

1145-C1-1438 **Martina Bode*** (bodem@uic.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Illinois at Chicago, 322 Science and Engineering Offices (M/C 249), Chicago, IL 60607-7045. *Training of Undergraduate Learning Assistants in developmental math, pre-calculus and calculus classes*. Preliminary report.

Learning Assistants (LAs) are undergraduate students with great communication and math skills that we hire to help students in and outside the classroom. The UIC Learning Assistant (LA) program was started in 2015 and has grown to 40 LAs in four courses. In our efforts to improve passing rates, we integrated active learning in our discussion sections and in our large classes. The average class size ranges from 120-140 students. LAs assist with hands on activities during lectures, and outside of class LAs hold drop in sessions in the learning center. Training of the LAs is an integral part of the program. LAs participate in weekly content meetings. Content meetings are separated by course and are led by course coordinators or instructors in the course. In addition, during their first semester of being an LA, LAs participate in a one-credit pedagogy class. The purpose of the pedagogy course is to help learning assistants (or tutors) in mathematics, better understand how to help students in one-on-one and one-on-few teaching situations, either in the learning center or in lecture.

This course discusses what mathematical learning entails, how to engage with students and diagnose their needs and abilities, and how to make pedagogical decisions when helping students. (Received September 21, 2018)