

Review of: "The Positive Impact of Dropping the Lowest Test Score on Academic Performance and Stress Levels in MathBased Graduate Courses"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

An interesting and relevant body of work.

Abstract: The background information should be focused and succinct to create room for more details on the methodology.

Introduction: This section needs to be more fluid and ideas relevant to the topic. The paragraphs should focus on a single theme and provide the necessary details. eg paragraph 2 ends with a sentence which requires further information and link to the study, otherwise it should be removed. It is unclear why the 4th paragraph stands alone.

The author casually mentions seeking the opinion of students prior to the study; this process should be described in the methods.

The author has not tested or presented results to prove or disprove hypothesis II.

Methods: How were the samples selected? did every student participate enrolled for the course participate? if not, provide reasons.

More information should be provided in the data analysis section

Ethical issues- If the scores presented were used for the actual assessment of the student, what ethical issues may be associated with this?

The selection and consent process should be discussed earlier in the methods and results.

Results: Provide mean scores for each student group and perform ANOVA.

The authors did not present any results concerning stress level of students.

The students were exposed to different examination questions, it is difficult to compare their performances. The authors need to consider and discuss other factors that might have influenced the performances. E.g There was no information about students demographics, prior education.

Discussion: Needs to be more focused and balanced. Are there any negative consequences of dropping lowest scores?

