

WHAT'S YOUR CARROT?

Results of AMATYC Workshop Discussion 11/13/03

Carrots that directly affect grades:

1. Bonus questions on test coming from previous tests (2-10 points, no partial credit) benefit – continuous review
2. Error Analysis/Problem Corrections due 1 week after exam is returned – extra points on overall grade benefit – forces students to correct their errors
3. Test Corrections – no comments on original test – comments on corrections – $\frac{1}{4}$ of points given back problem – greater reward for students who did poorly
4. Bonus problem on test that is harder than required material
5. Class points for problems completed at end of class
6. Take home study guide – 5 points to bring it in but can't use it during the test.

Carrots that do no directly affect grades:

1. Personal recognition
2. Safe environment
3. Group Work
4. Have students present problems to the class
5. Review Sheets

Pros of offering carrots:

1. Student evaluations improve
2. Entry level students need them
3. Helps retention yet still give the grade deserved
4. Encourages students to feel better about themselves
5. Motivation is our responsibility
6. Life is not cut and dry – gives students a second chance

Cons of offering carrots:

1. Students may pass class without the proper ability
2. We are not teaching accountability
3. We are not properly preparing students for career / 4 year college
4. Extra work for instructor
5. Grade Inflation