

Spotlight on: Dynamic Study Modules

Do your students struggle to understand and remember basic concepts? Dynamic Study Modules offer additional practice in areas where students struggle most.

How do Dynamic Study Modules help with conceptual understanding?

[Caroll Community College](#) added required Dynamic Study Modules (DSM) to MyLab™ assignments to give students additional practice with basic accounting concepts. What happened? Students exhibiting a greater understanding of the course basics — demonstrated by high DSM assignment scores — also earned higher final course letter grades (figure 1).

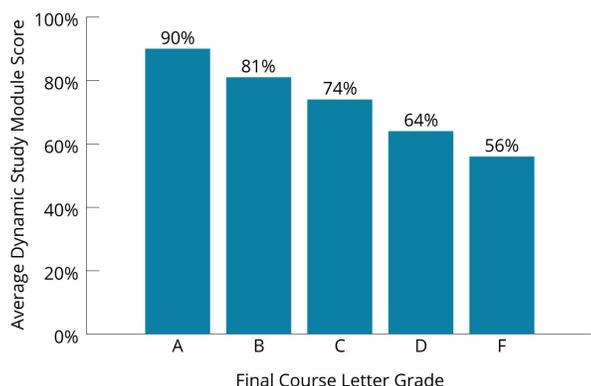


Figure 1. Relationship between Average Dynamic Study Module Score and Final Course Letter Grades, Fall 2015 (n=61)

What do students think about the Dynamic Study Modules in MyLab?

At [Elgin Community College](#), Dynamic Study Modules are used as a mastery-based assignment, so students generally complete them all.

Survey says:

- 93 percent of survey respondents agreed that the Dynamic Study Modules pattern of test-learn-retest helped them retain information about important chapter topics.
- 80 percent of respondents agreed that the use of confidence levels when completing the DSM ('I am sure,' 'I am partially sure,' 'I don't know yet') helped them identify chapter content they needed to work on.
- 98 percent of students strongly agree or agree that their understanding of the course material increased as a result of using MyLab.

How can DSM assignments encourage students to read the text and come prepared to engage in lecture?

Students at [College of DuPage](#) were required to complete DSM as a pre-lecture assignment, enabling them to more thoughtfully participate in class discussions and experiential activities. How did students react?

Students speak:

"I liked how [the DSM] would shuffle the questions you answered incorrectly into the remaining questions to repeat them."

"[DSM offered] the ability to build knowledge before the topic was discussed in class."

"If you get the Dynamic Study Modules wrong, a paragraph filled with more information is provided for a better understanding of the topic."

Can DSM help students identify their individual areas of weakness?

After using MyLab for several years, [Del Mar College](#) saw the opportunity to use the adaptive learning nature of the DSM as a tool to direct lectures toward the course content students found most challenging. Their results? Average quiz and exam scores increased, as well as final course scores (figure 2).

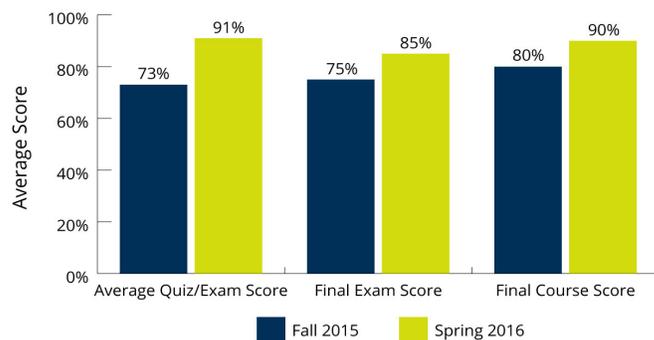


Figure 2. Average Quiz, Final Exam, and Final Course Grades Before Dynamic Study Module Implementation; Fall 2015 (n=54) and After; Spring 2016 (n=59)

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