# STUDENT REGISTRATION ADD/DROP BEFORE CLASS BEGINS STUDENT REGISTRATION HABITS

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## ABSTRACT

The offering of classes and registration of students occurs each semester. One of the ongoing problems is getting enough students to register for a class to avoid canceling the class.

Metropolitan State University uses the BlackBoard Learn platform for online classes and it can be used to support on campus lecture classes.

When a student registers for a class supported by Blackboard, his/her name and other information is loaded into the register of the appropriate BlackBoard class.

Interestingly, if/when a student drops the class, the name and other information, including the university email address, remains in BlackBoard although it is dropped from the official university registration list. This data is available so long as the BlackBoard course remains in the system. Therefore, we can get a student email list for both current and former students who registered for the course and dropped before the course began.

Inspection of the BlackBoard register shows that many students register for the class and then drop it before the class begins. In some cases, the number of students who have registered and dropped before the class begins equals or exceeds the number of students who ended up taking the course.

It would be interesting and useful to determine the reasons behind such registration/drop behavior. This might be useful for the scheduling of classes in the future.

To obtain the data for this study, an email will be sent for students to reply with the reason for dropping the class. This will be sent to currently active classes. These responses will be used to develop an anonymous survey instrument. The current and previous semester students can then be requested via an email to take the anonymous survey.

Hopefully the results of the survey will allow us to develop some processes and procedures that will allow us to more accurately target students, reducing the number of drops and increasing the reliability of early registration numbers.