Transparency in Accounting Cycle Project Roberta Newell, MSA, CPA, Senior Lecturer, College of Business

Course Background

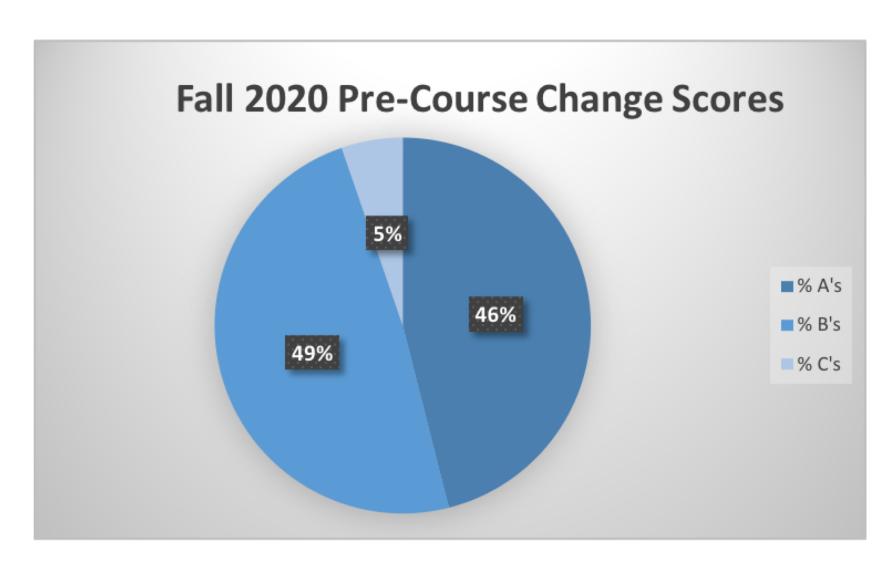
Course: ACC201 Financial

This course is required of all College of Business majors and General Business Minors. Typical class size is 30-40 students. I teach 2-3 sections per semester.

Challenge: Fall 2020, introduced project in which students must complete an entire accounting cycle using Excel. Individual steps in the cycle are taught as separate topics. Students have difficulty understanding how each works together in the cycle. Confusion among many students as to how to approach and complete the project. Lack of basic Excel skills created a further barrier to success.

Course Changes

- Implemented in Spring 2021
- Expanded coverage by two weeks to include a comprehensive in-class example that modeled the project.
- Incorporated Excel as a tool in class instruction.
- Added detailed step-by-step project instructions.



Results

Percentage of A's increased by approximately 50%. No student received below a B.

