

# Making Practice Visible: The Emerging Scholars Program and IBL

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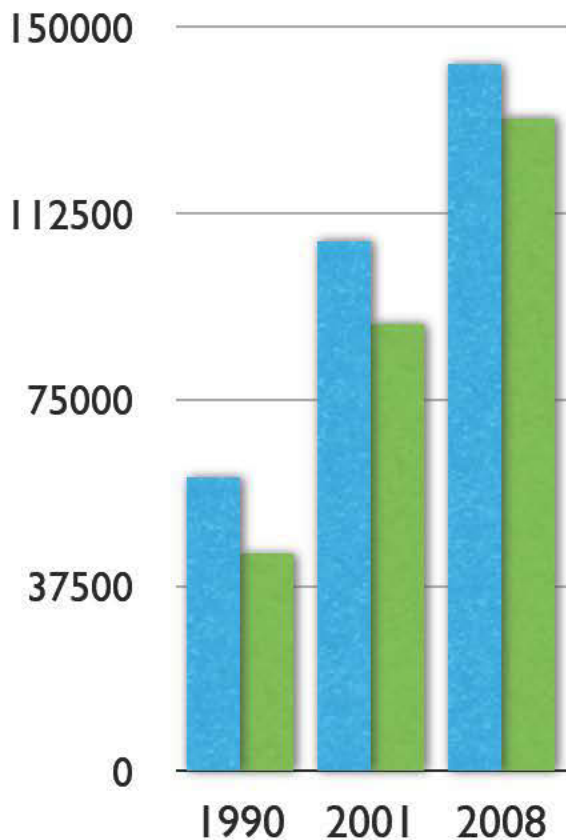


SF STATE

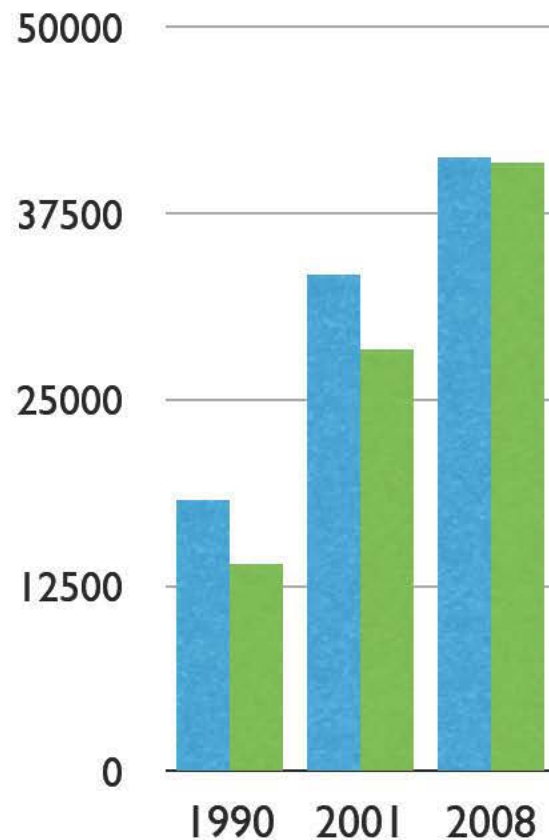
# Numbers of Bachelors



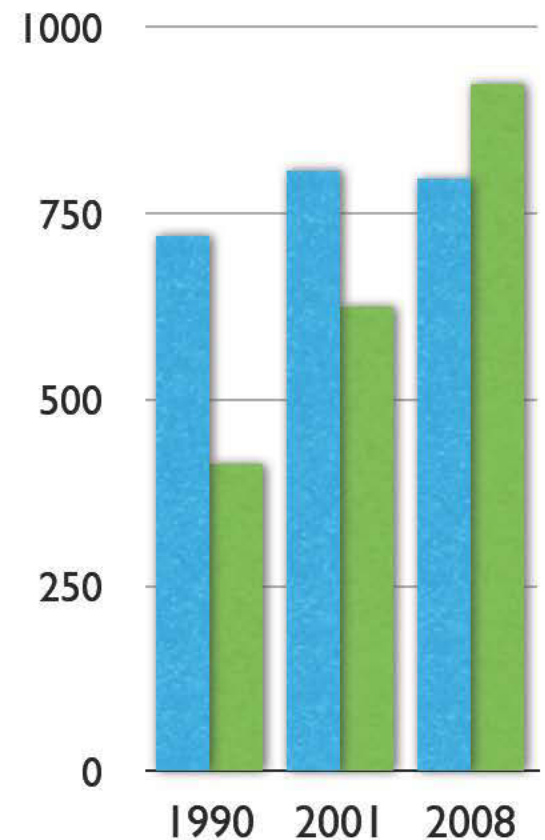
## Overall BAs



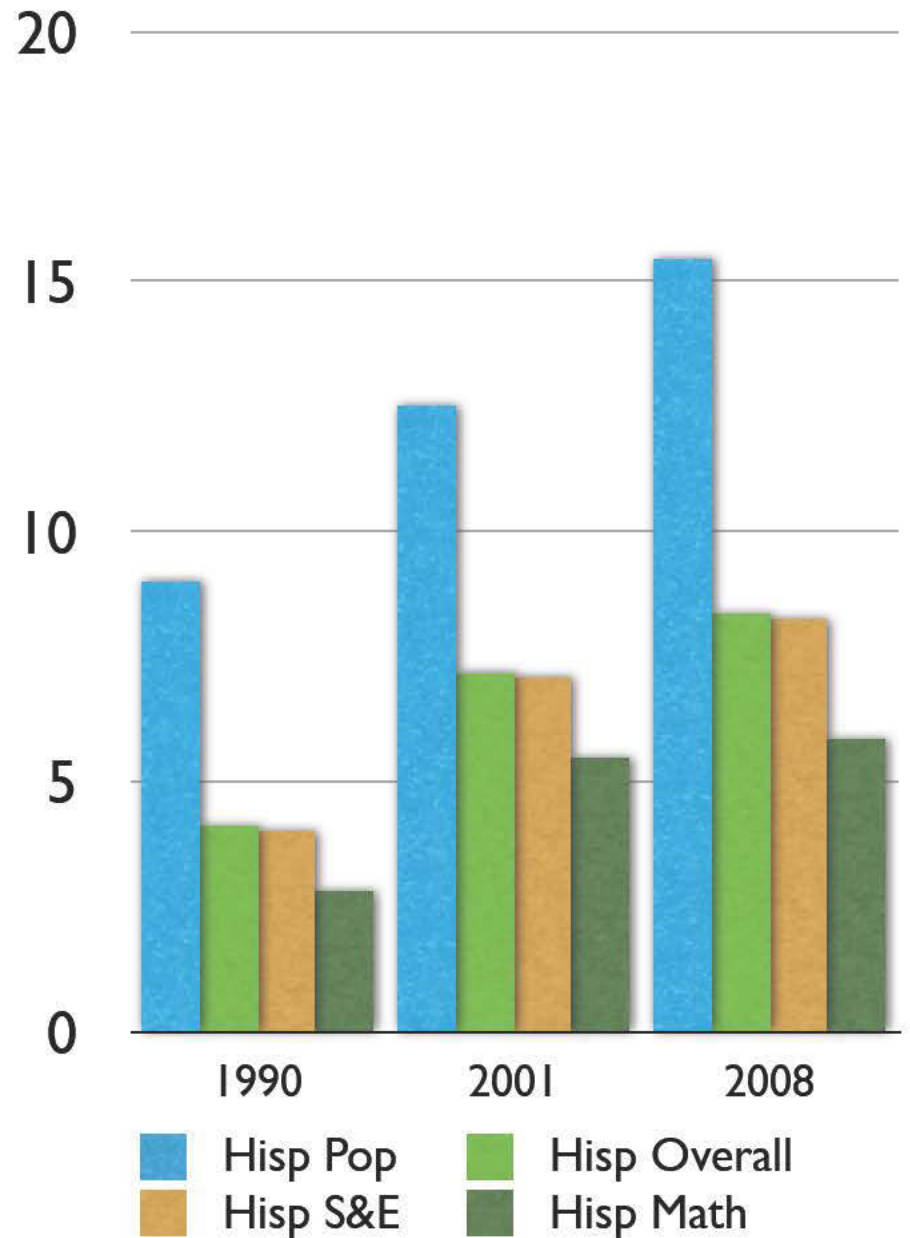
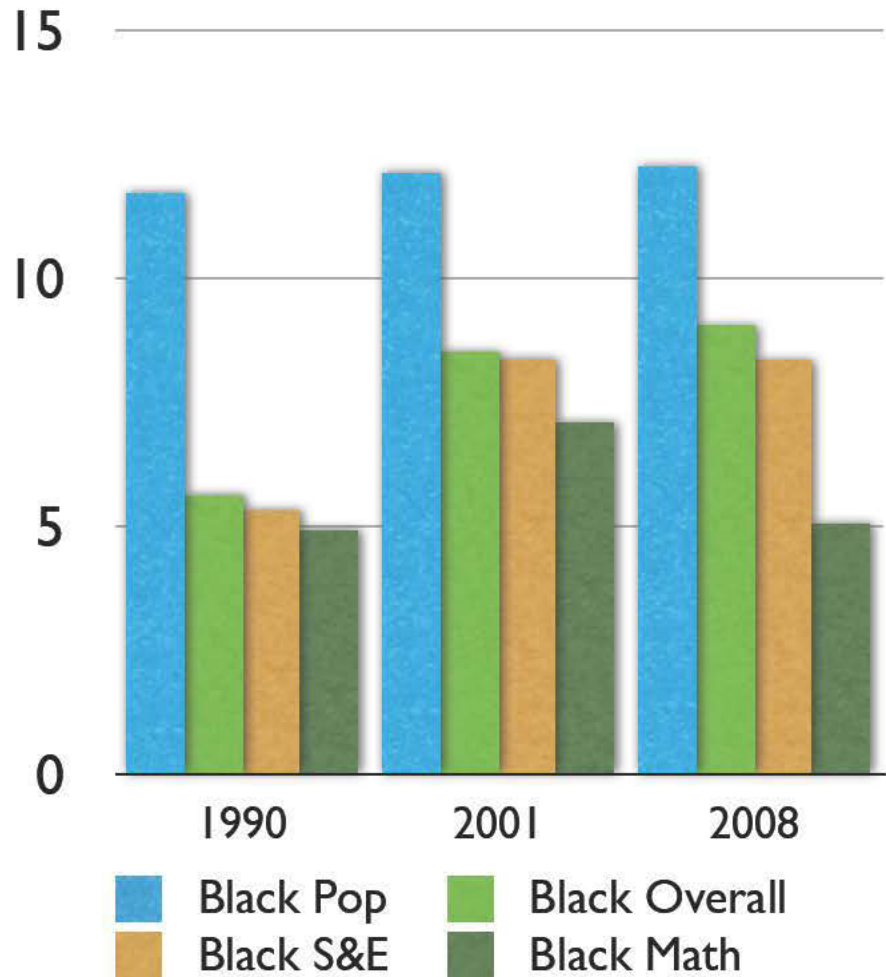
## Sci & Eng



## Math



# % of Total Bachelors



# The Emerging Scholars Program

**100+**  
local  
adaptations

Berkeley  
Texas  
Wisconsin  
Rutgers  
Kentucky  
Illinois

state colleges  
liberal arts  
two-year



# African Americans and Latinos at UC Berkeley, 1970s

Calculus 1  
Failure rate

**~60%**

A's and B's  
per semester

**~1**

What theories did they put forward?  
(Take a guess.)



# Theories of Failure, UC Berkeley 1970s

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**Motivation**

**Academic Preparation**

**Family Support**

**Income**

**Racial Inferiority**

None the school's fault.

Also, all wrong.



# Uri Treisman's Ethnography (mid 1970s)

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African American

**all HW on time  
8 hrs/wk alone  
studied the book**

(as recommended)

Chinese

**all HW on time  
8 hrs/wk alone  
studied the book**

**+5 hrs/wk  
group study**



# Chinese Students...

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- ...edited each other's math
- ...edited each other's English
- ...did old (killer) exams together
- ...discussed how long they studied
- ...shared efforts on difficult problems
- ...encouraged each other
- ...ate together

Students calibrated their effort and understanding using the visible practice of peers.





# 1. The IBL Workshop Core

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**Hard, non-rote Worksheets**  
**Cooperative problem-solving**  
**Visible struggle**  
**Community building**



## 2. Making the Core Possible

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**Honors, not remedial**

**Multi-racial recruitment**

**Lecture sections (GTA)**

**TA PD managing groups**

**Worksheet resources**

hard, non-rote, unfinishable,  
chestnuts, aerobics

**Coordinator**



## **3. Other Elaborations**

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**UG Assistants**

**Worksheet web database**

BetterFileCabinet.com

**Big classes, big surfaces**



# Common Outcomes of Emerging Scholars Programs

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higher grades

more calculus completion

more calculus-based majors

(even controlled for SAT)



# Adapting ESP to SF State

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*1/2 Problem-driven group work*

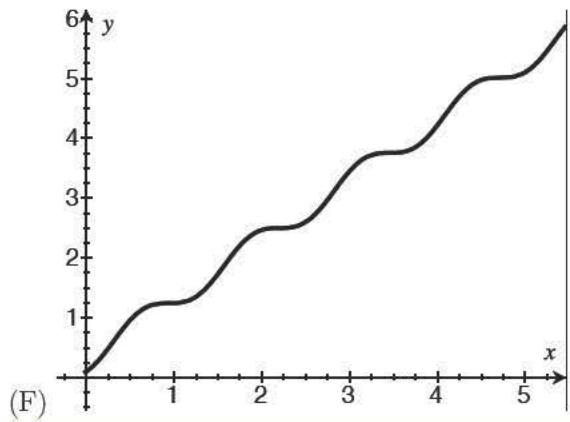
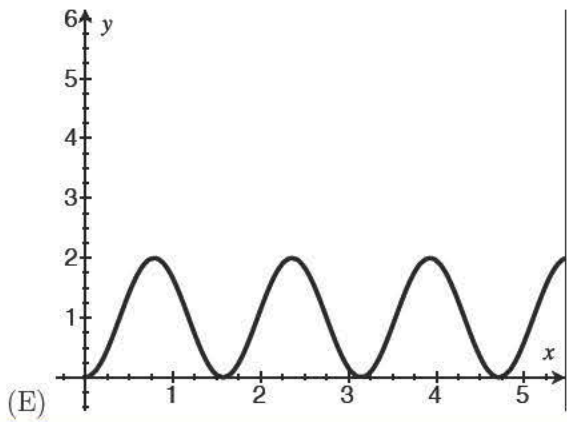
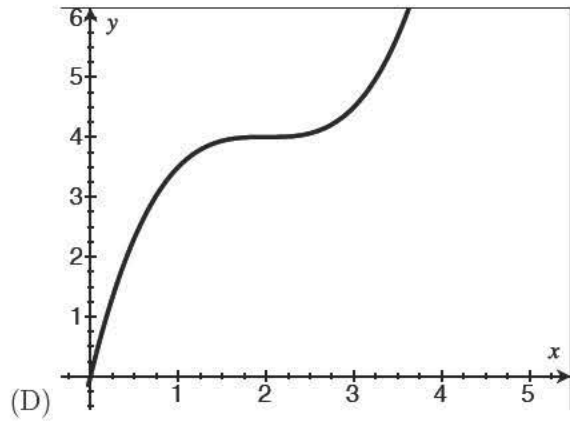
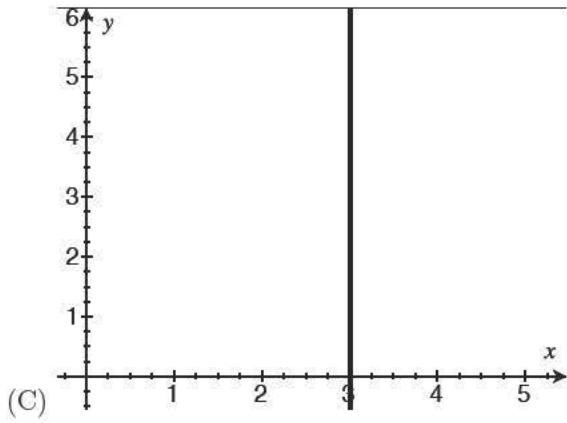
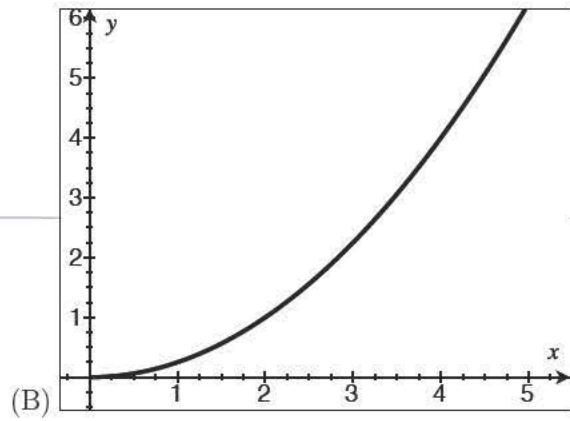
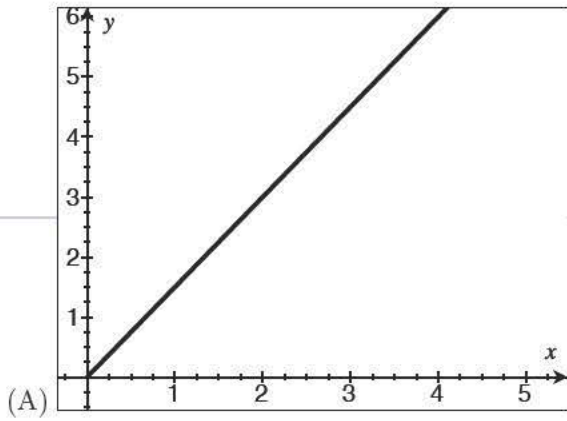
*1/6 Individual (think, quiz)*

*1/3 Whole class (lecture, etc.)*

**standard syllabus**

**streaming lectures, online HW**





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(Play video.)



# Some Further Reading

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Hsu, Murphy and Treisman,  
“Thirty Years of ESP” in *Making the  
Connection: Research and Teaching in  
Undergraduate Math* (2009, MAA Notes)

Gandara, “Priming the Pump” (1999,  
College Board)

Rothstein, *Class and Schools* (2004)





**More at my home page**

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**`math.sfsu.edu/hsu`**

**THE END**

