Agnes M Rash* (arash@sju.edu), Mathematics Department, 5600 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131. An Inhibitor to Learning College Level Mathematics Math Anxiety: Problems and Proposed Solutions.

One of the issues related to the mathematics learning among nonmathematics and nonscience majors is math anxiety. This research addresses the question: Can math anxiety be reduced in college students by changing the pedagogy of the course to include inquiry-based instruction, games and puzzles? A study is being conducted in Fall, 2010 to measure the effects of this pedagogical approach in a course. A pretest-posttest design with matched pairs will be used to analyze the results. There is a control group of calculus students for comparison. The presentation will describe the research outcomes, and the puzzle and game will be introduced to the audience. A goal of the research is to find ways to reduce anxiety among elementary education majors. A large number of the students involved in the study are elementary education majors. I hope to gain some insight into this particular group of students using a subset of the data. (Received September 20, 2010)