

DCCC - Achieving the Dream
Group 1
Focus Group Questions
REA 050 / MAT 060

Question <i>(to be read by facilitators to students exactly as phrased)</i>	Suggested Probes / Follow-Up Questions <i>(to be used <u>only</u> if needed to generate more conversation/feedback from students after main question is presented)</i>
Why are you taking [STATE COURSE # AND NAME] here at DCCC?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did you decide to register for this class? • How did you know you should take this class? • Who helped you register for the class? • Do you know why we offer this course at DCCC?
As you have worked to learn the material in [REA 050 / MAT 060], what have you experienced in school, at home, at work, or elsewhere that makes it difficult for you to learn?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What challenges have you faced? • What obstacles have you faced? • What is most difficult about taking this course? • Has anything or anyone here at the college made it difficult for you to learn? • Has anything or anyone at home, work, or elsewhere made it difficult for you to learn?
As you have worked to learn in this course, what has been most helpful and what has gone especially well?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What successes or victories have you experienced? • What has worked best for you as you take this course? • Has anything or anyone here at the college helped you to learn? • Has anything or anyone at home, work, or elsewhere helped you to learn?
What have you done this semester to improve your learning in [MAT 060 / REA 050]?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What college services have you used? • Who do you talk to when you need help or have difficulty in this course? • Have you made any changes at home, work, or elsewhere to improve your learning?
What should DCCC do to help you learn the material covered in [MAT 060 / REA 050]?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What improvements do you suggest? • What services should we offer?

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Date/Time/Location of Focus Group Discussions

Thursday, 11/30/06
11:10 AM – 12 Noon
2 Groups (MAT 060 and REA 050)
Rooms TBA

Method for Forming Focus Groups

Multiple faculty members teaching each course will be asked to invite every 3rd student on the class list from each section they teach. Written invitations will be provided by Group 1 and addressed/distributed by faculty members. Evening/Individualized Instruction (MAT 060) students may be included.

Method for Conducting Focus Group Discussions

One facilitator and two recorders will be present for each group. One recorder will be familiar with the course being discussed. The facilitator will not be a current instructor for the course being discussed. The facilitator will pose each question exactly as phrased and may use the follow-ups/probes as needed to generate conversation/feedback. Lunch (pizza and soda) will be provided.

Questions about our process:

- How/what should recorders write down (other than what is said)?
- Should recorders connect comments to specific students and include information about the student (gender, race/ethnicity, etc.).
- Is it appropriate to have students wear numbers that are linked to their names/ages/etc.
- Should we ask participating students to complete an info sheet that might be linked to the number they wear?
- Do we need to assure students on the written invitation that they will remain anonymous whenever their feedback is shared?