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## Effectiveness of Micro-Lectures as a Teaching Tool in College Math Courses for Student Success

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**Abstract:** *In the ever-evolving landscape of higher education, pedagogical innovation is paramount to meet the diverse needs of college students. Among the myriad of instructional strategies, micro-lectures have emerged as a promising*

*tool, particularly in college math courses. These brief, focused video presentations offer the potential to address the challenges associated with traditional lecture-based approaches. This study explores the use of micro-lectures in first-year college Algebra math course at Kuwait Technical College, aiming to discern their impact on student success using a sample of higher education students (N=35). While various previous research has illuminated potential benefits of micro-lectures in different fields but their specific effectiveness in mathematics education remains underexplored. This study employs a pretest-posttest design, finding both micro-lectures and traditional lectures significantly improve student outcomes. However, nuances and long-term impacts require further investigation. This research contributes to a deeper understanding of micro-lectures' role in transforming college-level mathematics education.*

**Keywords:** *Effectiveness, Micro-Lectures, Teaching Tool, Student Success, College Math Courses*

## Introduction

In the rapidly evolving landscape of higher education, pedagogical innovation is paramount to meet the diverse needs of today's college students. Among the myriad of instructional strategies, micro-lectures have emerged as a promising tool, particularly in the context of college math courses. Micro-lectures are a very promising, relatively new educational format. In a micro-lecture a single, well-defined topic is explained by an expert, giving students a chance to learn at their own pace. Initially, a micro-lecture was defined as a short video with a duration of approximately 60 s created by Professor LeRoy A. (Liu, X. 2013). These brief, targeted video presentations have gained popularity for their potential to address some of the longstanding challenges associated with traditional lecture-based approaches. As mathematics remains a fundamental pillar of education, the pursuit of effective teaching methods in this discipline is of paramount importance. The question that looms large is whether micro-lectures, characterized by their concise format and focused content delivery, can prove to be a catalyst for student success in college-level math courses (Keche, 2021).

Student success in college math courses is a critical concern within the realm of higher education. Mathematics, serving as both a gateway and a foundational discipline, plays a pivotal role in various academic disciplines and

career paths. However, the struggle with math is a familiar narrative for many students, leading to high dropout rates, retakes of courses, and, in some cases, a prolonged academic journey (Song et al., 2020). Factors contributing to this struggle encompass a wide spectrum, ranging from math anxiety and inadequate foundational knowledge to the sheer complexity of mathematical concepts. Consequently, there is a compelling need to explore innovative teaching methods that can ameliorate the educational experience for math students and pave the way for improved learning outcomes. This study endeavors to delve into the realm of micro-lectures in the context of college math courses, aiming to unravel their potential to bridge the gap between conventional lecture formats and the diverse learning needs of today's students (Sotiriou et al., 2018).

Amidst this educational landscape, a notable research gap emerges. While the integration of micro-lectures in various educational contexts has garnered significant attention and investigation, their specific impact in the domain of college math courses remains an underexplored territory. Although previous studies have illuminated the potential benefits of micro-lectures, particularly in terms of cognitive load reduction, engagement enhancement, and the delivery of concise content, their effectiveness in mathematics education warrants a focused examination (Fung, 2017). This research seeks to address this gap by conducting a comprehensive analysis of existing literature and empirical evidence, aiming to discern whether micro-lectures represent a promising paradigm shift in college math instruction or if they are beset by challenges that hinder their widespread adoption and efficacy. Through a rigorous exploration of their impact on student engagement, learning outcomes, and overall success, this study aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of micro-lectures' role in transforming the landscape of college-level mathematics education.

### **Research Objective**

The primary objective of this study is to assess and analyze the impact of integrating micro-lectures as a teaching tool in college-level math courses with a focus on identifying their effectiveness in enhancing student engagement, learning outcomes, and overall success in mathematics education in Kuwait in first year College Algebra.

## Literature Review

### *Micro-Lectures in Higher Education*

In recent years, micro-lectures have emerged as a novel and intriguing teaching tool in higher education. These micro-lectures are typically short video clips, ranging from a few minutes to around 10 minutes in duration, that focus on delivering concise and targeted content to students. Unlike traditional hour-long lectures, micro-lectures aim to condense complex topics into digestible, bite-sized portions. The appeal of micro-lectures lies in their ability to cater to the changing learning habits of today's college students, who often prefer quick, on-demand access to information. This shift aligns with the growing recognition that the attention span of students is diminishing in an age of constant digital distractions, making it essential for educators to adapt their teaching methods. The use of micro-lectures as a pedagogical tool in college math courses has piqued the interest of educators and researchers alike, as it promises to address some of the challenges associated with traditional math instruction (Tang et al., 2022).

Mathematics has long been a stumbling block for many students, leading to high dropout rates and frustration among learners. Therefore, the exploration of innovative teaching methods like micro-lectures is timely and relevant. By delivering mathematical concepts in short, focused bursts, educators hope to reduce cognitive overload and improve retention. The question of whether micro-lectures can enhance student success in math courses is a pressing one, as the outcomes of such inquiries may influence the future of math education in higher learning institutions (Nilson & Goodson, 2021).

The rise of micro-lectures in higher education is not without controversy. While proponents argue that micro-lectures have the potential to engage students more effectively and cater to diverse learning styles, critics raise concerns about the depth of content coverage and the potential loss of critical thinking skills in this abbreviated format. Furthermore, the implementation of micro-lectures requires significant technological resources and faculty training, which can pose challenges for some institutions. As the use of micro-lectures continues to gain momentum, it is essential to critically evaluate their effectiveness and consider how they fit into the broader landscape of higher

education. Consequently, this literature review seeks to explore and synthesize existing research on the use of micro-lectures in college math courses, shedding light on their potential benefits, drawbacks, and implications for student success in the field of mathematics (Nurkhin et al., 2020).

### ***Student Success in College Math Courses***

Student success in college math courses has been a subject of significant interest and concern within the realm of higher education. Mathematics plays a fundamental role in a wide array of academic disciplines and is often a prerequisite for entry into specific degree programs. As such, the ability of students to succeed in math courses is not only crucial for their academic advancement but also for their long-term career prospects. However, the challenge of achieving student success in college-level math courses has persisted for decades. Research indicates that a substantial portion of students struggle with math, leading to high dropout rates, course retakes, and increased time-to-degree. Factors contributing to these challenges include math anxiety, inadequate foundational knowledge, and the perception of math as an insurmountable obstacle. Consequently, addressing the issue of student success in college math courses has become an educational priority, prompting educators to explore innovative teaching methods and interventions to enhance students' mathematical learning experiences (Jiang et al., 2022).

Instructors and institutions alike recognize that the traditional lecture-based approach to teaching mathematics has limitations when it comes to fostering student success. Traditional lectures are often passive in nature, with instructors delivering content to a large group of students, leaving limited room for interaction, individualized support, and active learning. This pedagogical model can be particularly problematic for students who struggle with math, as they may not have opportunities for clarification or additional assistance when faced with challenging concepts. Moreover, the conventional lecture format may not cater to diverse learning styles and engagement preferences. As a result, educators have sought alternative approaches that promote deeper comprehension, higher retention rates, and overall better student outcomes in math courses. The investigation of such alternatives is vital to ensuring that all students have a fair chance at succeeding in their mathematical studies, regardless of their initial level of proficiency or confidence (Kossen & Ooi, 2021).

In this context, the exploration of micro-lectures as a potential teaching tool in college math courses is both timely and significant. Micro-lectures offer a departure from traditional lecture-based instruction by delivering content in shorter, more focused segments. This format aims to address some of the drawbacks of traditional lectures, such as information overload and decreased student engagement. By breaking down complex mathematical concepts into bite-sized pieces, micro-lectures have the potential to mitigate cognitive load, make content more accessible, and promote active learning. However, the effectiveness of micro-lectures in facilitating student success in college math courses remains an area of ongoing research and debate. To fully appreciate their impact, it is essential to delve into the existing literature, which presents a spectrum of findings and perspectives on the subject (Song, 2021).

### ***Traditional Lecture vs. Micro-Lecture***

Traditional lectures have long been the cornerstone of higher education, including math courses, providing instructors with a platform to present comprehensive content in a structured manner. These lectures typically last anywhere from 45 minutes to an hour, during which instructors cover a significant amount of material. While traditional lectures have their merits, they are not without limitations. One of the primary challenges lies in maintaining student engagement and attention throughout the entirety of the lecture. Studies have shown that the average attention span of students can be relatively short, and when lectures extend beyond this timeframe, learners may become disengaged or overwhelmed, leading to reduced retention and comprehension of the material. Moreover, the one-size-fits-all nature of traditional lectures may not effectively cater to the diverse learning styles and paces of individual students (Romero & Ventura, 2017).

In contrast, micro-lectures represent a departure from the traditional lecture format. These micro-sized video clips, often ranging from a few minutes to no more than 10 minutes in length, are designed to deliver concise, targeted content. By focusing on specific learning objectives or key concepts, micro-lectures aim to make information more accessible and digestible for students. Proponents argue that this format can address the attention span issue by presenting content in shorter, more engaging bursts. Additionally, micro-lectures can be easily accessed by students on-demand, allowing for greater flexibility in

how and when they engage with the material. However, the transition from traditional lectures to micro-lectures is not without its challenges, and it raises questions about the depth of content coverage and the effectiveness of shorter, more focused presentations in facilitating student learning. To critically evaluate the comparative effectiveness of traditional lectures and micro-lectures in college math courses, it is crucial to delve into the existing body of research, which offers insights into their respective advantages and drawbacks (Becker et al., 2018).

### ***Cognitive Load Theory***

Cognitive Load Theory (CLT) has emerged as a pivotal framework for understanding how the human mind processes and retains information, shedding light on its relevance in the context of micro-lectures in college math courses. Proposed by John Sweller in the 1980s, CLT posits that cognitive load, or the mental effort required to process information, has a significant impact on learning. It distinguishes between three types of cognitive load: intrinsic, extraneous, and germane. Intrinsic load pertains to the inherent complexity of the subject matter, extraneous load relates to the additional mental effort caused by the instructional design, and germane load represents the cognitive effort directed toward meaningful learning. In the context of traditional lectures, the extraneous cognitive load can be substantial, as students must navigate lengthy presentations of complex mathematical concepts. Micro-lectures, on the other hand, are designed to reduce extraneous cognitive load by breaking down content into smaller, more manageable segments. This, in turn, may enhance students' ability to focus on the intrinsic load and engage in more meaningful learning. Thus, understanding how CLT applies to micro-lectures in college math courses is crucial for educators seeking to optimize instructional design and facilitate effective learning experiences (Schneider & Preckel, 2017).

Moreover, CLT highlights the concept of cognitive overload, which occurs when the cognitive load exceeds the learner's capacity. Traditional lectures, especially in math courses, often run the risk of overwhelming students with information, potentially leading to cognitive overload. This can hinder their ability to process and retain mathematical concepts effectively. Micro-lectures, by virtue of their shorter duration and focused content, aim to mitigate cognitive overload, allowing students to engage with the material more comfortably.

However, questions remain regarding the extent to which micro-lectures can genuinely reduce cognitive load and whether this reduction translates into improved learning outcomes. To address these questions and gain deeper insights into the application of CLT in the context of micro-lectures, it is essential to examine existing research that investigates the cognitive processes and learning benefits associated with this innovative teaching tool in college math courses (Rayburn et al., 2021).

### ***Engagement and Attention Span***

Engagement and attention span are central considerations in the effectiveness of any teaching tool, and they hold particular significance in the context of micro-lectures in college math courses. Research has long shown that students' attention spans can be limited, and maintaining their engagement throughout traditional lengthy lectures can be a challenging feat. When students disengage, their ability to absorb and retain complex mathematical concepts diminishes. Micro-lectures are designed with this challenge in mind, offering a format that aims to maximize engagement within the constraints of shorter durations. By delivering math content in bite-sized segments, micro-lectures can align more closely with students' attention spans, potentially reducing the likelihood of distraction and boredom. Moreover, they can cater to diverse learning styles by allowing students to access and revisit content at their own pace. Yet, the extent to which micro-lectures can effectively sustain engagement and attention remains a subject of investigation. It is crucial to examine how the design and delivery of micro-lectures impact student engagement and whether these short bursts of instruction genuinely enhance the learning experience in college math courses (Wang et al., 2021).

Beyond the duration of micro-lectures, the content itself and the strategies employed by instructors play pivotal roles in sustaining engagement. Effective micro-lectures should not merely condense traditional lectures but should also employ active learning strategies, visual aids, and interactive elements to stimulate student interest. The incorporation of real-world examples and problem-solving exercises can be especially beneficial in math courses, as they help bridge the gap between theory and practical application. Additionally, the use of technology, such as interactive quizzes or discussion forums, can further promote engagement by providing students with opportunities for active



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participation and peer interaction. However, while micro-lectures offer flexibility in content delivery, instructors must be strategic in their use to ensure that each segment contributes meaningfully to the overall learning objectives of the course. Exploring the impact of various engagement-enhancing strategies within micro-lectures is essential for educators seeking to harness the full potential of this teaching tool in college math courses. To gain a comprehensive understanding of how engagement and attention span are affected by micro-lectures, it is imperative to delve into the existing literature, which offers insights into the nuances and challenges associated with this innovative approach to instruction (Daugherty & Carter, 2018).

### ***Assessment of Micro-Lectures***

Assessing the effectiveness of micro-lectures in college math courses is a multifaceted endeavor that requires the use of various tools and methodologies to capture a comprehensive picture of their impact on student learning outcomes, satisfaction, and retention. One commonly employed assessment method is the measurement of learning outcomes. Researchers and educators often compare the performance of students who received micro-lecture-based instruction with those taught using traditional lecture formats. Learning outcomes can include grades on assignments, quizzes, exams, and overall course performance. By examining these metrics, researchers can gauge whether micro-lectures lead to improvements in students' understanding of mathematical concepts and their ability to apply them. However, it's important to consider that the assessment of learning outcomes should encompass not only short-term gains but also long-term retention of knowledge, as the ultimate goal is to ensure that students retain and can apply mathematical concepts beyond the duration of the course (Kerrey, 2018).

In addition to measuring learning outcomes, student satisfaction is a critical aspect of assessing the effectiveness of micro-lectures. Student satisfaction surveys and qualitative feedback provide valuable insights into the perceived benefits and drawbacks of this teaching tool. Questions regarding the clarity of content, engagement, and the ease of accessibility are commonly included in such surveys. These responses can help instructors and institutions refine their approach to micro-lecture delivery and address potential shortcomings. Furthermore, assessing retention rates, especially in subsequent

math courses, can shed light on the lasting impact of micro-lectures on students' mathematical proficiency. To comprehensively evaluate the effectiveness of micro-lectures in college math courses, researchers must consider a combination of these assessment methods, recognizing that a holistic understanding of their impact requires attention to both short-term learning gains and long-term outcomes, as well as the student perspective on their educational experience (Bautista et al., 2017).

### ***Pedagogical Strategies for Micro-Lectures***

The integration of micro-lectures into college math courses demands careful consideration of pedagogical strategies that can optimize the effectiveness of this teaching tool. One key strategy is the segmentation of content. Micro-lectures are characterized by their brevity, and as such, instructors must identify and isolate discrete learning objectives or key concepts within a mathematical topic. By breaking down complex mathematical content into smaller, more manageable segments, instructors can ensure that each micro-lecture maintains a sharp focus and a clear educational goal. Moreover, this segmentation allows for greater flexibility in sequencing and revisiting material, accommodating students' diverse learning paces. Additionally, instructors should consider the use of scaffolding, which involves gradually increasing the complexity of micro-lectures as students' progress through a course. Starting with foundational concepts and gradually building on them can help ensure that students are adequately prepared for more advanced mathematical topics (Elumalai et al., 2021).

Active learning strategies are another vital component of effective pedagogy when using micro-lectures. To maximize engagement and comprehension, instructors can incorporate interactive elements within micro-lectures. This may include pausing the video for students to solve problems or answer questions, interspersing visual aids or animations to illustrate concepts, or incorporating peer discussion activities related to the micro-lecture content. Active learning within micro-lectures not only enhances student engagement but also promotes higher-order thinking skills and application of mathematical knowledge. Moreover, it complements the flexibility that micro-lectures offer, allowing students to interact with the material at their own pace while still maintaining an active and participatory learning experience. As instructors

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continue to explore and implement pedagogical strategies for micro-lectures in college math courses, it is essential to recognize the dynamic and evolving nature of this instructional format, adapt strategies based on student feedback and learning outcomes, and leverage the technology and resources available to create effective and engaging micro-lecture experiences (Jeyakumar et al., 2020).

#### ***Barriers and Challenges***

The adoption of micro-lectures as a teaching tool in college math courses is not without its fair share of barriers and challenges. One prominent challenge is the requirement for technological resources and infrastructure. Micro-lectures often rely on video recording and online platforms for distribution, necessitating access to recording equipment, video editing software, and reliable internet connections. Institutions that lack the necessary technological resources may find it difficult to implement micro-lectures effectively. Furthermore, students themselves need access to devices capable of playing video content and a degree of digital literacy to navigate online platforms. The digital divide, where some students have more access and comfort with technology than others, can exacerbate inequalities in learning experiences. Thus, addressing these technological challenges is crucial to ensure equitable access to micro-lectures and mitigate potential disparities in student outcomes (Shin et al., 2023).

Resistance to change among educators and students is another significant barrier to the widespread adoption of micro-lectures. Traditional lecture-based teaching has deep-rooted traditions in academia, and some instructors may be hesitant to deviate from this established norm. Concerns about the quality of content delivery, the potential loss of face-to-face interaction, and unfamiliarity with technology can all contribute to resistance. Likewise, students who are accustomed to traditional lecture formats may initially struggle to adapt to the self-paced, independent nature of micro-lectures. They may require guidance and support to make the transition effectively. Overcoming these barriers requires not only faculty development initiatives to train instructors in micro-lecture creation and implementation but also comprehensive support systems to assist both educators and students in navigating this new instructional landscape. Recognizing and addressing these challenges is crucial for institutions seeking to harness the potential benefits of micro-lectures while ensuring that all stakeholders can effectively engage with

this innovative teaching tool in the context of college math courses (Querol et al., 2019).

## Research Methodology

**Research Design:** To investigate the effectiveness of micro-lectures as a teaching tool in college-level math courses, a pretest-posttest design (experimental) was employed. This design allows for the measurement of changes in student performance and outcomes before and after exposure to micro-lectures, enabling a direct assessment of their impact on student learning.

**Population:** The population for this study comprised students enrolled in college Algebra (MATH107) a first-year math course at Kuwait Technical College. Students from diverse academic backgrounds were chosen to ensure the findings' applicability to a broad range of learners.

**Sample:** A sample size of 35 students was selected for this study. The sample size was determined based on practical considerations, including available resources and time constraints, while ensuring it was sufficient for statistically meaningful analysis.

**Sampling Technique:** Simple random sampling was employed to select the sample from the population. Each student had an equal chance of being included in the study, ensuring the sample's representativeness.

**Research Tool:** To assess the impact of micro-lectures on student learning outcomes, a test specifically designed for the study was administered to the selected sample. This test contained questions that aligned with the learning objectives covered in both the traditional lecture-based instruction and micro-lecture segments.

**Data Collection:** Data collection was conducted in two phases: pretest and posttest. Before exposure to micro-lectures, participants completed a pretest to establish their baseline understanding of the course material. Subsequently, they were exposed to a series of micro-lectures on select topics within the course. Following this intervention, a posttest was administered to assess any changes in their knowledge and comprehension.

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**Data Analysis:** The collected data were subjected to statistical analysis using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). Descriptive statistics, including means and standard deviations, were used to summarize and describe the data. Paired sample t-tests were employed to compare the pretest and posttest scores, allowing for the determination of statistically significant changes in student performance after exposure to micro-lectures. The significance level was set at  $\alpha = 0.05$  to determine the statistical significance of the results.

#### **Table**

*Pretest and Posttest Score of Students*

| Student No. | Without Micro-Lectures |          | With Micro-Lectures |          |
|-------------|------------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|
|             | Pretest                | Posttest | Pretest             | Posttest |
| 1           | 100.00                 | 95.00    | 73.00               | 21.67    |
| 2           | 88.00                  | 88.33    | 51.00               | 75.00    |
| 3           | 100.00                 | 90.00    | 35.00               | 80.00    |
| 4           | 72.00                  | 70.00    | 80.00               | 90.00    |
| 5           | 86.00                  | 83.33    | 70.00               | 95.00    |
| 6           | 54.00                  | 88.33    | 53.00               | 76.67    |
| 7           | 47.00                  | 43.33    | 61.00               | 100.00   |
| 8           | 45.00                  | 95.00    | 85.00               | 100.00   |
| 9           | 88.00                  | 100.00   | 75.00               | 100.00   |
| 10          | 88.00                  | 95.00    | 90.00               | 100.00   |
| 11          | 70.00                  | 95.00    | 13.00               | 60.00    |
| 12          | 76.00                  | 83.33    | 47.00               | 43.33    |
| 13          | 33.00                  | 21.67    | 75.00               | 100.00   |
| 14          | 88.00                  | 73.33    | 45.00               | 95.00    |

|    |       |        |        |        |
|----|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| 15 | 88.00 | 71.67  | 34.00  | 48.33  |
| 16 | 62.00 | 81.67  | 69.00  | 51.67  |
| 17 | 54.00 | 18.33  | 39.00  | 95.00  |
| 18 | 88.00 | 88.33  | 63.00  | 95.00  |
| 19 | 84.00 | 88.33  | 51.00  | 85.00  |
| 20 | 86.00 | 95.00  | 80.00  | 100.00 |
| 21 | 88.00 | 83.33  | 78.00  | 100.00 |
| 22 | 70.00 | 85.00  | 63.00  | 100.00 |
| 23 | 34.00 | 25.00  | 80.00  | 100.00 |
| 24 | 50.00 | 83.33  | 90.00  | 95.00  |
| 25 | 88.00 | 100.00 | 90.00  | 46.67  |
| 26 | 78.00 | 40.00  | 70.00  | 100.00 |
| 27 | 60.00 | 95.00  | 39.00  | 71.67  |
| 28 | 36.00 | 41.67  | 39.00  | 83.33  |
| 29 | 72.00 | 71.67  | 32.00  | 36.67  |
| 30 | 40.00 | 58.33  | 85.00  | 95.00  |
| 31 | 88.00 | 95.00  | 67.00  | 43.33  |
| 32 | 60.00 | 58.33  | 59.00  | 41.67  |
| 33 | 90.00 | 46.67  | 100.00 | 83.33  |
| 34 | 88.00 | 85.00  | 75.00  | 100.00 |
| 35 | 76.00 | 76.67  | 90.00  | 46.67  |

**Table**

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One-Way ANOVA: Comparison of Pretest Post Test Numbers Without Micro-Lectures

| <b>Without Micro-Lectures</b> | <b>Sum of Squares</b> | <b>df</b> | <b>Mean Square</b> | <b>F</b> | <b>Sig.</b> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------|----------|-------------|
| Between Groups                | 28498.314             | 16        | 1781.145           | 7.236    | .000        |
| Within Groups                 | 4430.429              | 18        | 246.135            |          |             |
| Total                         | 32928.743             | 34        |                    |          |             |

*\*P < .05 Level of Significance*

There was a statistically significant difference between group means as determined by One-Way ANOVA ( $F(16, 18) = 7.236, P < 0.05$ ). This shows that there is a significant difference in the opinion of the respondents based on the comparison of pretest and posttest numbers without micro-lectures.

#### **Table**

One-Way ANOVA: Comparison of Pretest Post Test Numbers with Micro-Lectures

| <b>With Micro-Lectures</b> | <b>Sum of Squares</b> | <b>df</b> | <b>Mean Square</b> | <b>F</b> | <b>Sig.</b> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------|----------|-------------|
| Between Groups             | 13278.490             | 17        | 781.088            | 2.816    | .022        |
| Within Groups              | 4438.245              | 16        | 277.390            |          |             |
| Total                      | 17716.735             | 33        |                    |          |             |

*\*P < .05 Level of Significance*

There was a statistically significant difference between group means as determined by One-Way ANOVA ( $F(17, 16) = 2.816, P < 0.05$ ). This shows that there is a significant difference in the opinion of the respondents based on the comparison of pretest and posttest numbers with micro-lectures.

#### **Findings**

The findings of this study contribute valuable insights into the effectiveness of micro-lectures as a teaching tool in college-level math courses. Employing a pretest-posttest design, the research aimed to assess changes in student performance and outcomes when exposed to micro-lectures compared to traditional lecture-based instruction.

The analysis of pretest and posttest scores revealed that both instructional approaches had a significant impact on student learning outcomes. Students exhibited improvements in their understanding of mathematical concepts and their ability to apply them, regardless of whether they received instruction through traditional lectures or micro-lectures. These results underline the effectiveness of both methods in facilitating learning in college math courses.

However, it is essential to note that the study did not delve into the depth of these improvements or the potential nuances between the two teaching methods. Further investigation is necessary to determine whether one approach significantly outperforms the other or if their impact is comparable in different aspects of mathematical learning. Additionally, while the study demonstrated short-term improvements, future research should explore the long-term retention of knowledge and the transferability of skills acquired through micro-lectures into subsequent math courses or practical applications.

## **Discussion**

The findings of this study prompt a meaningful discussion on the use of micro-lectures in college-level math education. The statistically significant improvements in student learning outcomes following exposure to micro-lectures suggest that this teaching tool holds promise for enhancing math education. Micro-lectures, with their concise and focused delivery of content, align well with the reduced attention spans of today's students, mitigating cognitive overload and promoting engagement (Koul & Nayar, 2021).

Nevertheless, it is important to acknowledge that the study's findings do not indicate a clear superiority of micro-lectures over traditional lectures. Both approaches were effective in improving student understanding and application of mathematical concepts. Thus, educators have flexibility in choosing the



method that aligns best with their teaching styles and institutional resources(Mystakidis et al., 2021).

The study's limitations, such as the sample size and the focus on short-term outcomes, underscore the need for further research in this area. Future investigations should explore the depth of improvements, the sustainability of learning gains over time, and the qualitative aspects of the student experience, including their engagement levels and preferences regarding micro-lectures (Mpungose, 2020).

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, this study provides evidence that micro-lectures are an effective teaching tool for college-level math courses. Both micro-lectures and traditional lectures yielded statistically significant improvements in student learning outcomes. However, this research represents just the tip of the iceberg in understanding the potential of micro-lectures in math education. There is a need for more comprehensive studies to explore the nuances, long-term impact, and qualitative dimensions of this innovative teaching approach.

## **Recommendations**

Based on the findings and discussions, several recommendations emerge:

1. **Further Research:** To gain a deeper understanding of the comparative effectiveness of micro-lectures and traditional lectures in college math courses, more extensive and longitudinal studies are needed. These studies should delve into the depth of improvements and investigate whether the benefits of micro-lectures endure over time.
2. **Qualitative Insights:** Incorporate qualitative research methods, such as surveys and interviews, to gather students' perceptions, engagement levels, and preferences regarding micro-lectures. This qualitative data will provide a more holistic view of the student experience.
3. **Faculty Development:** Institutions should invest in faculty development programs to equip educators with the skills and knowledge required for

- creating and delivering effective micro-lectures. Training should cover content segmentation, active learning strategies, and technology integration.
4. **Equitable Access:** Address the technological challenges associated with micro-lectures to ensure equitable access for all students. This includes providing access to recording equipment, reliable internet connections, and digital literacy resources.
  5. **Integration and Evaluation:** Explore the integration of micro-lectures within a broader pedagogical framework that includes active learning strategies, interactive elements, and assessment methods. Continuously evaluate and refine the use of micro-lectures based on student feedback and learning outcomes.

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