

Course Failure—Fall 2015 & Spring 2016

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Findings

- Nearly 1/3 of all **below-college level** course attempts ended in failure in 2015-16 (Figure 1).
- The failure rate of courses in 2015-16 having **more than four college credits** is nearly twice that of courses with one to four 4 college credits (Figure 2).
- The higher failure rate of high-credit courses occurs mostly at the **100 level**, not the 200 level (Figure 3).
- By two-letter department code, ES (as in **ESL**), US (the **USIP** courses), and MA (as in **MAT**) had the highest course attempted failure rates of 30%, 26% and 25% respectively (Figure 4).
- Nearly half of all the below 100 level EN (as in **ENG**) courses attempted were failed. By two-letter department code, only looking at courses less than 100 level, EN (as in **ENG**), MA (as in **MAT**), ES (as in **ESL**), and US (the **USIP** courses) had the highest course attempted failure rates of 47%, 40%, 30% and 26% respectively (Figure 5).
- Nearly 2,000 MA (as in **MAT**) course attempts below the 100 level were failed in 2015-16 (Figure 6).
- Although Figure 2 shows that courses with higher credit levels were more likely to be failed, students with lower credit loads shown in Figure 7 were more likely to fail. Students with equated credit **loads between four and nine credits** were 40% more likely to fail a course than students with equated credit loads between 13 and 15 equated credits.
- Nearly half of the 29 courses at all levels taken by **Digital Media Arts** students (admittedly a low number) **did not receive credit** for the courses attempted (Figure 8).
- **Music Recording Technology** students failed nearly **one-third of all their courses** (Figure 8) and one-quarter of their 200 level courses (Figure 9).

Figures

All figures show attempted credits used for enrollment counts that received no credit for the course in Fall 2015 and Spring 2016.

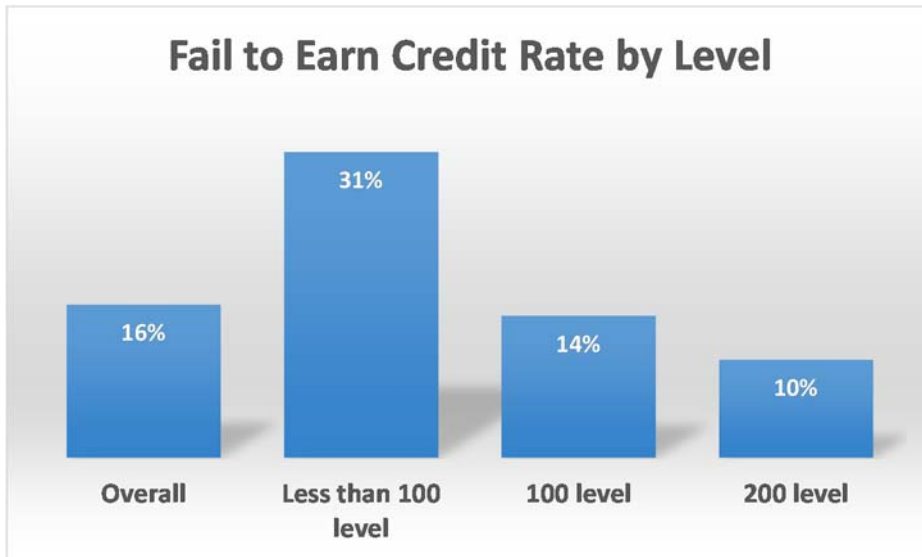


Figure 1

Figure 1 shows courses failed as a percentage of courses attempted overall and by level.

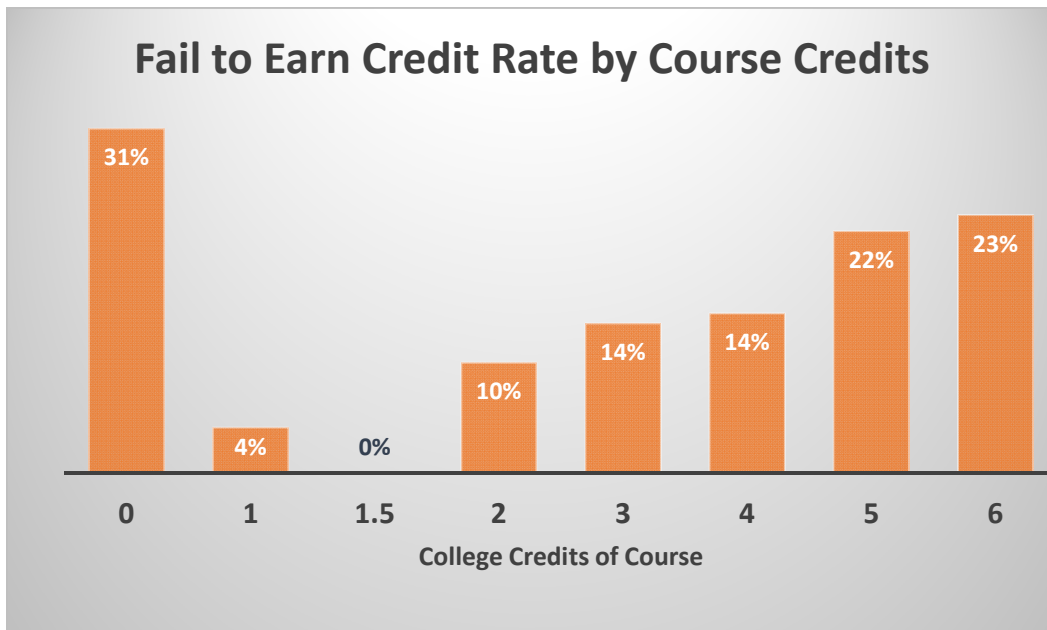


Figure 2

Figure 2 shows courses failed as a percentage of courses attempted by the number of college credits for the course.

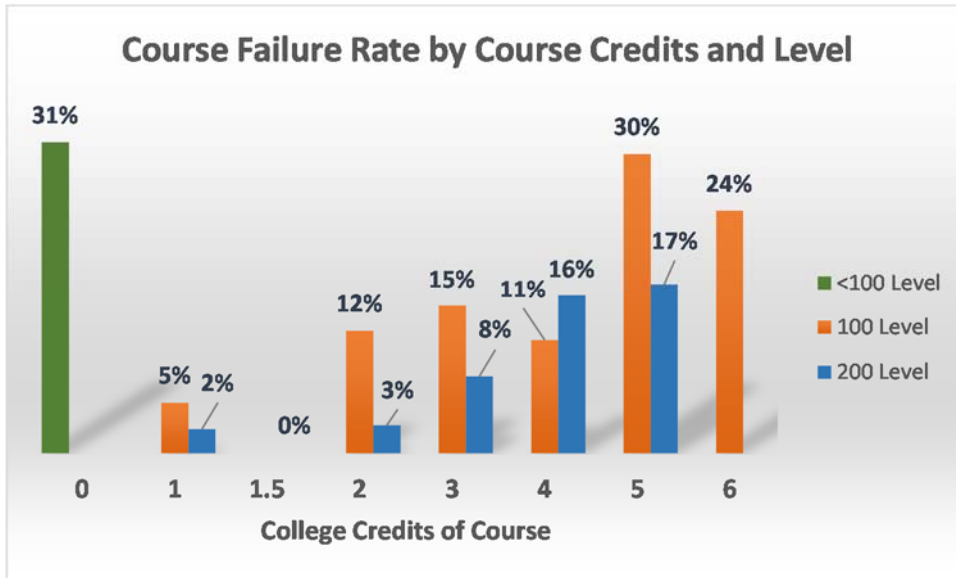


Figure 3

Figure 3 shows courses failed as a percentage of courses attempted by the number of college credits for the course and the level of the course.

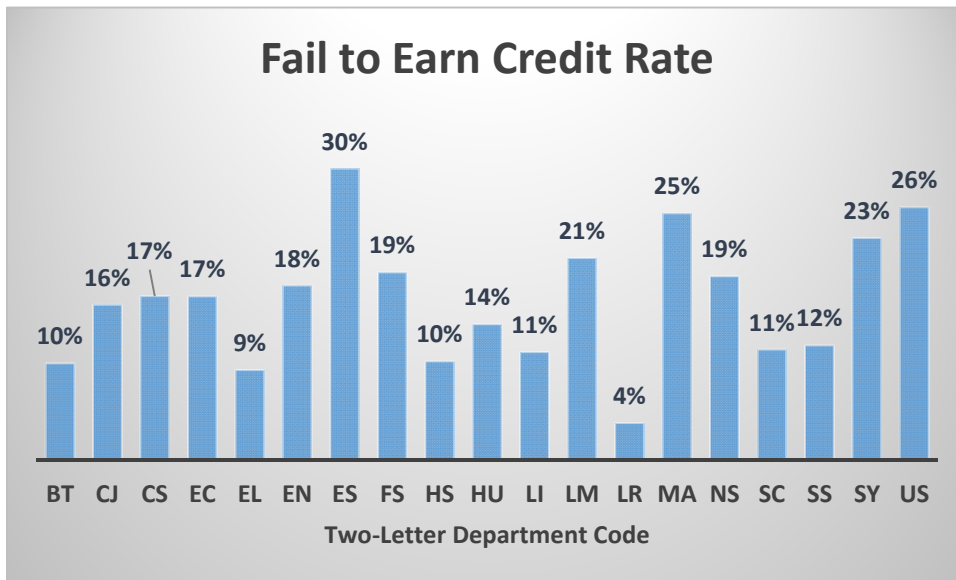


Figure 4

Figure 4 shows courses failed as a percentage of courses attempted by the first two letters of the course department code.

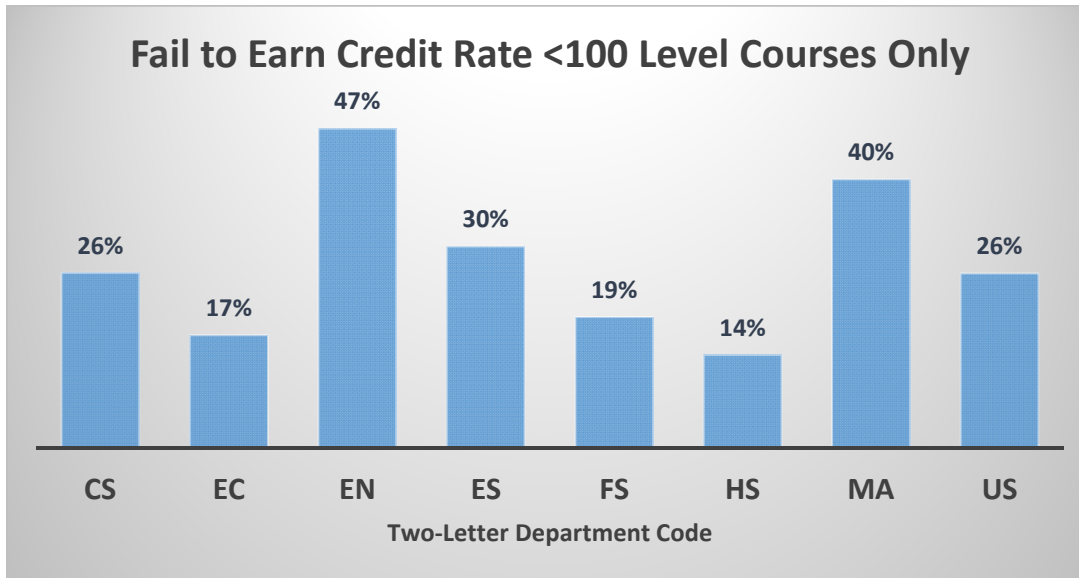


Figure 5

Figure 5 shows courses failed as a percentage of courses attempted in 2015-16 by the first two letters of the course department code for only courses lower than the 100 level.

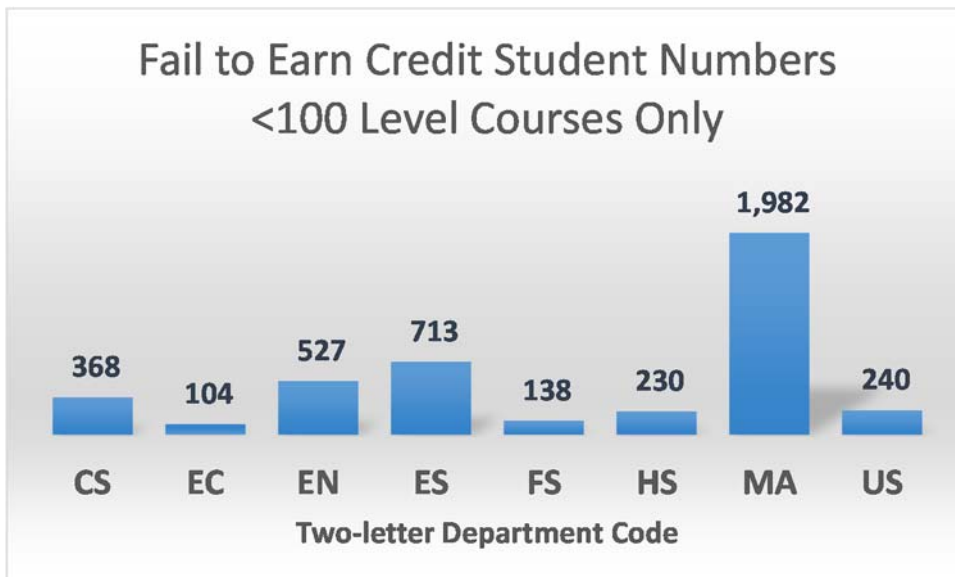


Figure 6

Figure 6 shows the *numbers* of course failures of less than 100 level courses (below-college-level) in Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 by two-letter department codes.

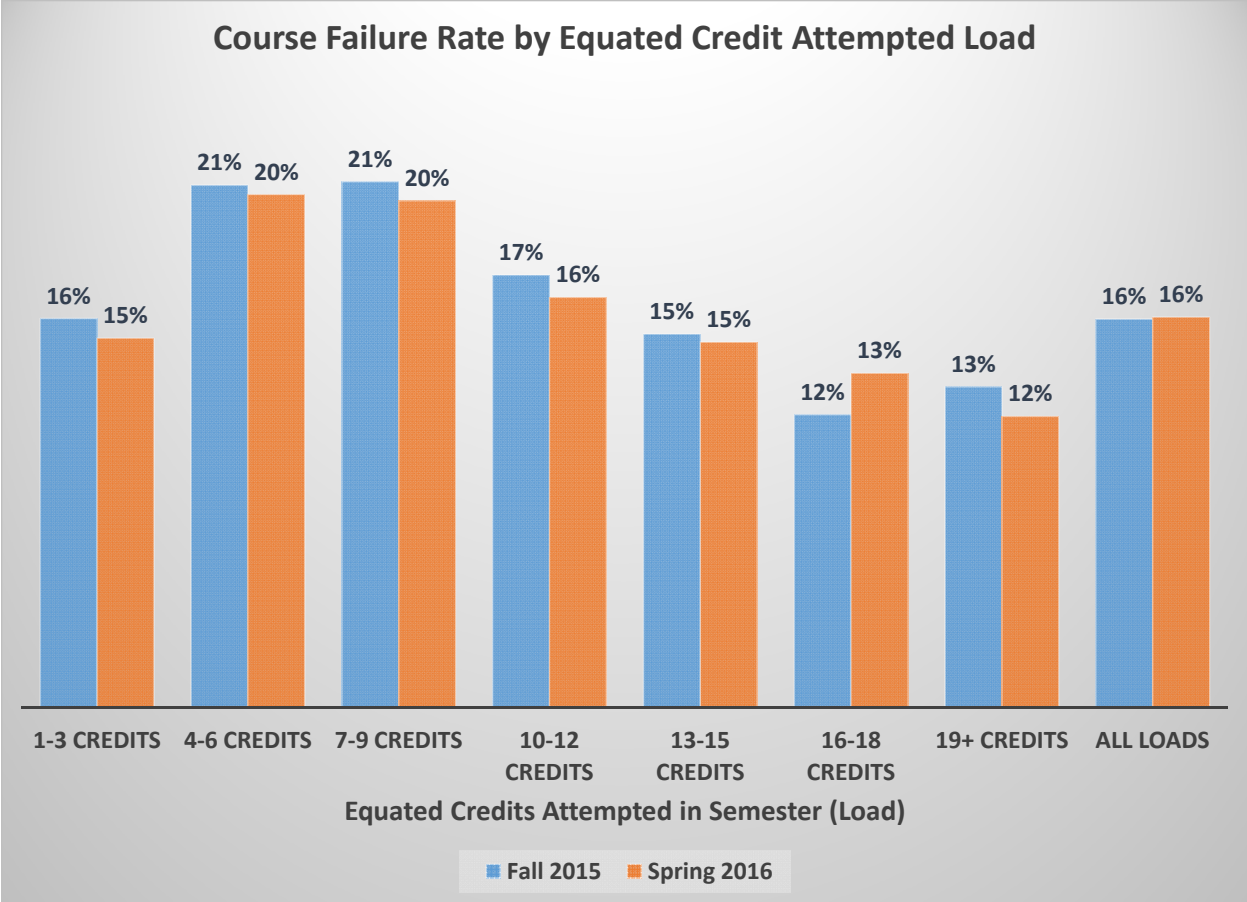


Figure 7

Figure 7 shows course failure rate in each semester of 2015-16 by the number of equated credits the student attempted (the student’s load).

Figure 8 shows the course failure rate by major in 2015-16. Majors where students took fewer than ten courses are not shown. All course levels, including developmental, were included.

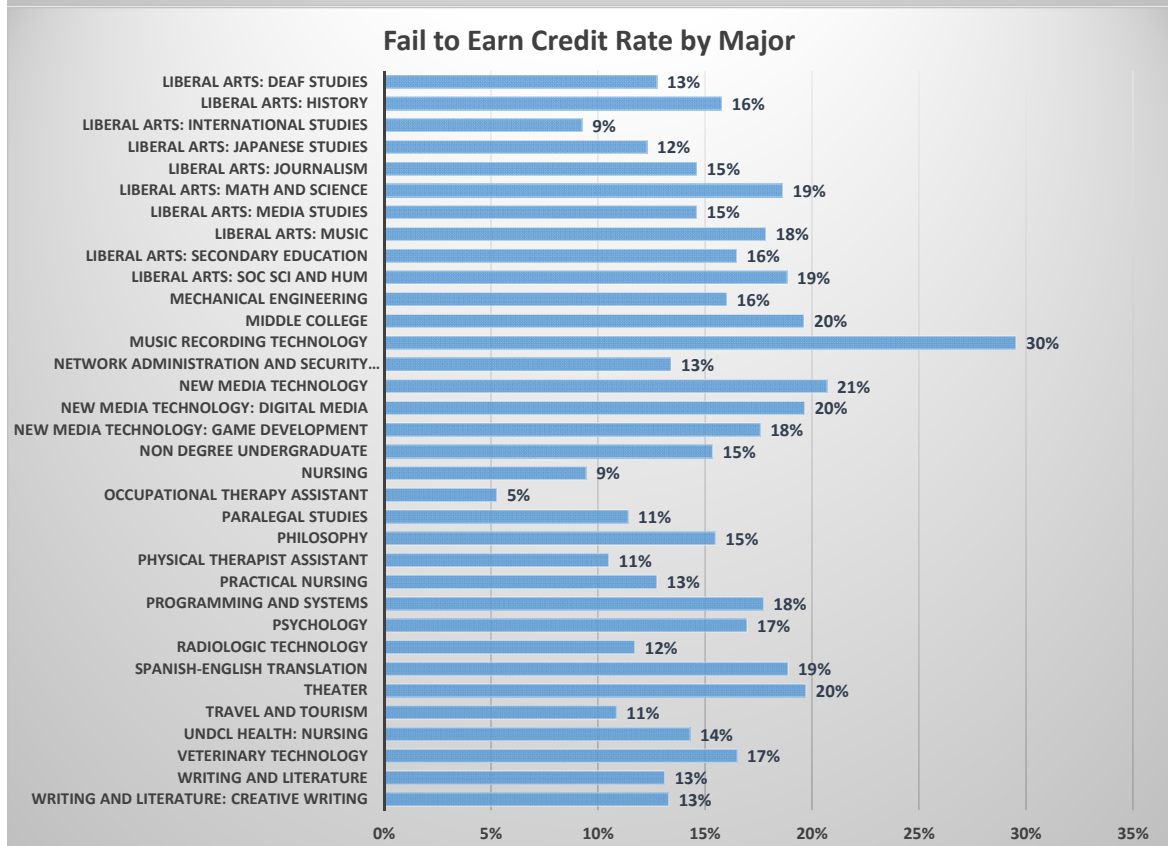
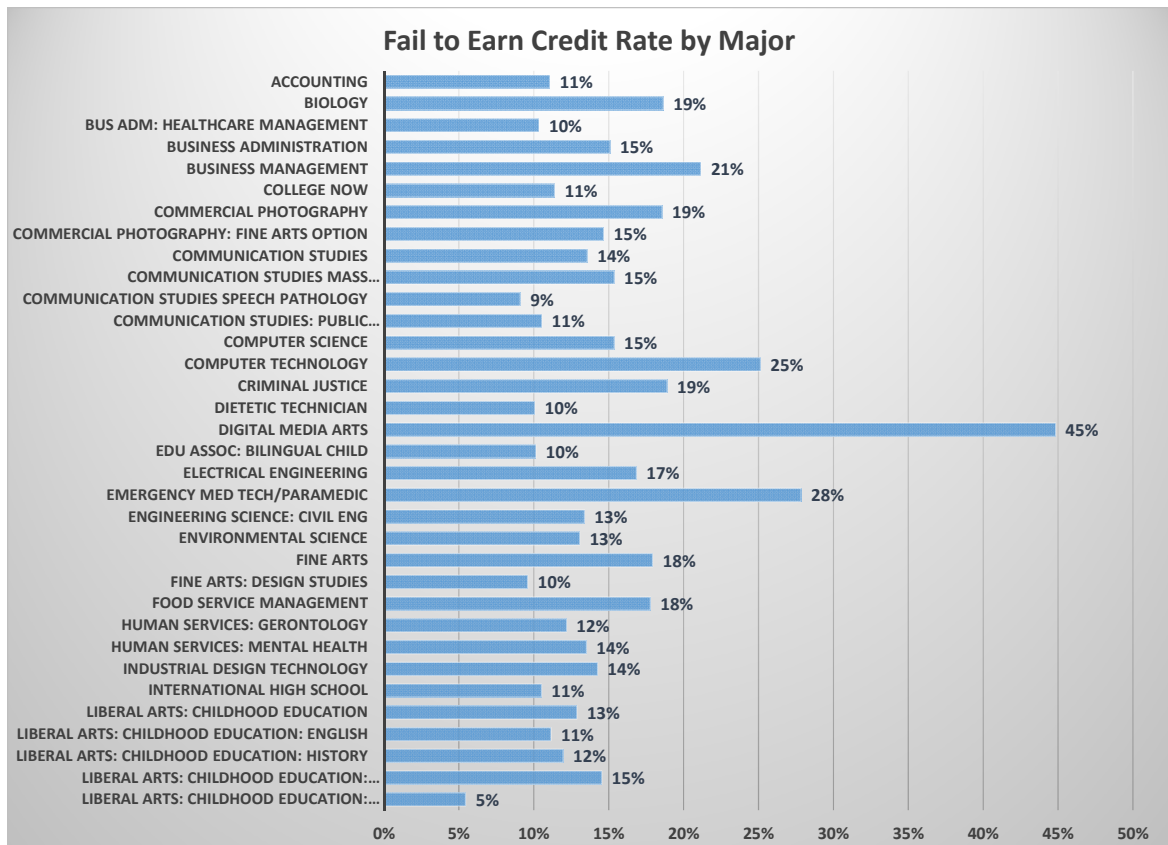


Figure 8

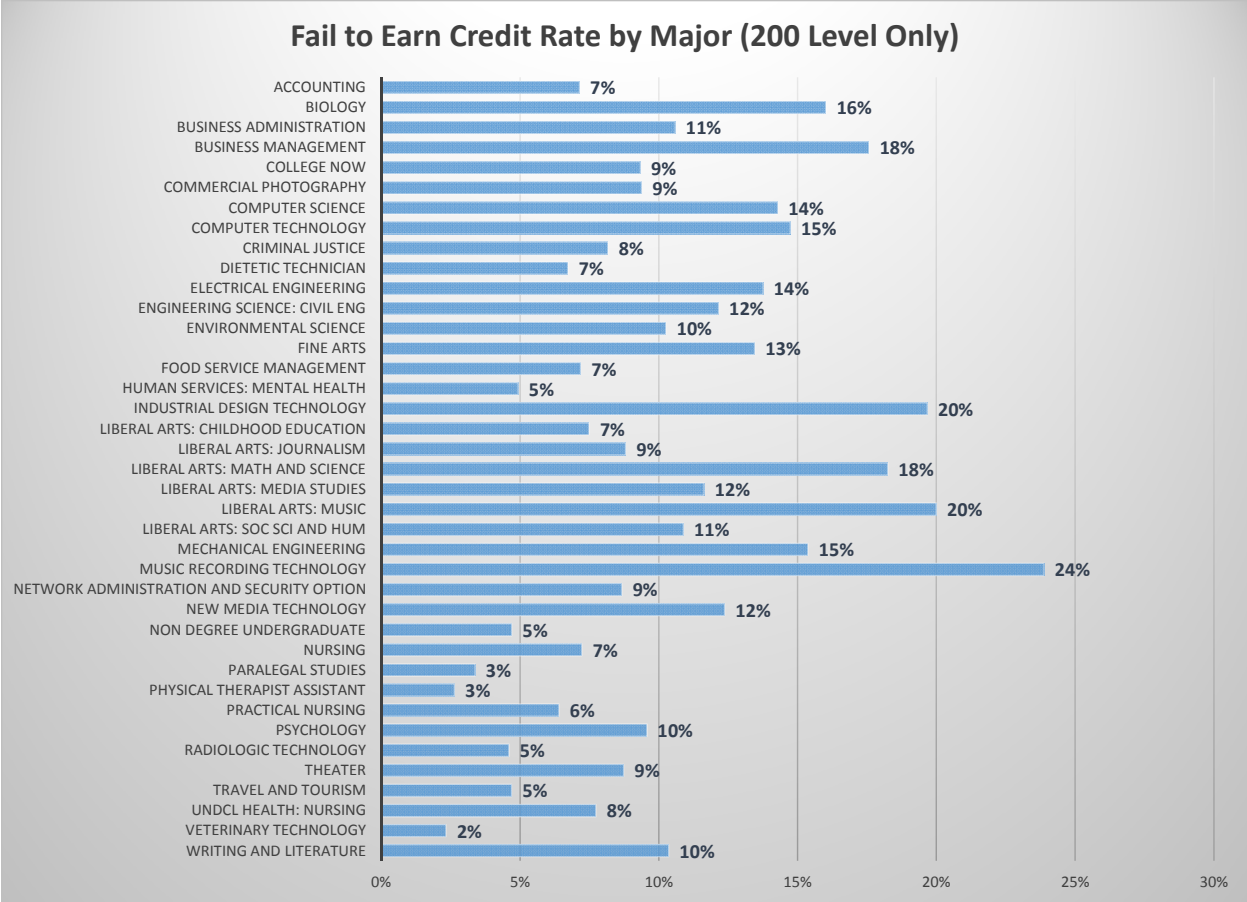


Figure 9

Figure 9 shows course failure rate by major for 200 level courses only in 2015-16. Majors in which students took fewer than ten courses are not included.