIN FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION RATE

51%

2010

61%

2015

70%

2017







**RECONSIDERING THE  
INSTITUTIONAL MESSAGE:**



**EVERY STUDENT GRADUATES**



**QUESTIONS?**