Creativity in Engineering

Creativity in engineering is growing in importance to both researchers and educators as the rapidly-changing global economy demands innovation from engineers. The role of creativity in current engineering curricula lies in question. Previous research finds mixed evidence for a relationship between creativity and academic performance, and few data exist in regards to creativity in engineering-specific contexts. The present study uses students' performance on an engineering-specific creativity task as well as domain general measures of creativity to predict GPA from two cohorts of students enrolled in Elizabethtown College's engineering program. In addition, the study looks at the students' self-perceptions of creativity and their self-perceptions' complex interactions with GPA and actual creative performance.