

Biweekly integrated exams: providing increased structure to keep students from falling behind

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PACIFIC

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Outline

- Quick background: previous school assessment strategies
- Rationale for an increased structure for assessments
- How does it work?
- Outcomes
- Discussion
- Conclusion

Background

Accelerated 3-year program broken into trimesters

Cohort program with ~200 students per course

16-19 credit hours across 6-8 courses

Students focusing on current exam at the expense of the other courses

Rationale



High student stress
from exam burden



Unprecedented
progression issues



Study skills impacted by
COVID?



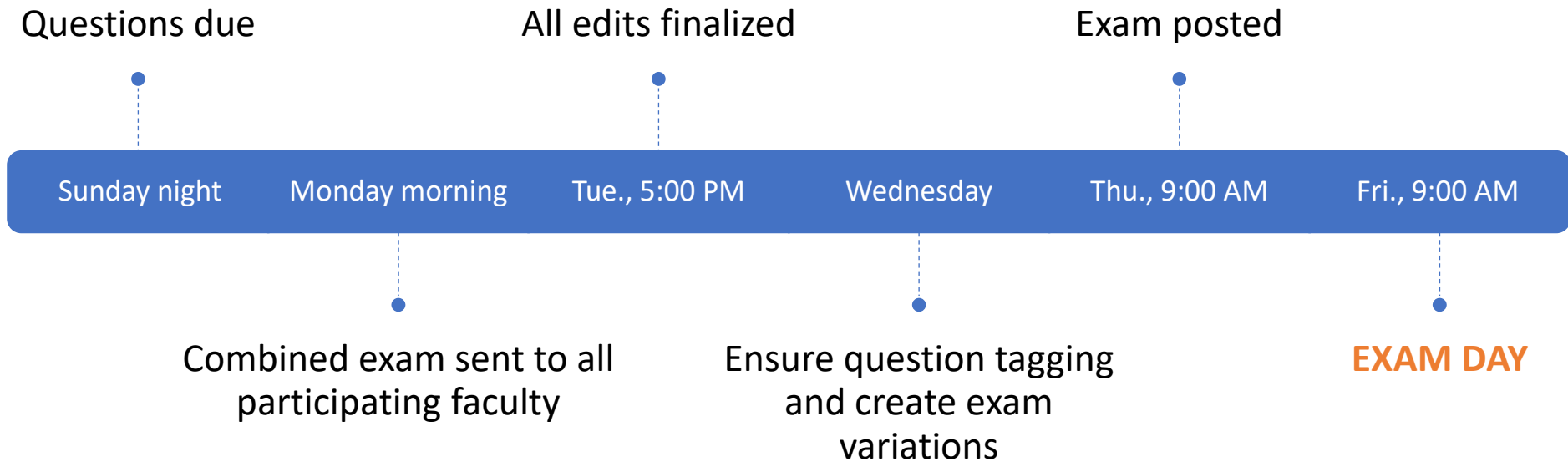
Research on high
structure course design
benefit

Basics of the ‘integrated exam’
















- Better name might be combined versus integrated
- Each course has questions in the same exam but retains autonomy over how they want to assess their material
 - **Every other Friday morning, no classes on Thurs afternoon**
- Student grade in a course comes only from the questions for that course
- *Amount of time* spent on assessments is divided per pre-trimester agreement of faculty participating

KEY NOTE: To work, faculty have to play together nicely 😊

Timeline



Variations

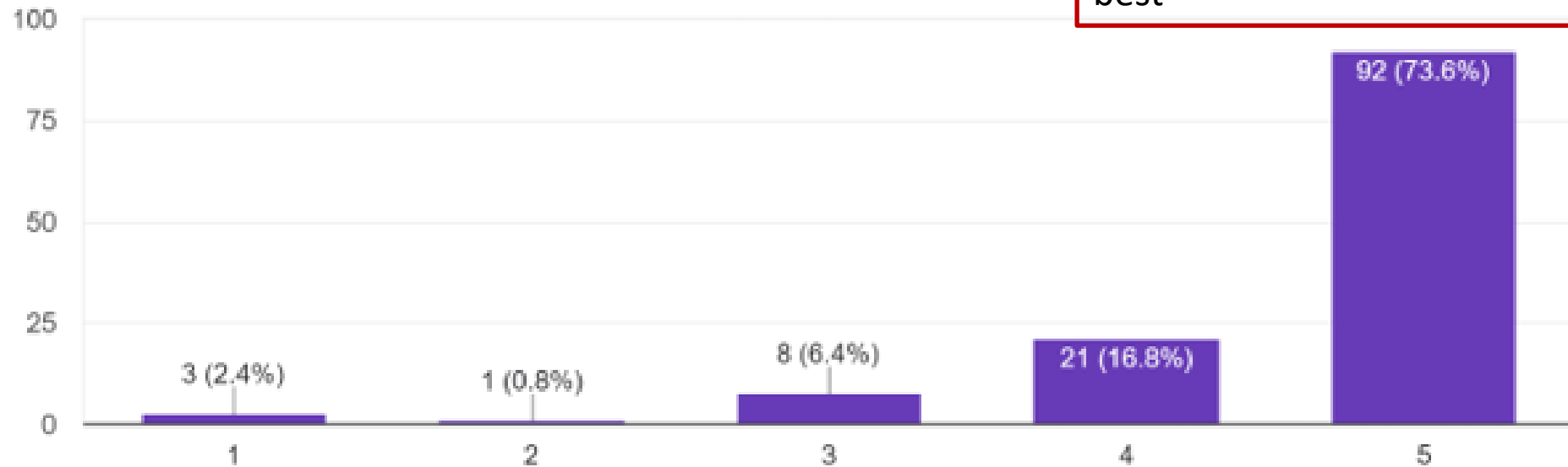
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --211 only	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --211_212	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --211_212_232	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --211_212_232_241	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --211_212_241	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --211_221_232	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --211_232	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --211_232_241	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --211_241	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --212 only	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --212_232	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --212_241	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --221 only	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --221_232_241	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Integrated exam 3 --all courses	Exam / 	2/24/23, 10:00 AM

PHAR 111 class liaison survey

How would you rate your experience with the integrated format?

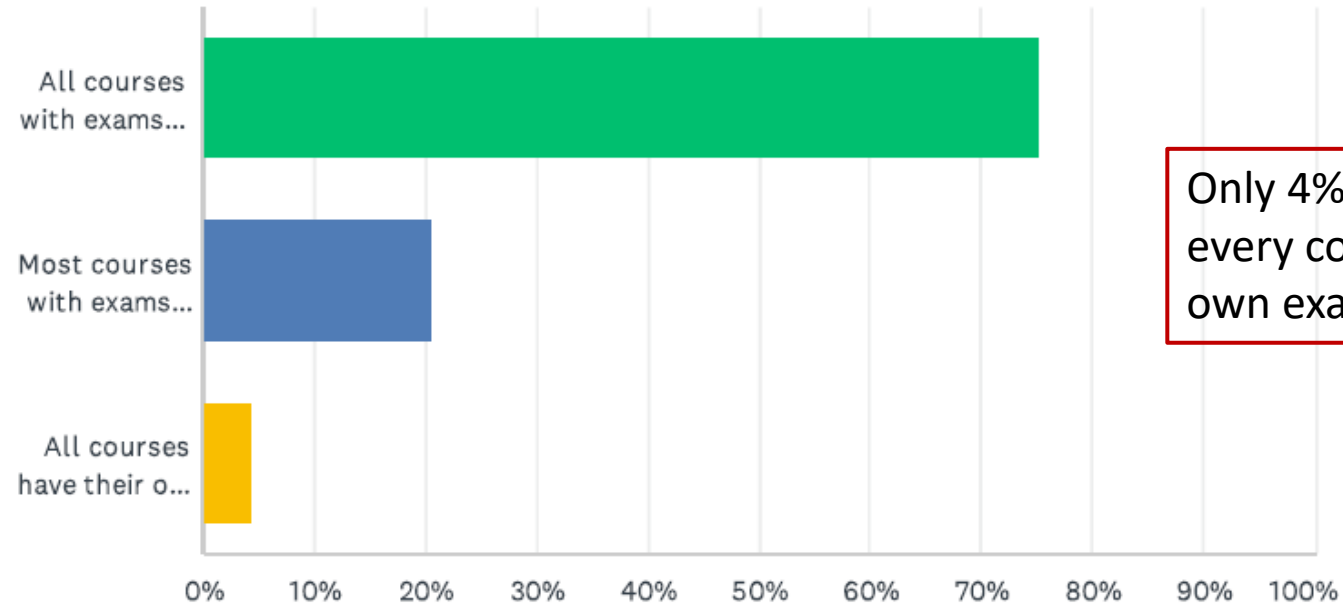
125 responses

90.4% of students rated it as a 4 or 5 with 5 being the best

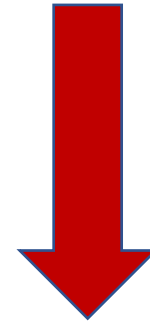


Q1 Regarding exams, which of the following would you prefer?

Answered: 162 Skipped: 1



Only 4% of students want every course to have their own exam



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
All courses with exams participate in an integrated exam	75.31%	122
Most courses with exams participate in integrated exam with 1 or 2 courses having their own exams	20.37%	33
All courses have their own exams	4.32%	7
TOTAL		162

Discussion

- Number of students moving 'off track' reduced by 40%
- Requires extensive discussion among participating faculty
 - Pre-term: Agree on time, exam conditions, create P&P
 - During term: Collegiality/willingness to 'assist'
- High level of centralization needed for success



Thank You.

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