

1106-VS-1118 **Matt Boelkins*** (boelkinm@gvsu.edu), C2508 Mackinac Hall, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI 49428. *Points-free grading in an intro-to-proof course.*

In Ken Bain’s book, “What the Best College Teachers Do,” he makes an observation about grades and points: many of the exemplary instructors he studied don’t pretend to use points as a way to determine grades. Instead, they are honest with their students that grades represent their “best professional judgment” of a student’s performance and work.

I recently sought to implement a version of this approach in a way that was tied to mastery-based grading. Through this talk, I will report on my experience with awarding only marks of Exemplary, Mastered, Progressing, Started, and Insufficient in several different aspects of an intro-to-proofs class, together with an explanation of how I communicated this approach to students and how I ultimately converted their work to letter grades. Student feedback and outcomes will also be shared. (Received September 10, 2014)