

A Retrospective View of the Effect of Double Testing on Nursing Student Examination Scores

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Disclosure Statement

- I have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this program/presentation.

What is Double-Testing?

- Also called collaborative testing
- Encourages students to participate, negotiate, and work together
- In this classroom:
 - Students complete the same examination twice
 - The first exam is completed solo under normal testing procedures
 - The second exam is completed after a 15 minute discussion with a group
 - The two exam scores are averaged for the final grade, but only if a grade of 75% was achieved on the solo attempt
 - A maximum of three points can be earned

Research Questions

- Is there a difference between the class average individual test score and the average class double-testing test score on unit examinations over eight semesters?
- How much difference occurs between the class average individual test score and the average class double-testing score on unit examinations over eight semesters?
- Are students satisfied with this double-testing method?

Gathering the Data

- Three class average scores were obtained from Blackboard for each examination:
 - Solo examination (Test A)
 - Examination following the group discussion (Test B)
 - The final exam score
- 8 semesters 50 students per class, $n=403$
- 6 unit exams each semester

Does Double-Testing Increase Grades?

- Yes, grades are increased
- On average grades are increased by 3.3%
- Important to note that students do work for this increase
- I see total student cooperation
- Grade inflation is controlled by only adding points to those who pass the examination on the solo attempt

Do Students Like Double-Testing?

- Students were asked to respond to three statements related to double-testing on the final course evaluation:
 - I enjoyed the use of double-testing this semester.
 - I would have preferred NOT to use double-testing.
 - Double-testing helped my learning about pharmacology.
- 90% of students indicated that they liked this method

Final Thoughts

- Benefits:
 - Significantly decreases arguing following testing
 - Works with electronic testing
 - Provides feedback for instructor
 - Students like this method
- Drawbacks:
 - Takes educator time to set up and monitor grades of 2 tests per student
 - Takes class time, may need to decrease the number of test questions
 - Not recommended for all course testing