Frequent Testing to Improve Performance in Introductory Physics at the University of Illinois

TIM STELZER, Univ of Illinois - Urbana, GARY GLADDING, University of Illinois, BRIANNE GUTMANN, MORTEN LUNDSGAARD, Univ of Illinois - Urbana — Introductory physics is a roadblock for many aspiring engineers at the University of Illinois. The overall attrition rate in our introductory mechanics and E&M courses is approximately 15%, however that rate doubles for some under-represented populations. We introduced biweekly tests into our physics 100 preparatory course to provide students with earlier and more accurate assessments of their current understanding. This talk will describe the design of these activities, and their impact on performance.

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