ERWC: CSU Expository Reading and Writing Course

Info and Statistics

Early Assessment Program

Collaboration of:

- California State Board of Education
- California Department of Education
- California State University

The CSU Early Assessment Program
EAP

Expository Reading and Writing Course
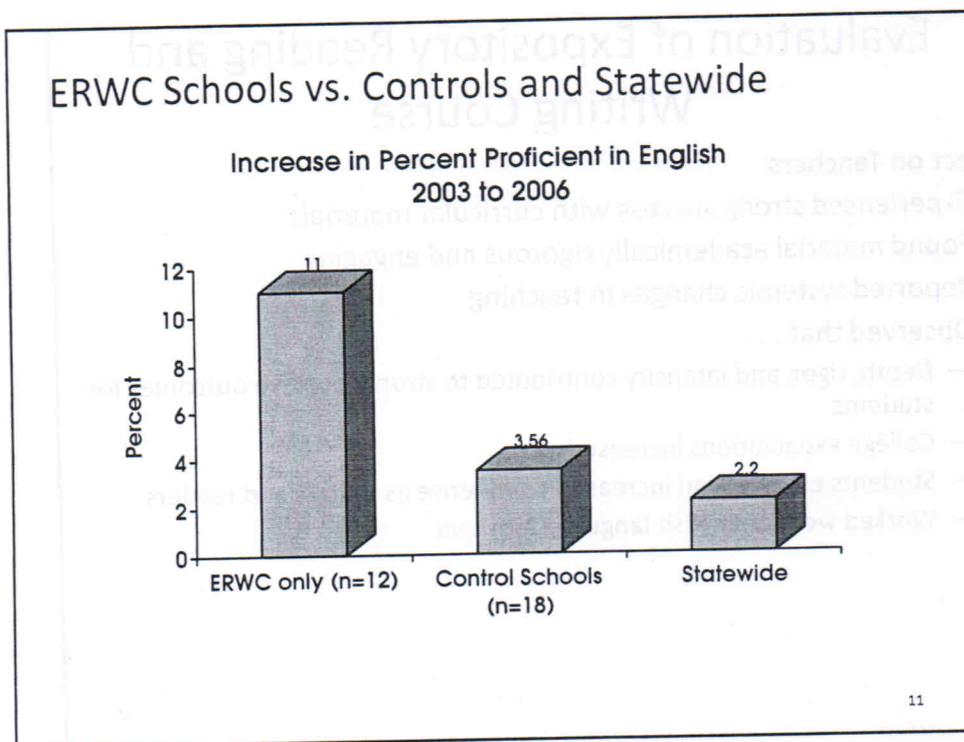### Subject Matter is Current and Controversial

Semester One

- **Fast Food:** Who should take the blame for Americans' increasing obesity?
- **Going for the Look:** Should companies be allowed to hire only those workers who project the "right" image?
- **Rhetoric of the Op-Ed Page:** What are ethos, pathos, and logos, and how can we use these concepts to persuade others?
- **The Value of Life:** Can human lives be valued in dollars and cents? Are some lives worth more than others?
- **Racial Profiling:** Are racial and ethnic profiling real? What, if anything, do they accomplish? What should we do?
- **Juvenile Justice:** Should children and teens be tried, convicted, and punished as adults?
- **The Last Meow:** How far should Americans go to preserve the lives and health of their pets?
- **Into the Wild (Book module):** Why would a young man attempt a perilous, solo Alaskan adventure that leads to death? (Nonfiction)

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Semester Two

- **Bring a Text to Class:** How can students learn by helping us read texts that they like?
- **Language, Gender, and Culture:** How do gender and culture affect what we say and how we say it?
- **Left Hand of Darkness (Book module):** What if different types of humans lived on different planets within one galaxy?
- **The Politics of Food:** How might our food choices make a political statement? A moral one?
- **Justice: Childhood Love Lessons:** How can parents discipline with love and justice? What happens if parents do not?
- **Bullying at School (Research project):** How can students create and present a school Code of Conduct that deals with bullying?

ERWC Schools vs. Controls and Statewide

**Increase in Percent Proficient in English
2003 to 2006**

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Possible Next Steps:

- Keep everything the same
- Incorporate ERWC modules into VMC
- Adopt ERWC as a separate class
- Incorporate ERWC modules throughout the English curriculums
- Incorporate frameworks throughout the English curriculums