

## **Abstract**

This study attempted to establish cut-off points for placing first year students in required English courses at Prince of Songkla University (PSU), Hat Yai Campus. The data of this study consisted of information about English Entrance Examination (EEE) scores as well as the scores and grades in Foundation English I (FE I) and Foundation English II (FE II) of 2,094 first year students in the Faculties of Engineering, Science, Medicine, Management Sciences, Natural Resources, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Nursing, and Dentistry at PSU (Hat Yai) in the academic year 1999. The analysis of the data showed that there were strong positive correlations between the students' EEE scores and their scores in FE I and FE II, and between their scores in FE I and FE II at the .01 level of significance. The significant relationship between the distribution of the students' EEE scores and that of their grades in FE I and FE II was also observed. As a result of the data analysis, four cut-off points for placing first year PSU students in appropriate required English courses based on their EEE scores were proposed (0-33: Preparatory English, 34-66: FE I, 67-74: FE II, 75-100: Exempted) and a hypothetical distribution of students placed in required English courses based on the proposed placement scheme was presented. Directions for further study were also recommended.