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Assisting Students Be Successful on the Mathematics PRAXIS II Exam.

In many states, a student is not allowed to enroll in Student Teaching until PRAXIS II has been passed. Unfortunately, when a student is unsuccessful in passing PRAXIS II, they are taken out of the pipeline to supply future secondary teachers of mathematics and may be required to transfer out of a Teacher Education program into other programs during their senior year of studies. To alleviate this situation a Mathematics Problem Solving Seminar was established. The Mathematics Problem Solving Seminar is a junior level course with topics incorporating the use of technology in the mathematics classroom, PRAXIS II preparation, cooperative projects and guest presentations. Students in this seminar complete the PRAXIS II in Mathematics Content as a requirement of the course and the aim of the course is to help all students successfully pass the requirements for PRAXIS II by the end of their junior year of course-work. Mathematical topics of the course include Algebra and Number Theory, Measurement, Geometry, Trigonometry, Functions, Calculus, Data Analysis and Statistics, Probability, Matrix Algebra and Discrete Mathematics. Preliminary data and additional ways of assisting students be successful will be discussed. (Received September 17, 2007)