

1116-A5-181 **Amanda Harsy*** (harsyram@lewisu.edu), One University Parkway, Unit #298, Romeoville, IL 60446. *Encouraging a Growth-Mindset Approach to Learning through Oral and Mastery Based Testing.*

In this talk, we will discuss two alternate assessment methods which strive to decrease test anxiety and increase full understanding of mathematical concepts by fostering a growth-mindset approach to learning. In mastery-based testing, students are given problems in which they can only receive full credit on the problem after they demonstrate mastery of the concept being tested. Each test includes similar questions over the same concepts from previous tests which allows students who have not mastered an idea to retest and fully comprehend old concepts. Once a student receives full credit for a question, they need never attempt the question again. This method was used in both upper level analysis courses and Calculus II courses. We will talk about the similarities and differences between implementing MBT in each course. We will also discuss our experiences using oral exams instead of take-home exams in Analysis courses. Both of these assessment methods are designed so that test anxiety decreases since one bad exam grade or getting stuck on a proof will not necessarily tank their overall grade. This talk will discuss the benefits, shortcomings, and challenges of implementing these alternate assessment techniques. (Received August 11, 2015)