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Christina Therkelsen (christina.therkelsen@uc.edu), University of Cincinnati, Department of Mathematical Sciences, PO Box 210025, Cincinnati, OH 45244, and **Susan Gregson*** (gregsosn@ucmail.uc.edu). *Going Gradeless: Strategies for Promoting Conceptual Understanding in Pre-Service Teachers*. Preliminary report.

We are the instructors of two courses for the same group of undergraduate prospective middle school teachers: a course in mathematics content and a course in mathematics teaching methods. Our goal is to shift students' focus from grades towards conceptual understanding of the course learning goals. Together we developed an alternative approach to assessment for these students in which we do not give numerical or letter grades on assignments. In this talk we will share more on the research that supports this approach and our implementation of these techniques including the involvement of students in making decisions about this assessment framework. (Received September 21, 2018)