

Overcoming Socio-Cultural Challenges to Students' Success

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Some common student issues

- Learn to recognise and respond to eating and general health; IT savviness, adjustment; community alienation; etc
- 1st year students may not know how to budget
- Be aware of learnt prejudices or bad social behaviour from home, community, etc and respond through advocacy, IF, etc
- “Unlearning” bad study habits is difficult – be sensitive

University issues: the academic planning continuum

Admissions
Policy

Curriculum
Structure
& Coherence

Pedagogy to
Support
Curriculum

Exit
“Standards”

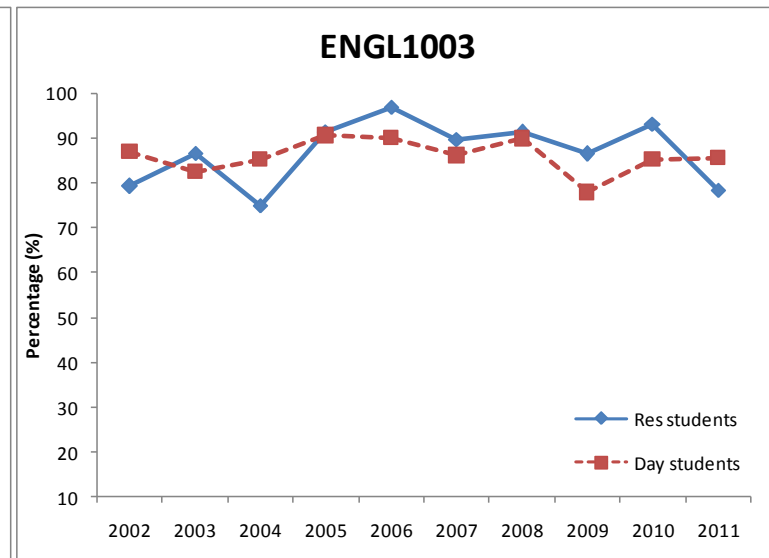
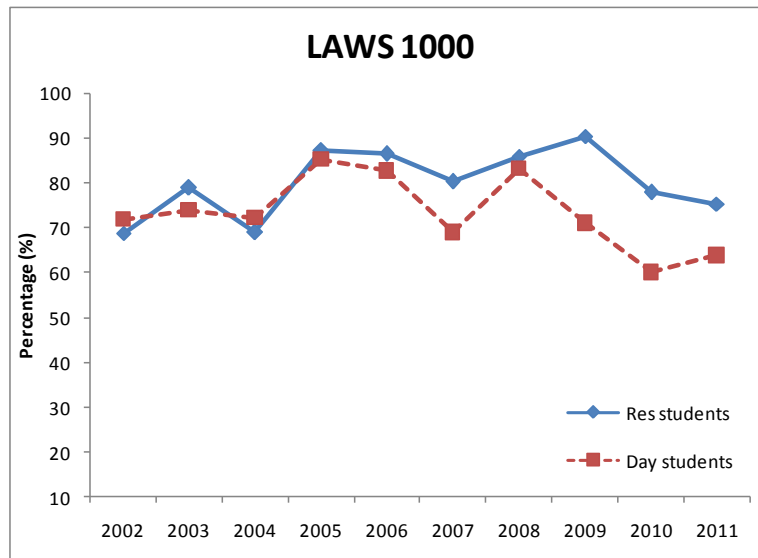
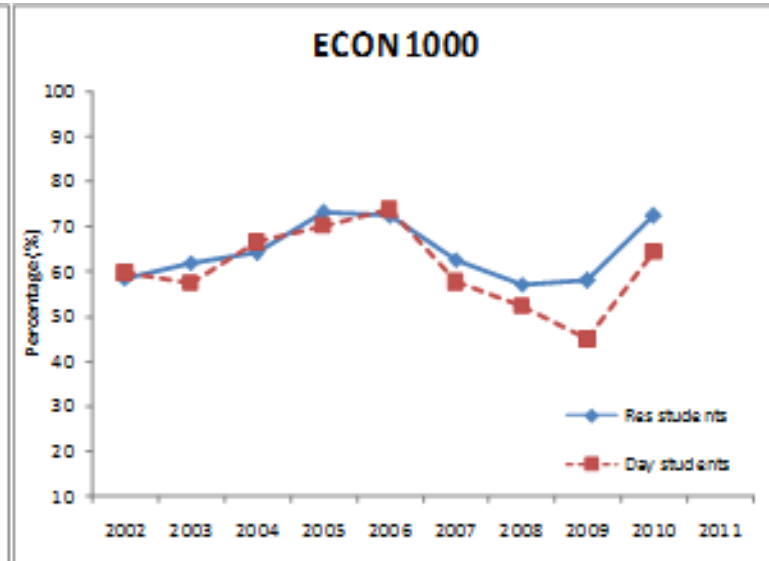
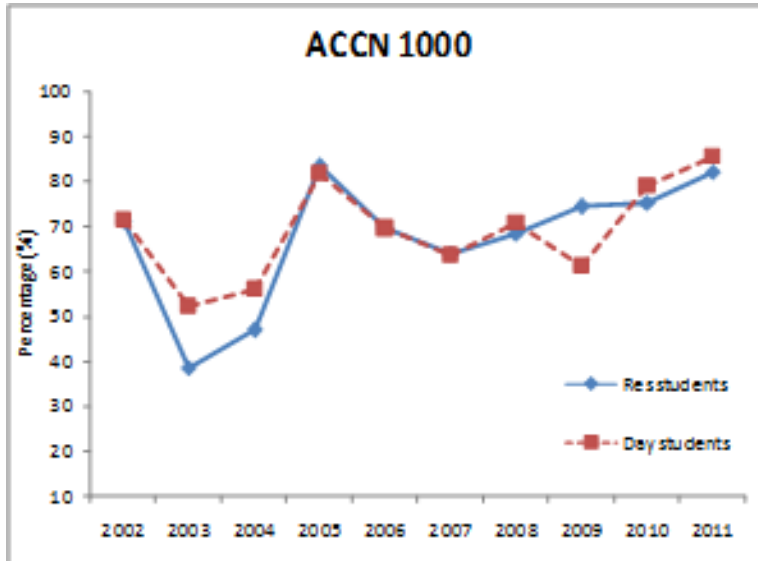
What is the role of language
and competence in English?

Consider the possibility that at least one of the reasons for your students not passing is that you do not teach them properly – then deal with it

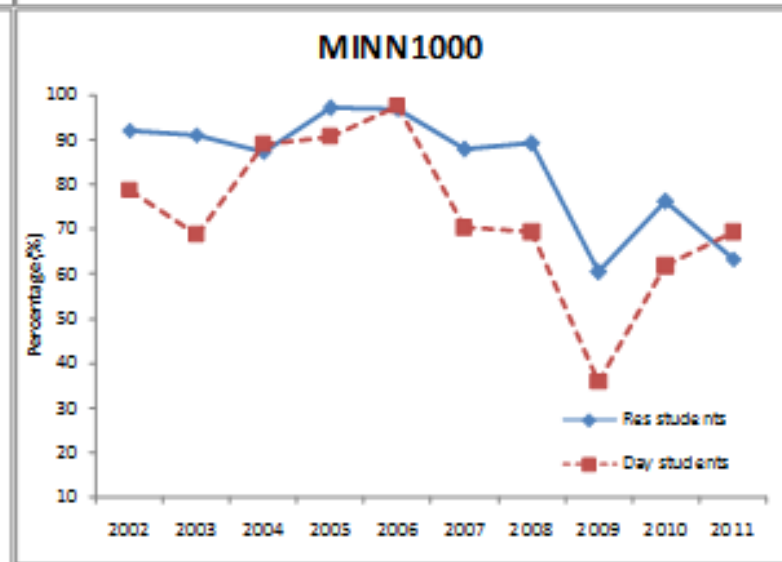
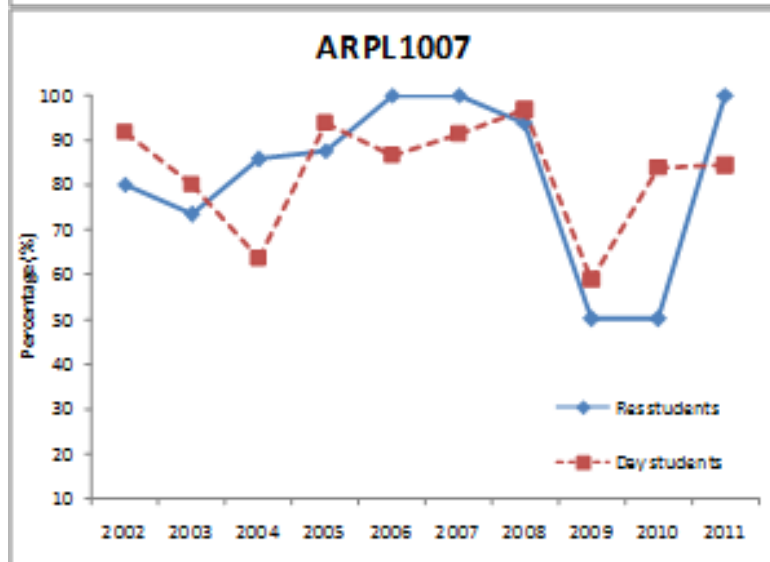
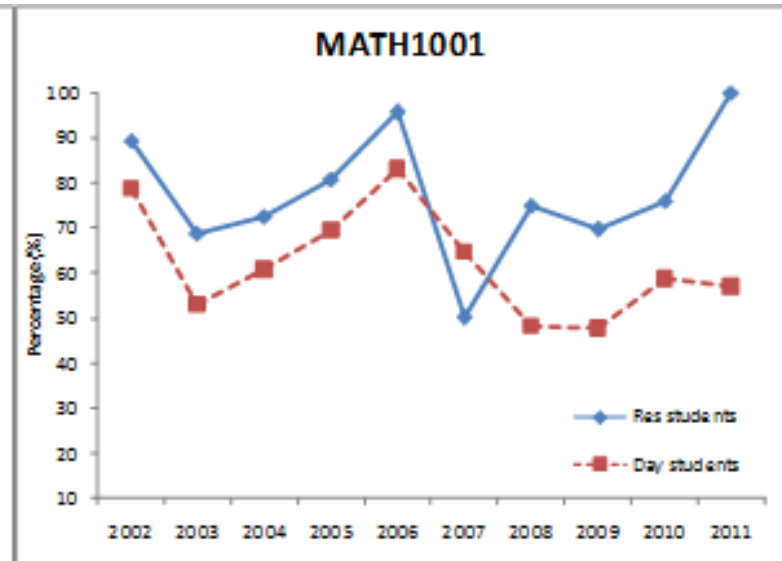
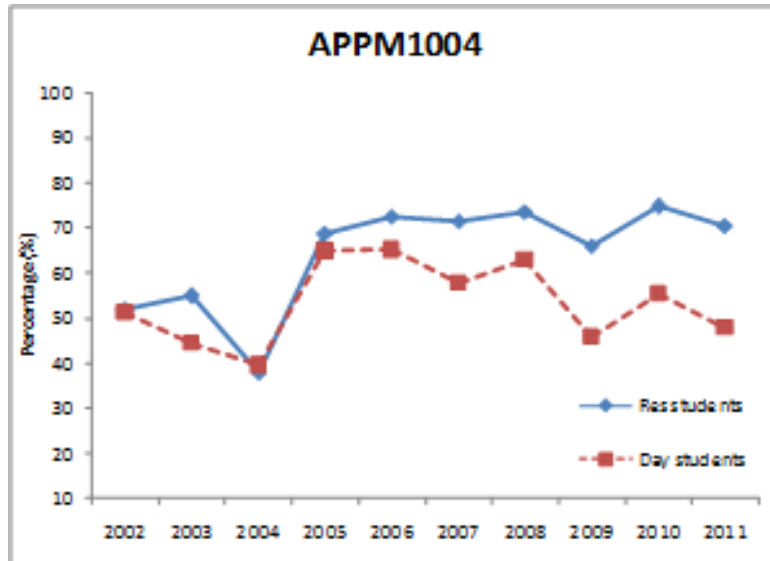
“Second Curriculum” issues

- This is the learning that takes place at university but outside of formal course-based learning – seminars, debates, cultural events, etc.
- Influenced by the “institutional culture” of the university
- Can be directed to enhance learning

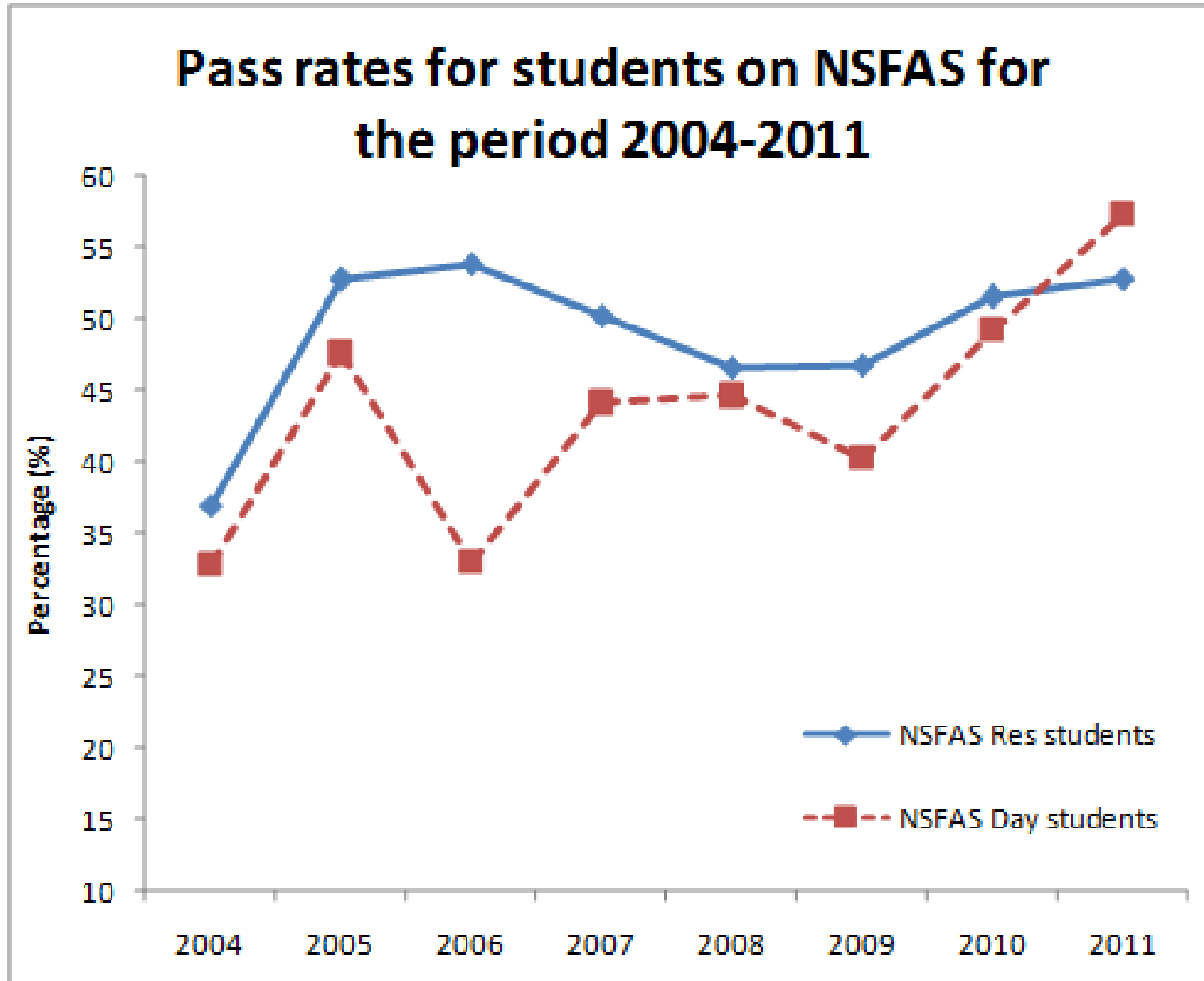
Wits Residence development project: Performance by course (Av course pass rate)



Wits Residence development project: Performance by course (Av course pass rate)



Wits Residence development project: NSFAS Students



General performance across 9 Wits residences

