

The Use of Point Incentives for Pre-class Assignments in Physics, Math, and Behavioral Sciences

Several instructors across several departments at USAFA (e.g. Physics, Math, Behavioral Sciences) currently use some form of pre-class assignment (e.g. short worksheets designed to be used in the lecture, short answer responses to critical thinking questions related to upcoming lecture), to help students prepare for class, and thus, allow more effective use of class time. The goals of the current study are 1.) to better understand student and instructor perceptions of the pre-class assignments, 2.) to determine if time for completion, and instructor use of the pre-class work predict completion rates, and 3.) to understand how instructor use impacts student perceived value for and motivation to complete pre-flights.