

ENHANCING EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CYLC is preparing students from historically-marginalized communities to successfully pursue academic degrees. Of the students completing end-of-semester surveys from the Fall 2023 cohorts, over 95% are students of color, close to 70% have experienced poverty, over 60% are first-generation college students, over 50% have experienced food insecurity, and over 40% have lived experience with the criminal legal system and/or homelessness.

Impact of CYLC Coursework on Academic Skills

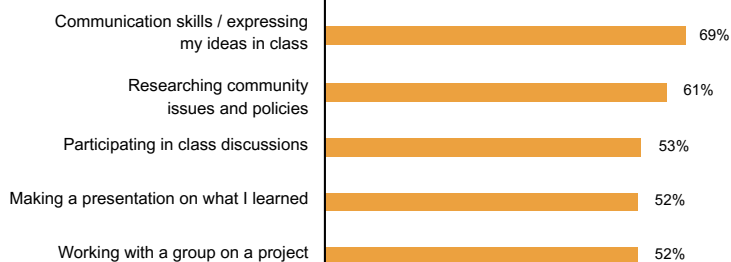
Through CYLC coursework, students are gaining the skills they need to be successful in an academic setting. A majority of students report that CYLC coursework has helped them improve in the following academic skill areas:

- Researching issues affecting the community and the policies that relate to those issues. For example, some students researched particular issues affecting their community like the housing crisis, while others researched the history of organizing, movement building, and how conflicts within the community have occurred and been addressed.
- Working on group projects and making presentations about they've learned about community issues to classmates.
- Communicating opinions and ideas about community issues, both in class discussions and outside of class.

The class helped me learn new ways to communicate a disagreement in more positive ways.

I learned how to be brave and more comfortable to speak up for my opinions and rights.

Percent of Students Reporting Improvement in Academic Skills



Impact of Academic Coursework on Community Change Knowledge and Skills

CYLC's academic coursework prepares students with the knowledge and skills for how to make change, including



- The history of social movements in their community and across the state.
- Specific community issues and needs and past efforts to address them.
- The policies, and resources (government, grants, aid) available for local communities.

- Leadership skills and how to be an emotionally intelligent leader
- Advocacy and organizing skills
- Communication skills (e.g., public speaking, active listening)
- Teamwork and collaboration skills
- How local government and the nonprofit sector work

Impact of Academic Coursework on Community Change Knowledge and Skills

CYLC's coursework also allows students to develop a deeper understanding of and new insights into community issues and struggles, including



EXAMPLES OF CYLC ACADEMIC CLASSES

Leadership and Power

History of Community Development in Los Angeles

Political Economy of the Silicon Valley

Health Leadership & Community Development

Comprehensive Community Violence Prevention

Race, Ethnicity, and Politics in America

Leadership Development and Skill Building

Critical Consciousness and Social Change

Fundraising Basics for Nonprofits

STUDENTS' EXPERIENCES WITH THE ACADEMIC COURSEWORK

CYLC students have a positive experience with the academic component of the program, including the overall classroom environment, the faculty, and their fellow classmates.

Thinking about their past experience in an academic setting, close to 90% of students said that their experience in the CYLC program was more positive, and the majority of these report that it was much more positive

Students describe the classroom environment as more open, respectful, welcoming and nurturing than others they have experienced. They describe the coursework as both accessible and engaging as they are learning about the issues in their community and how they can affect change. Instructors and classmates alike are supportive and knowledgeable.

My peers and I were allowed to speak open-mindedly about various topics...My professor made the class environment feel safe and free of prejudice of any kind.

The CYLC classroom is a safe space with a great environment to network, grow and learn from one another...It's amazing.

I felt very included and heard by the professors, and the mentors. I felt like my needs were met, and I could voice them if they weren't.

The students in the CYLC program feel more like a family because we are familiar with each other's experiences as fellows, we are therefore, more able to connect and interact with one another in the classroom.

CYLC classes are much more hands on and intentional about being compassionate, understanding, accommodating, and effective.