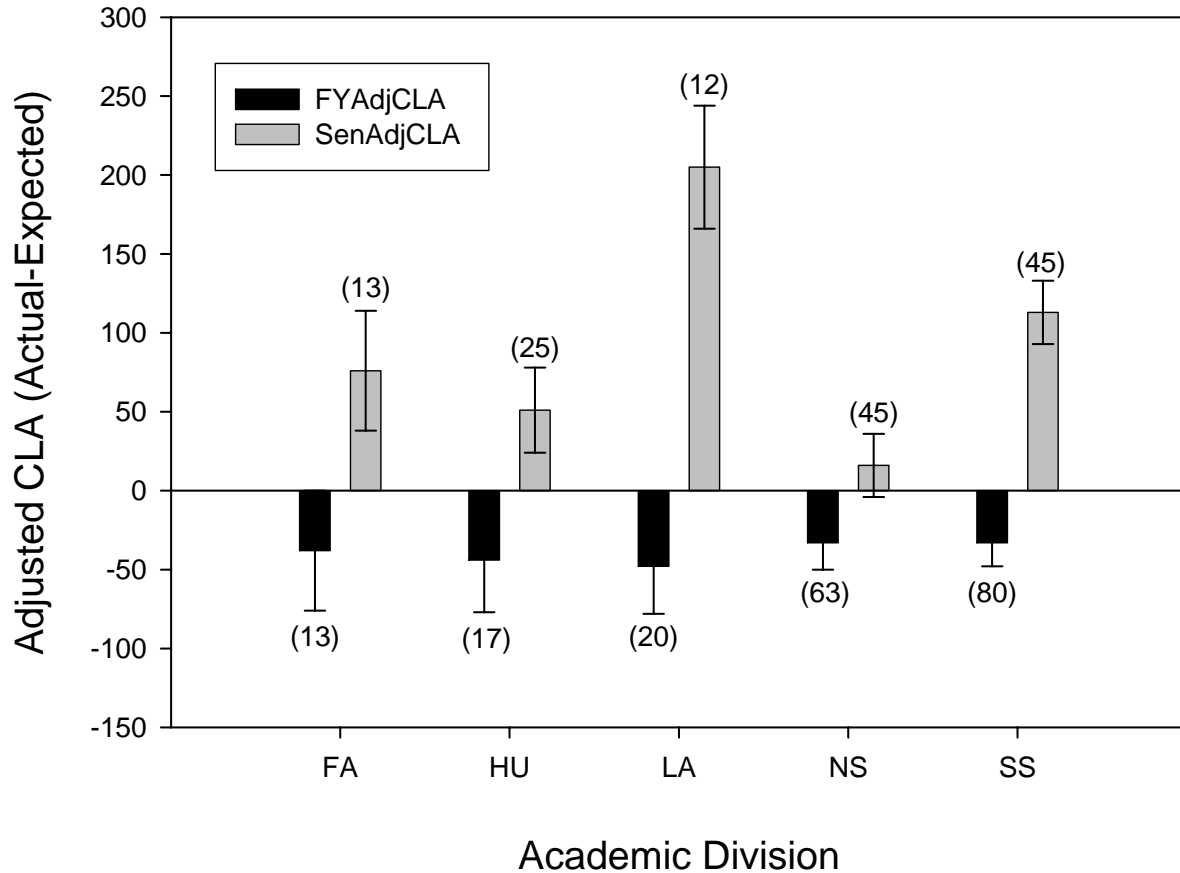


Kalamazoo College Adjusted CLA (mean +/- std error) 2005 First-Year Students 2006 and 2007 Senior Students (Sample sizes shown in parentheses)



After receiving the 2007 CLA data for Kalamazoo College seniors, and seeing patterns in those data that are similar to patterns seen in data from last year, going back and fiddling around with the data from first-year students (now juniors) seemed prudent. Because the intended majors (at least, intended for now...) of these students is now known, categorizing their incoming CLA scores by the academic division of their major and comparing those scores with CLA scores from seniors in the same academic divisions is now possible. As you can see, Adjusted CLA scores were used in the graph because those scores account (to a certain extent) for variation in CLA performance that is correlated with SAT scores. (If you are interested in more detail about this adjustment, please refer to our 2007 paper in Peer Review.) The graph shows (essentially) no difference in First-Year AdjCLA scores among academic divisions, and, on average K students scored slightly below (but not different from) what was expected of them on the CLA. In contrast, as is already known from past analyses of 2006 data (and corroborated by the addition of 2007 data), there are marked (and significant) differences among academic divisions in how well K students performed on the CLA. Moreover, there is a sizeable (dare one say huge?) change between scores of first-years and seniors majoring in the languages and a small (perhaps puny - but near the "expected" national average) change for students majoring in natural sciences. And, while making "ball-park" comments, changes seen in the social sciences are certainly notable (probably "above expected"), whereas those in fine arts and humanities are probably somewhere around "at expected."