

1014-Y5-1767 **Janet L Andersen*** (jandersen@hope.edu), Dept. of Mathematics, Hope College, Holland, MI 49422. *Competency Grading, Student Choice, and Persistence in Mathematics*. Preliminary report.

Allowing students' choice in the classroom has been shown to increase learning and, therefore, persistence in taking additional courses (Learner Centered Teaching, Maryellen Weimer). I have incorporated student choice into my classroom by using Competency Grading. While I set the definitions and types of assessment for each competency, students choose which competencies they wish to do. In this talk, I will describe the details of Competency Grading, student reaction to this format, and the results as measured by enrollment in subsequent mathematics courses. (Received September 30, 2005)