

EFFICACY BRIEF

Proven Effective for Alternative Education

Cherokee County School District, GA

May 2015



Summary

The Cherokee County School District (CCSD) C3 Academy uses Apex Learning Comprehensive Courses as digital curriculum in two programs. In the high school program, students complete Courses to recover credit in a computer lab setting. In the alternative education program, students complete Courses in a blended learning environment taught by a teacher trained to deliver blended learning instruction.

Together, Apex Learning and Cherokee County School District administrators examined Apex Learning records for courses leading to eight Georgia End-of-Course Tests (EOCT) and EOCT assessment results from the 2013 – 2014 school year to assess the impact of Apex Learning Comprehensive Courses on EOCT performance. For each program and programs combined, the achievement of students using Apex Learning Comprehensive Courses on EOCTs was compared to traditional and non-traditional students completing courses for initial credit in traditional classrooms.

District Profile

- **Location:** Cherokee County, Georgia
- **Setting:** Suburban Program, C3 Academy
- **Environment:** Computer Lab, Virtual Learning

Results

Students in the alternative programs using Apex Learning courses for initial credit and credit recovery perform at similar levels to students completing courses for initial credit in traditional classrooms.

Average EOCT Z-score							
Setting	Treatment	CRCT Pre-test Performance			EOCT Post-test Performance		
		N	Mean Z-score ^{ab}	PR Equivalent	Mean Z-score ^{ab}	PR Equivalent	Percent Passing EOCT
All	Control	393	-.696	24	-.440	33	69.7%
	Apex Learning	393	-.696	24	-.635	26	57.5%
Alternative Program	Control	71	-.468	32	-.288	39	83.1%
	Apex Learning	71	-.472	32	-.522	30	76.1%
High School	Control	322	-.746	23	-.502	31	66.8%
	Apex Learning	322	-.746	23	-.688	25	53.4%

In the alternative program, the average EOCT achievement of students using Apex Learning Comprehensive Courses for initial credit and credit recovery in a blended learning environment is not significantly different statistically than for students completing courses for initial credit in traditional classrooms.

In the high school program, the average EOCT achievement of students using Apex Learning Comprehensive Courses for credit recovery is lower compared to students completing coursework for initial credit in a traditional classroom environment. The magnitude of the difference between the performance of the two groups was statistically insignificant.

Further analysis of Apex Learning usage suggests that both average EOCT achievement and pass rates for students who completed 80% of Apex Learning coursework with a quality of work score greater than 80% is not significantly different than students completing non-Apex Learning coursework for initial credit in a traditional classroom.

To view the complete study, go to <http://www.apexlearning.com/al/cherokee-efficacy-study.pdf>



More Learning Happens

Apex Learning puts rigorous, standard-based curriculum within reach for all students—from those struggling to those capable of acceleration—to prepare them for the next course, the next stage in their education, work and life. Schools use Apex Learning digital curriculum because it is proven that more learning happens with the powerful, actionable data that gives educators insight into student performance, and the personalization and engagement students need to succeed. During the 2015–2016 school year, there were more than three million enrollments in Apex Learning Comprehensive Courses for original credit and credit recovery and Adaptive Tutorials for intervention, remediation, and to prepare for high-stakes assessments. Headquartered in Seattle, Apex Learning is accredited by AdvancEd and its courses are approved for National Collegiate Athletic Association eligibility.

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