



The Math/Stats Colloquium
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
San José State University



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*College Algebra Students’
Perceptions of Exam Errors and
the Problem-Solving Process*

WED MAR 20, 2024, MH320

Abstract: The first two years of college play a key role in retaining STEM majors and support is often needed to improve students’ study skills, especially in first year math classes. Studying the impact of metacognitive instruction for College Algebra students, we found that students often attributed their exam errors to “simple mistakes” while we identified many of these mistakes as “not simple”. As part of our analysis, we looked at students’ perceptions of their mistakes in the context of problem-solving. In this talk I will share students’ perceptions of their exam mistakes, as well as the relationship between students’ categorizations of their errors and the problem-solving phase in which the errors occurred. I will also address implications for teaching.

Background: No background required.

About the speaker: Linda Burks received her Ph.D. from U. Michigan and is currently a lecturer at Santa Clara Univ., where she directs the math learning center. Her work focuses on helping all students have a smooth transition from high school to university mathematics.

SNACKS IN MACQUARRIE HALL 331B AT 2:40PM

TALK STARTS AT 3:00PM

For more information, see our full schedule at:

<http://www.timhsu.net/colloq/>