MSJC
Supplemental Instruction (SI)

MSJC SI Coordinator: Janice Levasseur, M.S.
“[The SIL] helped me with not only this class but showed me how to get the best out of my study time for my other classes as well. I wouldn’t have done as well in this or my other classes if it wasn’t for her.”

~ SI Student, History 103
“I enjoyed the group discussions/examples we would do daily to help our understanding of the material better.”

~ SI Student, Math 96

“SI sessions helped me understand material that I wasn’t clear on in lecture.”

~ SI Student, Math 110
“SI is very helpful to many student who attends. It reinforces understanding of the topics discussed in class.”

~ SI Student, Psychology 101
“Students who study in groups learn two and a half times more than those who study alone...”

History of SI

- SI was developed by Dr. Deanna Martin in 1973 at the University of Missouri-Kansas City
- Initially used to support minority students in the health sciences
- Later expanded to support “historically difficult” courses to increase student retention and success
Supplemental Instruction (SI)

- SI provides weekly review sessions (free) that are interactive review sessions
- Open to any student enrolled in a historically difficult SI supported course (section)
- Student attendance is voluntary
- SI review sessions are facilitated by an SI Leader
Essential Elements of SI

- SI sessions are peer-facilitated
- SI Leaders serve as model students
- SI sessions integrate course content and learning skills
- SI Leaders attend the targeted class lectures
- SI Leaders receive training
Essential Elements of SI

- The SI Program is supervised
- Faculty support the SI Program
- SI sessions are regularly scheduled
- The SI Program is evaluated
- SI targets subjects ("historically difficult" courses) rather than students (i.e. high-risk, probationary)
MSJC SI

- Fall 2006 – piloted SI at MVC in Math 140
- Spring 2007 – continued SI at MVC with support for 3 math classes
- Fall 2007 – piloted SI at SJC and expanded offerings at MVC to include Social Sciences
- Fall 2008 – SI program received BSI funds to support Basic Skills Math and English courses
- Spring 2009 – Expanded offerings at MVC and SJC in STEM courses through STEM grant, district SI Coordinator established
- Spring 2011 – SI program further expanded with Title V grant funds, district SI Coordinator position (non-teaching full-time faculty) established
- Fall 2011 – Permanent SI Coordinator in place
MSJC SI Results
Fall ‘06 – Spring ‘11

- Census Enrollment: 7068
- Student Contact: 31,651.5 Hours
- SI GPA: 2.68
- Non SI GPA: 2.22

SI success 76%
NonSI success 56%

SI Group: 3806 (54%)

Predicting Probability of Success in STEM Courses

- Demographic data for 14 STEM classes F’10
- Logistic Regression used to determine if student participation in SI was a significant predictor of student success, while controlling for other demographic and academic factors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SI hours</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Prob of Success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>nonSI student</td>
<td>.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>“test preppers”</td>
<td>.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Every other week</td>
<td>.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Once a week</td>
<td>.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Twice a week</td>
<td>.94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Key Findings

- **SI effective form of academic support across** all classes
  - 76% success rate for SI participants vs. 56% success rate for non-SI participants
  - S’11 realized the immense growth in the SI program (Title V Grant)

- **SI has a greater impact on BSI classes** but still valuable to **STEM courses**
  - Benefits for BSI SI participants: incorporation of study skills, building a connection to peers and college, extra support during crucial time in education
  - Benefits for STEM SI participants: group study natural, reaffirm connections (already good students) building connections to peers in related fields

- **Selection of courses** are data based driven – selection of 100 level courses to be supported by BSI funds, e.g. Psyc 101, PS 101

- **SI challenges:**
  - **space** – introduction of college hour helped but is not the cure
    - Dedicated SI room at SJC renovated for opening F’11
  - **availability of SI leaders** – can’t set the SI schedule till they register
    - SI Leaders → early registration?
Tell me, and I forget,
Show me, and I remember,
Involve me, and I understand.

~ Chinese Proverb

SI Motto
For more information about the MSJC SI Program, please visit the MSJC SI website at

www.msjc.edu/SI

MSJC SI Video created by the S’10 Veteran SILs
Any Questions?