The economics of cost cutting paired with increased enrollment requires doing more with less. Traditionally our students have taken 45-60 hrs of lecture based remedial arithmetic. The Accelerated WARMUPS (Workshop Approach to Remedial Mathematics Using Problem Solving) program is 20 hrs of students spending almost the entire time solving problems encompassing the entire curriculum. This immediately engages students in the problem solving process they will need in college level math.

A recent semester’s statistics indicate this program is successful. The pass rate, determined by a standardized test, of the traditional course was 38% with 30% withdrawal. The WARMUPS had a pass rate of 62% with only 20% withdrawal. The available data also indicate that students enrolled in WARMUPS may have a slightly higher success in the remedial algebra class that follows than those in the traditional class.

Since these classes meet only 20 hours, we offer 3 sessions per semester. One instructor can teach 60 students rather than 28.

I will explain the logistics and support needed for this model and indicate future directions for improvement.

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