

Abstract Submitted  
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**Gains in Content Knowledge, Confidence and Comfort Levels from a Physical Science Course** LAURA VAN WORMER, Hiram College Dept. of Physics, ROXANNE SORRICK, Hiram College Dept. of Education — Physical Science for Everyday Thinking (PSET) is a guided inquiry approach to teaching physical science. Pre and post survey data were collected during four years of using PSET. The course was taught in an intensive format at a small, private liberal arts college; at least half the students were education majors. The surveys assessed content knowledge and confidence in the answers, attitudes toward science and understanding of the process of learning science. Analysis indicated significant increases in content knowledge, confidence in content knowledge and comfort levels with physical science; also significant changes in identification as a science person, what is a fact, objectivity of scientists and science as a solitary pursuit.

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