

1106-VA-1583      **Amanda M. Harsy\*** (harsyram@lewisu.edu), Lewis University, Romeoville, IL 60446. *Oral and Mastery Based Testing in a Real Analysis Course*. Preliminary report.

In this talk we will discuss oral and mastery-based testing in an undergraduate Real Analysis course. The main goals of these alternate assessment methods are to decrease test anxiety and increase full understanding of the concepts of Analysis. 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. Students also met with the instructor to present proofs as an oral exam. This allowed the instructor to ask questions to determine whether a student fully understood the step by step process of the proof. It also provided students who were stuck a chance to be given a hint from the instructor and continue from that point. Both testing 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 September 14, 2014)