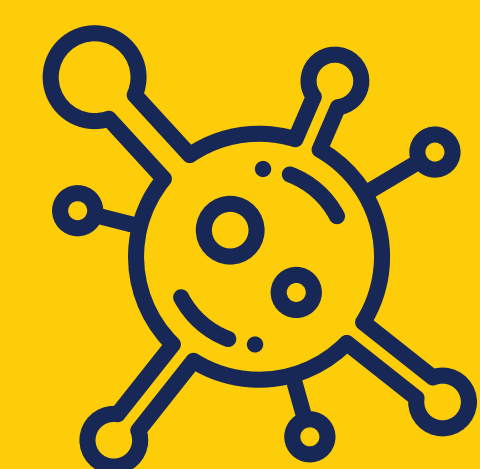


Adopting a 360° View

of Teaching a Large Enrollment First-Year Course

The PROJECT



BIO 181

Unity of Life I: Life of the Cell

A large scale course redesign, Fall 2018

About BIO 181



General education course with 240 students per section



First science course for 22 majors



Gateway course for many degree paths and programs

average **28%** DFW rate
AY 2011 – 2017

PRIOR to the redesign

BIO 181 included very little support for students as learners

Students were only asked to

Do the reading and complete online homework

Attend class lecture

Take exams



The PROCESS

We redesigned BIO 181 around 3 pillars of student success, added several support structures, and required activities that research shows help students learn.

Community

Focus on the classroom experience

- » Create semester-long groups of 4
- » Structure daily group activities
- » Frequently message the value of peer support

Active Learning

Increase student involvement in the learning process

- » Incorporate use of visual notes during class
- » Assign a variety of in-class and online activities
- » Deploy TAs strategically to facilitate active learning tasks

Metacognitive Strategies

Teach students to take responsibility for their learning

- » Ask students to set learning goals for themselves and check progress periodically
- » Assign exam wrappers to guide students to reflect on how they prepared for the exam
- » Reinforce the importance of these strategies with intentional, focused messaging



75%

of students said their groups helped them be successful in BIO 181

90%

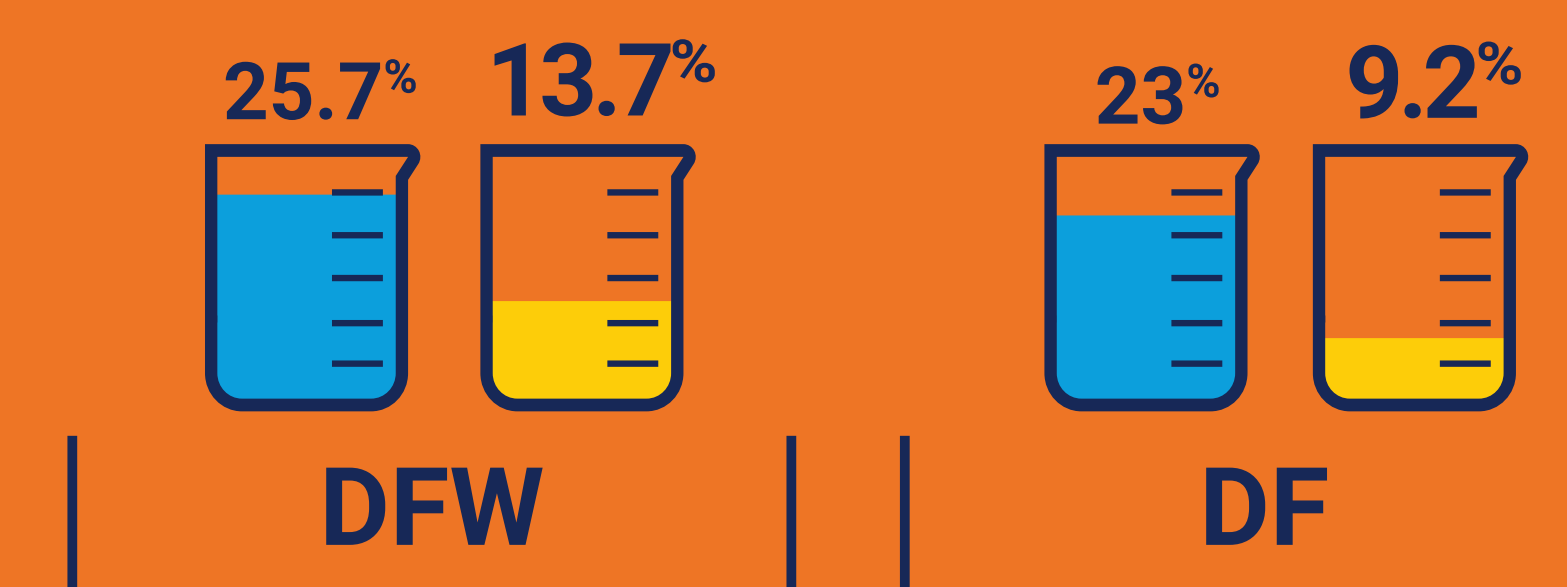
of students agree that the active learning approaches in BIO 181 supported their success

83%

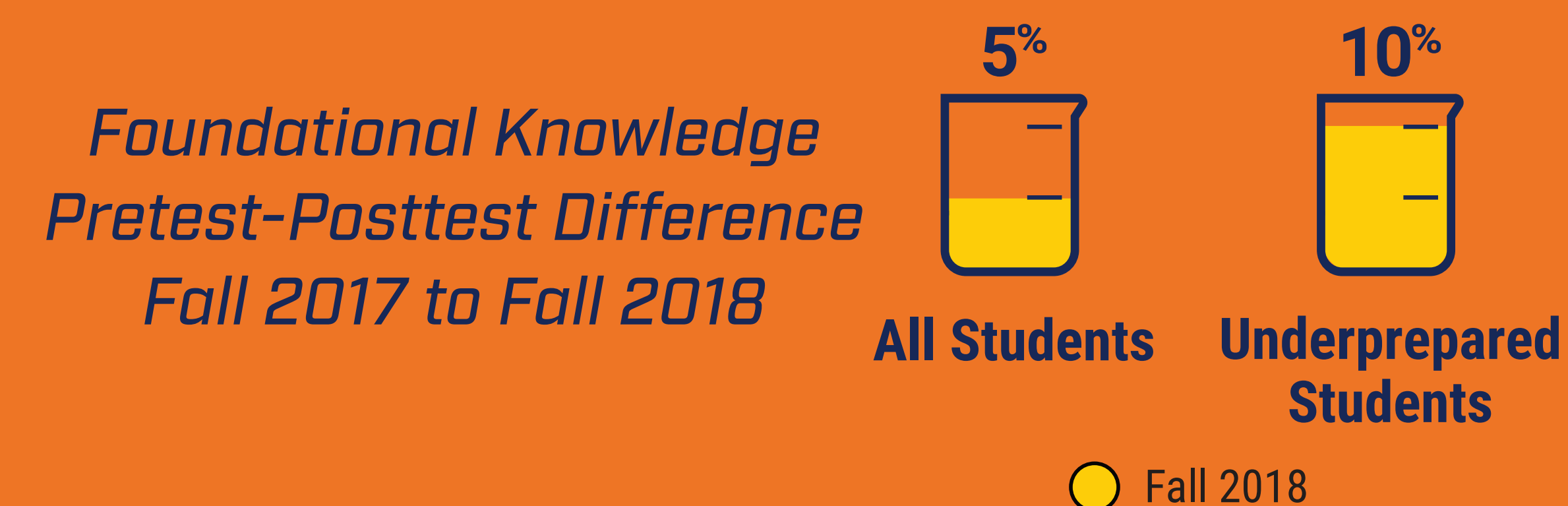
of students agree that BIO 181 taught them learning strategies that will help them be successful at the college level

The PAYOFF

Fall 2017 vs. 2018 Course Redesign



● Fall 2017 ● Fall 2018



In Fall 2018, an average of **10.5% more students** passed exams 1 - 4 as compared to Fall 2017

Statistically significant at $p < .05$

The PRIORITY

We can impact student success by viewing the student learning experience holistically

Let's work together in faculty/teaching & learning support partnerships



We can **change the paradigm** to help **all students** succeed without reducing the rigor of our courses

Questions? Contact us!

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