Moira K Devlin* (moira.devlin@sju.edu) and Agnes Rash. Mathematics for Nonmath Majors and Mathematics Anxiety. Preliminary report.

A new curriculum for undergraduates took effect in 2010 at Saint Joseph’s University. The change included “mathematics beauty courses,” satisfying the mathematics requirement. One of the new courses was designed to introduce number theory and proofs pertaining to elementary concepts. Through implementing a pretest-posttest design in this course on math anxiety and knowledge, we determined if there is an increase in knowledge and an attitudinal change as a result of taking this course. From the literature research, the principal author explored the different relationships between math anxiety and achievement among middle school and high school students, but we focused on that relationship at the college level. Another issue we explored was intervention programs to help decrease math anxiety and increase achievement. This idea is encouraged but has not yet been researched. The presenter will discuss the research and games introduced to mitigate the problems of math anxiety and content knowledge. (Received September 22, 2011)