

## ***Math Anxiety in Community College Students***

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### ***Abstract***

The current work provides the first synthesis of the mathematics attitudes of two-year community college students. A meta-analysis across four previously unreported two-year community college samples revealed that (a) overall, students reported moderate to high levels of math anxiety (defined as a fear or apprehension about mathematics) and (b) women consistently reported having higher levels of math anxiety than men. An in-depth investigation of one of the four samples revealed that the higher women's (but not men's) beginning-of-term, the lower their final mathematics course grades. Possible explanations for this finding are discussed. Moreover, the importance of addressing both mathematics attitudes and mathematics content to enhance success in developmental mathematics classes is explored.

*Keywords:* math anxiety, community college students, human sex differences, emotional regulation



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