



VETERANS UPWARD BOUND SANTA ANA COLLEGE

VUB Newsletter

September 2015



Student Support Services/TRIO program for Veterans

September 1, 2015 marks the first day for our latest TRIO program added to Santa Ana College. This newest TRIO grant provides funds to assist specifically veterans who are students at SAC with counseling, tutoring, additional resources and grants to help them succeed in and complete college. This new program will enhance the work of our Veterans Resource Center by working closely with 120 students at SAC

FALL 2015 ACADEMIC BOOT CAMP

September 28—November 11

Join us this fall for the VUB Boot Camp! If you know a veteran who needs a Math or English refresher course or would like to raise their placement score, we can help. The VUB Boot Camp is a proven program that can help veterans succeed and save them time and money on academic courses. To register, contact Abel Arredondo or Vanessa Palomares at (714) 564-6288 during normal business hours.

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Upcoming Veterans Events

Fall Boot Camp Begins9/28

[OC Stand Down.....10/23-24](#)

[Soldiers to Scholars Event.....11/5](#)

[Veterans Day at the S.A. Zoo.....11-11](#)



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[SAC VeteransUB](#)



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The Veterans Upward Bound Program

Overview

For many student veterans, math and English can be a struggle. Because of their military service, veterans have endured a prolonged absence from the academic environment and subsequently their academic skills suffer. The Veterans Upward Bound program, a grant funded by the Department of Education, helps veterans with the transition from the military into college.

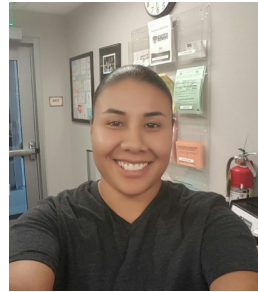
Research shows that excessive remedial courses contributes to the drop-out rate among students. The VUB offers an eight-week Math and English refresher program that will re-establish those necessary skills required for success.

The VUB boot camp is an 8-week non-credit course designed to help veterans refresh their academic skills and concepts to ensure success in the class room. In addition to various academic support services, the program can save the student up to a full academic year of math and as well as freeing the veteran's educational benefits for other college courses directly linked to an associate's degree and/or transfer requirements.

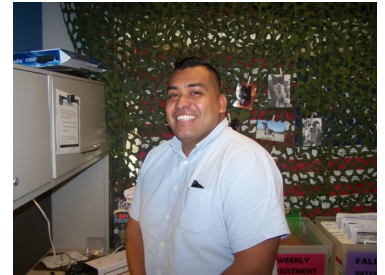
Math Boot Camp

The VUB Boot Camp program Math curriculum was developed by the Math Department's, Dr. George Sweeney, using Dr. Sweeney's "Math Jam" model which is an intense one-week workshop for upper division math. The boot camp prepares the student for SAC placement re-testing and potential placement into upper division Math courses with classroom lecture, hands-on activities, and a computer component to prepare students for online course work. (Continued on page 4)

Faces of VUB



Stacy Palencia
U.S. Navy



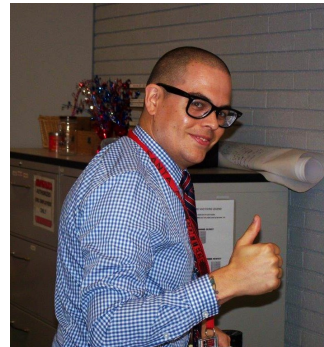
Cesar Castaneda
USMC



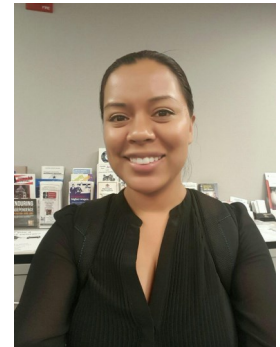
Jill Prieto
U.S. Army



Mario Munoz
USMC



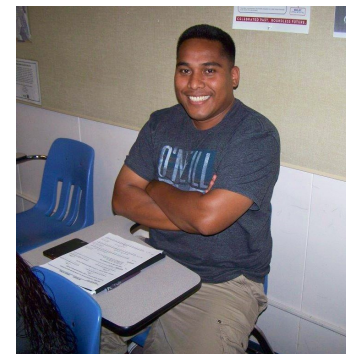
Nicholas Barron
U.S. Army



Adriana
USMC



Sara Boellinger
U.S. Navy



Christopher Houmarek
U.S. Army

2015 Summer Boot Camp

The VUB boot camp program successfully drew to a close this summer with a highly successful run. The program ran from June 15th to August 6th and enrolled 28 students. Each session was facilitated by our instructional assistants, Doria Ramos, Stephanie Salazar, Denise Rios and Kiet Pham. Our learning facilitators bring extensive math knowledge and experience. As SAC students and alumni they are familiar with student needs, the academic environment at SAC, and are well known by the math department.

Each student is administered a diagnostic test to measure their math skills and concept levels at the beginning of the course. Through the use of class room lecture, computer based math instruction, and supplemental activities, these diversified learning methods help to address each students learning style in order to ensure their success.

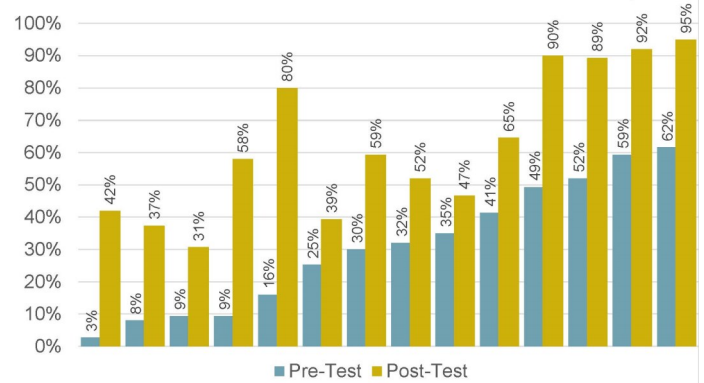
Overall performance statistics showed only 11% of students scored above the 50 percentile on the pre-test. In comparison, 75% of students scored above the 50 percentile on the post-test.

The English boot camp was led by Mara Casey of the English department. Her instruction methods, interestingly enough, include hands-on team activities which are designed to demonstrate the importance of clear concise writing.

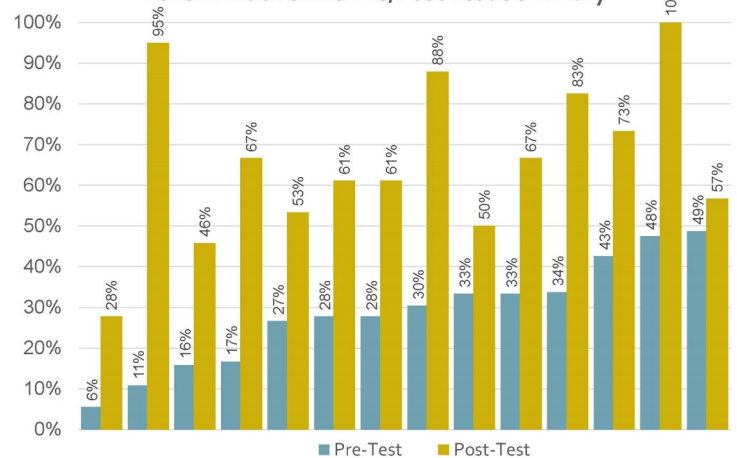
The English boot camp had a 100% success rate. All students placed one level higher, with one student placing two levels higher in English. This advancement is equivalent to a full academic year of English coursework.

Congratulations to all our student veterans on their inspiring success!

Level 1 Math Skills Pre/Post Test Summary



Level 2 Math Skills Pre/Post Test Summary



Overall Performance

Percentile	Pre Test	Post Test
70-100	0%	36%
50-69	11%	39%
20-49	57%	25%
10-19	14%	0%
1-9	18%	0%
	100%	100%



VUB Overview—Continued

English Boot Camp

In collaboration with the SAC English department, the VUB's English Boot Camp is an intense writing workshop which focuses on oral, reading and writing strategies. The curriculum, designed by Professor Brandon Rocke for the VUB program covers writing analysis of audience, purpose and critical thinking.

The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) "points out that evidence from 50 years of research has shown the teaching of grammar in isolation...is a deterrent to the improvement of students' speaking and writing and that, in order to improve both of these, class time...must be devoted to opportunities for meaningful listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Upon successful completion of the boot camp program, the student's final essay will be reviewed and analyzed by the English department. Placement into the correct level of English will then be determined by a faculty member. This method ensures the student will be ready for the coursework.

If you would like more information about the Veterans Upward Bound program, please visit the VUB program office or call the program office during normal operating hours.



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TRiO
 A Federally Funded Program

Counseling corner

The counseling corner, are answers to frequently asked questions, by one of our veteran counselors.



Student: "What do you recommend? I have only one class left on my educational plan and I want to get paid for full time benefits through my GI bill, what do I do?"

Counselor: "If you have only one class left on your educational plan per your degree objective and still want to get paid for a full time load, you have a few options. One option is to "Round out" which means as long as you take one class towards your educational goal, you can get paid for classes that aren't listed on your educational plan for full time benefits. Students have this option only one time per educational goal.

Another option in the case of transfer, is to change the educational plan to complete requirements for a backup school of interest. Many times different colleges have different major requirements for the same major. So it is possible one school can have many additional courses needed for the major than another, which would allow for a possible full time load."

It is recommended you meet with a veteran counselor to discuss other alternatives if none of the above options work for you. Please use your counselors as a resource and problem solvers in your academic career. I invite you to meet with us, if you have not already done so. **John Acuna and Jose' Turner are the veteran counselors in the veteran resource center.**

To schedule an appointment with a counselor please call (714) 564-6288 or (714) 564-6050, or visit the Veterans Resource Center.

Business Hours

Mon, Tue & Thu.....8:00am—6:00pm
 Wednesday.....8:00am—7:00pm
 Friday.....8:00am—12:00pm