

A Team-Based Learning Approach to Linear Algebra

Dr. Matthew Prudente

Saint Vincent College

July 28, 2017

Introduction

A Team-
Based
Learning
Approach
to Linear
Algebra

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Why

- Saint Vincent College
- Benedictine, Liberal Arts College
- About 1,700 undergraduates

- Saint Vincent College
- Benedictine, Liberal Arts College
- About 1,700 undergraduates
- Summer home of the Pittsburgh Steelers

- Faculty-Led Mentoring Program - TEMP

- Team-Based Learning, (TBL)

Questions

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- What is Team-Based Learning?

- What is Team-Based Learning?
- How is it implemented?

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- How is it implemented?
- Where are the issues for mathematics?

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- What adaptations can be made?

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- What is Team-Based Learning?
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- Where are the issues for mathematics?
- What adaptations can be made?
- Why would we implement this?

What is Team-Based Learning?

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- Developed in the late 1970s by Larry Michaelsen as a way to engage large classes.

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- Developed in the late 1970s by Larry Michaelsen as a way to engage large classes.
- Collaborative learning strategy

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- Developed in the late 1970s by Larry Michaelsen as a way to engage large classes.
- Collaborative learning strategy
- Students are broken up into teams

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- Material is split into units, called Modules, following a pattern

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- Material is split into units, called Modules, following a pattern
 - Preparation
 - Readiness Assurance Process, RAP
 - Application-Focused Exercises
 - Assessment Experience

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 - Application-Focused Exercises
 - Significant Problems
 - Specific Choice
 - Same Problems
 - Simultaneous Reporting
 - Assessment Experience

What is Team-Based Learning?

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 - Assessment Experience
 - Exam or Team Project

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 - Significant Problems
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 - Exam or Team Project
- Each module can last 1-3 weeks

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Four major components of TBL

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Four major components of TBL

- Consistent Teams

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Four major components of TBL

- Consistent Teams
- Readiness Assurance Process, RAP

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Four major components of TBL

- Consistent Teams
- Readiness Assurance Process, RAP
- Team-Based Application Activities

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Four major components of TBL

- Consistent Teams
- Readiness Assurance Process, RAP
- Team-Based Application Activities
- Grade influenced Peer Review

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- At the start, students are divided into teams
 - info.catme.org

How is it implemented?

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- Prior to each module, the students read a selection of the textbook

How is it implemented?

- At the start, students are divided into teams
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- Prior to each module, the students read a selection of the textbook
- Class 1: RAP
 - Individual readiness assurance testing, iRAT
 - No correct answers are revealed

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How is it implemented?

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IMMEDIATE FEEDBACK ASSESSMENT TECHNIQUE (IF AT®)
Name Team #3 Test # 2
Subject _____ Total _____

SCRATCH OFF COVERING TO EXPOSE ANSWER

| | A | B | C | D | Score |
|-----|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>4</u> |
| 2. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>2</u> |
| 3. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>4</u> |
| 4. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>1</u> |
| 5. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 6. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 7. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 8. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 9. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| 10. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |

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How is it implemented?

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- Prior to each module, the students read a selection of the textbook
- Class 1: RAP
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- Mini-lectures can be administered based on the tRAT scores

How is it implemented?

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 - Team readiness assurance testing, tRAT
 - Taken on IF-AT scratch offs
- Mini-lectures can be administered based on the tRAT scores
- Class 2-5: Team-Based Applications

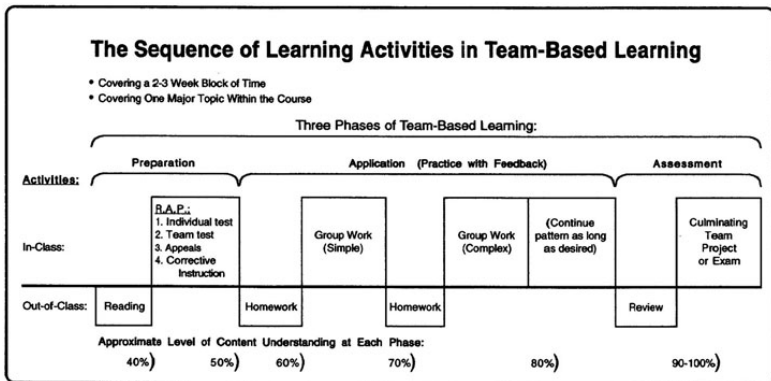
How is it implemented?

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- Class 2-5: Team-Based Applications
- Class 6: Review

How is it implemented?

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- Prior to each module, the students read a selection of the textbook
- Class 1: RAP
 - Individual readiness assurance testing, iRAT
 - No correct answers are revealed
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 - Team readiness assurance testing, tRAT
 - Taken on IF-AT scratch offs
- Mini-lectures can be administered based on the tRAT scores
- Class 2-5: Team-Based Applications
- Class 6: Review
- Class 7: Assessment Experience

How is it implemented?



- Michaelsen LK, Knight AB, Fink LD. Team-based learning: a transformative use of small groups. Greenwood Publishing Group; 2002.

Where are the issues for mathematics?

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Where are the issues for mathematics?

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- Module Length: 2-3 weeks module is entirely too long

Where are the issues for mathematics?

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- Module Length: 2-3 weeks module is entirely too long
- Class Time: Two quizzes in class take time

Where are the issues for mathematics?

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- Module Length: 2-3 weeks module is entirely too long
- Class Time: Two quizzes in class take time
- Prep Work: Can sophomores read?

Where are the issues for mathematics?

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- Module Length: 2-3 weeks module is entirely too long
- Class Time: Two quizzes in class take time
- Prep Work: Can sophomores read?
- Applications: Two S's

Where are the issues for mathematics?

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- Module Length: 2-3 weeks module is entirely too long
- Class Time: Two quizzes in class take time
- Prep Work: Can sophomores read?
- Applications: Two S's
 - Significant Problems
 - Specific Choice

What adaptations can be made?

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What adaptations can be made: Module Length

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What adaptations can be made: Module Length

- Shrink modules to 1 to 3 classes with an average of 2 classes

What adaptations can be made: Module Length

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- Shrink modules to 1 to 3 classes with an average of 2 classes
- Multiple modules will be included in assessment experience

What adaptations can be made: Module Length

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Why

- Shrink modules to 1 to 3 classes with an average of 2 classes
- Multiple modules will be included in assessment experience
- Breaks up readings

What adaptations can be made: Module Length

- Shrink modules to 1 to 3 classes with an average of 2 classes
- Multiple modules will be included in assessment experience
- Breaks up readings
- Class time is at a premium

What adaptations can be made: Module Length

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| Date | Lesson(s) | Notes |
|------|-----------|---------------------|
| 1/18 | 1.1, 1.2 | RAP 1 |
| 1/20 | | Application |
| 1/23 | 1.3 | RAP 2 |
| 1/25 | | Application |
| 1/27 | 1.4, 1.5 | RAP 3 |
| 1/30 | | Application |
| 2/1 | 1.6, 1.7 | RAP 4 |
| 2/3 | | Application |
| 2/6 | 1.8 | RAP 5 & Application |
| 2/8 | 2.1, 2.2 | RAP 6 |
| 2/10 | | Application |
| 2/13 | 2.3 | RAP 7 |
| 2/15 | | Application |
| 2/17 | 3.1 | RAP 8 |
| 2/20 | | Application |
| 2/22 | 3.2, 3.3 | RAP 9 & Application |
| 2/24 | | Review |
| 2/27 | | Exam I |

What adaptations can be made: Class Time

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What adaptations can be made: Class Time

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- iRAT's are administered online

What adaptations can be made: Class Time

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- iRAT's are administered online

- tRAT's start as soon as class starts

What adaptations can be made: Class Time

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- iRAT's are administered online
- tRAT's start as soon as class starts
- More time for applications

What adaptations can be made: Can sophomores read?

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What adaptations can be made: Can sophomores read?

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- Short modules lead to short readings

What adaptations can be made: Can sophomores read?

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- Short modules lead to short readings
- Reading Guides

What adaptations can be made: Can sophomores read?

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- Short modules lead to short readings
- Reading Guides
- Helped focus material

What adaptations can be made: Can sophomores read?

RAP 11

4.2

- What is a subspace of a vector space V ?
- What two conditions have to hold for W , a subset of a vector space V , to be a subspace?
 - 1.
 - 2.
- In Example 4, why is W not a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 ?
- In Example 5, if W is the set of symmetric $n \times n$ matrices, then is W a subspace of M_{nn} ?
- In Example 6, why is W not a subspace of M_{22} ?
- What does $F(-\infty, \infty)$ and $C(-\infty, \infty)$ mean?

What adaptations can be made: Applications

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What adaptations can be made: Applications

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- Significant Problems: some problems can't be significant

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- Significant Problems: some problems can't be significant

- Specific Choice: developing mathematical tools

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- Significant Problems: some problems can't be significant
 - Break up problems into parts
- Specific Choice: developing mathematical tools

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- Significant Problems: some problems can't be significant
 - Break up problems into parts
- Specific Choice: developing mathematical tools
 - Completing problems now for future work

What adaptations can be made: Applications

In this application, we are going to calculate the determinant of the following matrix by cofactor expansion:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 & 0 & 5 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 4 & 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 2 & 10 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

1. What row or column should we apply cofactor expansion on? (On Board)
2. Compute the cofactors .
3. Find the determinant.

Future Adaptations

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- More mini-lectures

Future Adaptations

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- More mini-lectures

- Rework RAP & Application system

Future Adaptations

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- More mini-lectures
- Rework RAP & Application system
- Mid-semester peer review

Why would we implement this?

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Why would we implement this?

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- Daily student involvement

Why would we implement this?

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- Daily student involvement
- Better interactions with students

Why would we implement this?

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- Daily student involvement
- Better interactions with students
- Students helping students

Why would we implement this?

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- Daily student involvement
- Better interactions with students
- Students helping students
- Improved grades

Why would we implement this?

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Final Exam

| Class | Number | Mean | Median | St Dev |
|---------|--------|------|--------|--------|
| Lecture | 19 | 87.8 | 90 | 10.5 |
| TBL | 39 | 92.4 | 93 | 8.1 |

Why would we implement this?

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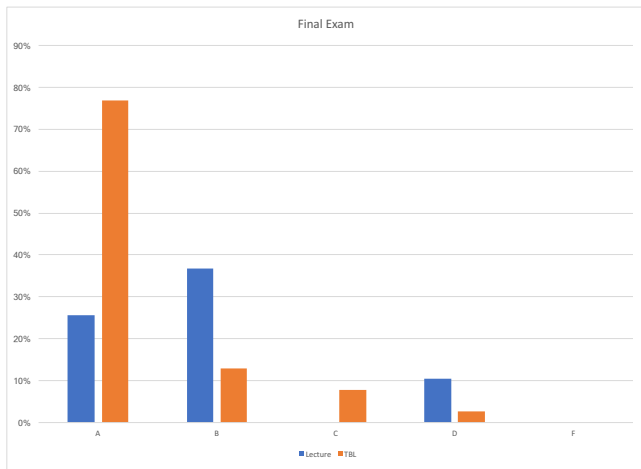
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Why would we implement this?

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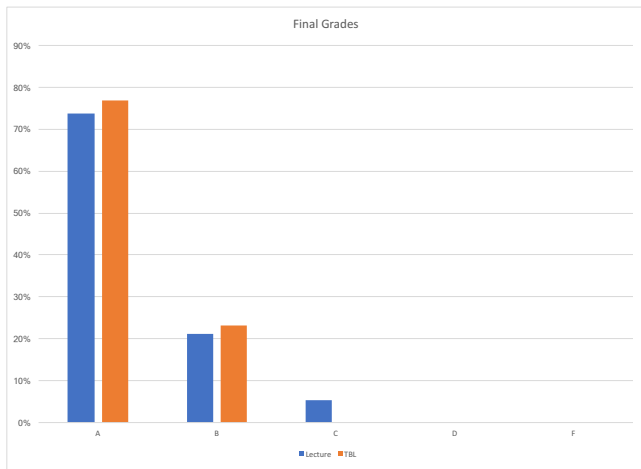
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Why would we implement this: Liberal Arts

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Why would we implement this: Liberal Arts

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- What can my students get out of my class?
- More than math

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Thank you