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Vesna Kilibarda* (vkilibar@iun.edu), Department of Mathematics and Actuarial Sc., Indiana University Northwest, 3400 Broadway, Gary, IN 46408. *Assessment of Mathematical Reasoning Courses for Business Students and Liberal Arts Students.*

Several years ago, our department was faced with declining students success in general education courses. The DFW rate in Finite Math course was especially worrying our colleagues in the Business School, since it was detrimental to their accreditation. The class for Liberal Arts became a requirement for several health fields, including nursing and needed adjustment to the enlarged student population it serves. The time was right for a change, and our approach toward improvement was multifaceted. First we started enforcing prerequisites. Only those students who took the prerequisite course or have passed the appropriate pretests could take the next math course. We published practice pretests and enabled students to be tested after practice. We had discussions with colleagues from schools whose students the courses were serving. Based on this feedback, we changed emphasis on certain topics in our courses. Handouts were developed for topics that needed special treatment. We created common midterm and final exams that assess appropriate outcomes. Based on the analysis of random samples of these exams we continue to make necessary changes in the courses. In the talk we will show how the changes we implemented resulted in improvement in student performance and satisfaction. (Received September 12, 2009)