

Flipped learning and basic psychological need satisfaction in engineering mathematics

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Flipped learning research in TUNI

Research on flipped learning in Tampere University focuses currently on technical areas and is conducted in collaboration with two research teams.

- **First research team** consists of two research groups: [Technology-Enhanced Mathematics Teaching Research Group, TTMOT](#) and [Professional Growth and Learning Research Group, PGL](#).
 - **Study 1** investigates engineering higher education **students'** trait and state level characteristics (e.g., goal orientations) and study success in traditional and flipped teaching engineering mathematics courses.
 - 2019-2020: Higher education students on four subsequent engineering mathematics courses. (**completed**)
 - 2020-2021: Higher education students on four subsequent engineering mathematics courses. (**on-going**)
- **Second research team** consists of researchers from [University of Eastern Finland](#) and [University of Turku](#).
 - **Study 2** focuses on engineering higher education **students'** motivation, study and self-regulation skills, and **teachers'** teaching experiences in flipped and non-flipped engineering courses.
 - 2019-2020: Physics, materials science and computer science students and teachers. (**completed**)
 - 2020-2021: Physics, chemistry, architecture, automation and engineering mathematics students and teachers. (**on-going**)

Flipped learning research in TUNI

	2019 – 2020 (completed)				2020 – 2021 (ongoing)				2021 – 2022 (future)			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Study 1: MathFlip	MAT	Insinöörimatemat. perusteet IMA1			Insinöörimatemat. perusteet IMP			Insinöörimatematiikan perusteet IMP				
		Vektorit ja matriisit IMA2			Vektorit ja matriisit VM			Vektorit ja matriisit VM				
		Differentiaali- ja integraalilaskenta IMA3			Differentiaali- ja integraalilaskenta DIL			Differentiaali- ja integraalilaskenta DIL				
		Johdatus tod.näk. ja til. päättelyyn IMA5			Johdatus tod.näk. ja til. päättelyyn JTT			Johdatus tod.näk. ja til. päättelyyn JTT				
Study 2	FYS	Laaja fysiikka 3			Yliopistofysiikka 3							
		Physics 3			Laaja fysiikka 4							
					Physics 4							
Study 2	TIE	Psychology of Human-Technology Interaction						Principles of Programming Languages				
Study 2		MOL Materiaaliopin perusteet 1			KEB Orgaaninen kemia			DEE Sähkömagnetiikka				
		MOL Materiaaliopin perusteet 2			KEB Ympäristötekniikan perusteet							
					ARK Rakennetun kulttuuriymp. selvitykset							
					MAT Kompleksimuuttujan funktiot							
Study 2					MEI Mallinnus ja dokumentointi							
					Automaatio							

MathFlip

Eight month longitudinal study (08/2019 – 04/2020) focused on first year university students' ($N = 405$) characteristics, learning experiences and outcomes during four engineering mathematics courses that were implemented with traditional ($n = 216$; lectures, exercises) and flipped ($n = 189$; no lectures, but self-study and small group meetings) teaching.

Goal of the research was to learn **if the pedagogical implementation (Trad/Flip) is related to the development of students' 1) mathematical skills, 2) approaches to learning, 3) goal orientations, 4) self-efficacy, 5) basic psychological need satisfaction and 6) emotions.**

Quasi-experimental within and between subjects design contained repeated self-assessments (survey, interview, diary) and objective (math exam score, electrodermal activity) measurements.

The study was conducted in collaboration with two research groups:

- **Technology-Enhanced Mathematics Teaching (TTMOT)** <https://research.tuni.fi/ttmot/tutkimusryhma>
 - Terhi Kaarakka, Simo Ali-Löytty, Jani Hirvonen, Riikka Kangaslampi, Johanna Rämö, Elina Viro
- **Professional Growth and Learning (PGL)** <https://research.tuni.fi/pglresearch>
 - Petri Nokelainen, Susanna Hartikainen, Essi Saario, Jenni Piirto, Ilmari Puhakka, Eija Lehtonen, Tiia Lehtinen

MathFlip – Flipped learning implementation

The flipped model involved a weekly two-hour primetime session (cf. Koskinen et al., 2018) and a two-hour problem session.

- Students were divided into groups of approximately eight students, and they worked with their groups in both the primetime and the problem sessions. There were no lectures.

Students started studying a new topic by reading the Finnish course material or English textbook and watching short video lectures.

- They worked on homework tasks, including both pen and paper tasks and digital tasks giving automatic feedback. Some of the tasks were the same as those used in the traditional implementation. Some were different, since the flipped model paid special attention to developing not only procedural skills, but also students' conceptual understanding (Hiebert & Lefevre, 1986). Students completed half of the pen and paper tasks before discussing them in problem sessions similar to those used in the traditional model; for the other half, they could use the problem sessions to ask for help.

MathFlip – Flipped learning implementation

After the problem sessions, the tasks were submitted and then self- and peer-assessed.

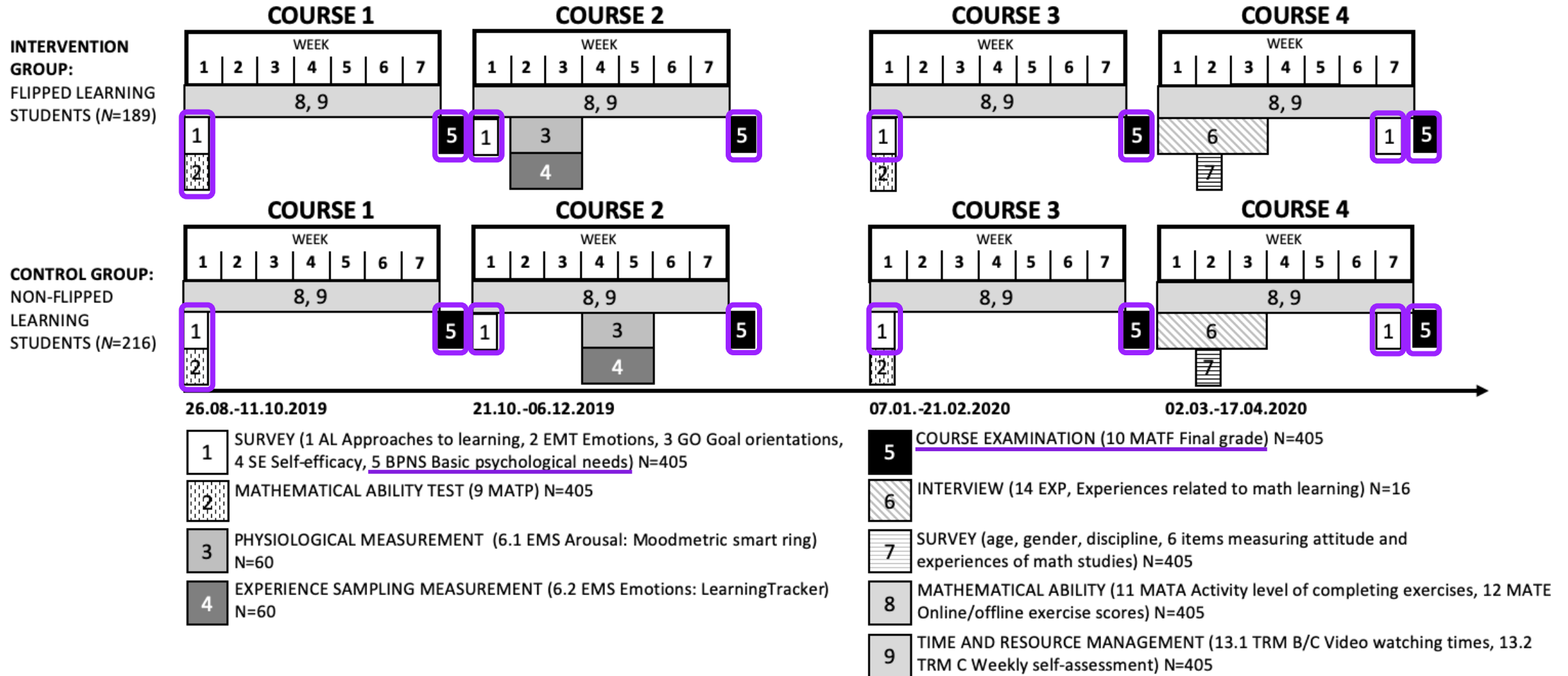
- Students also self-assessed their competencies every week using the course's learning objectives.

Finally, the students attended primetime sessions that summarized the week's topics.

- Each group had a 40-minute conversation with the teacher concerning the learning outcomes, topics they found unclear, and study skills. While the teacher was discussing with one group of students, the others worked on tasks that recapped or expanded the week's topics.

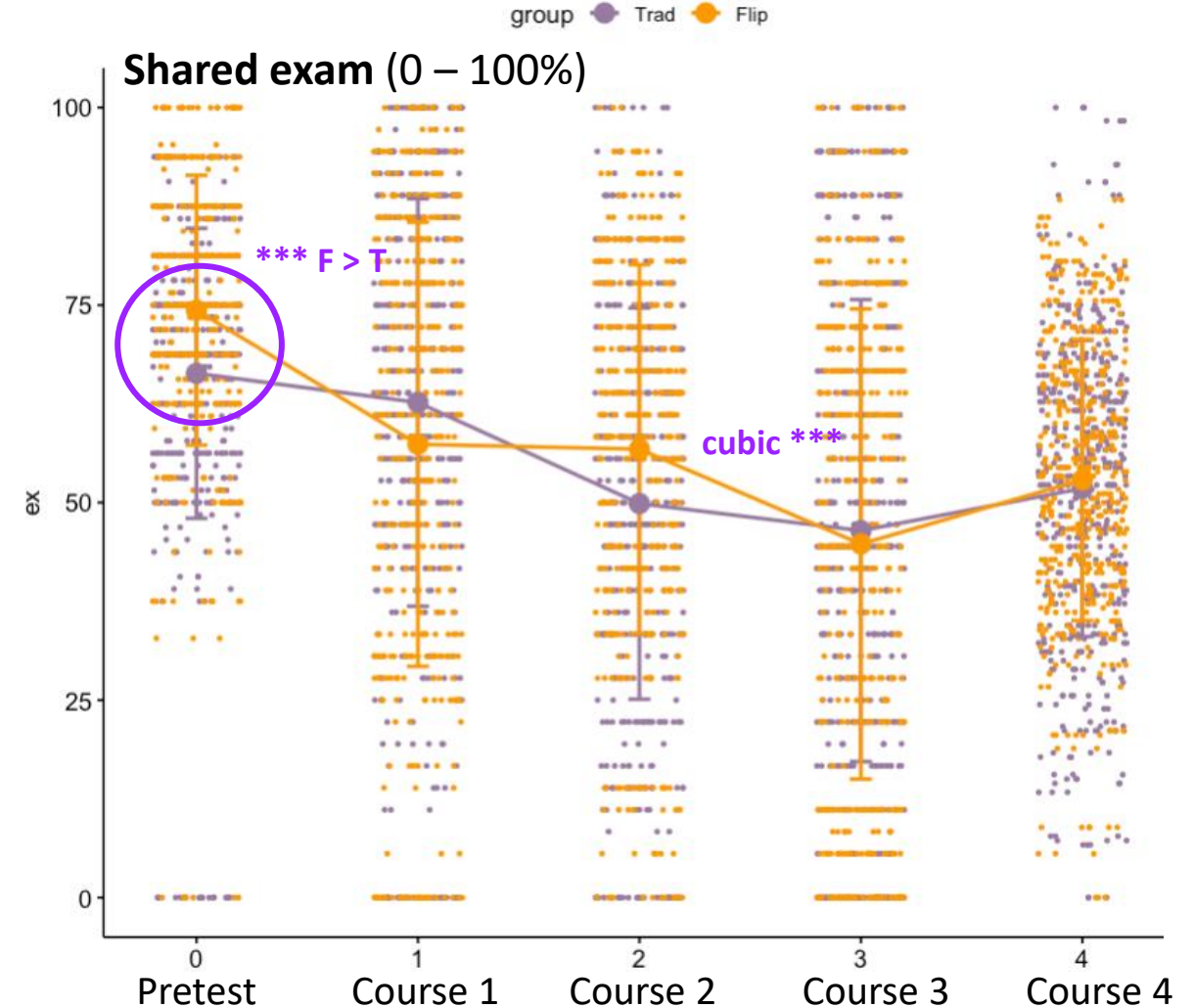
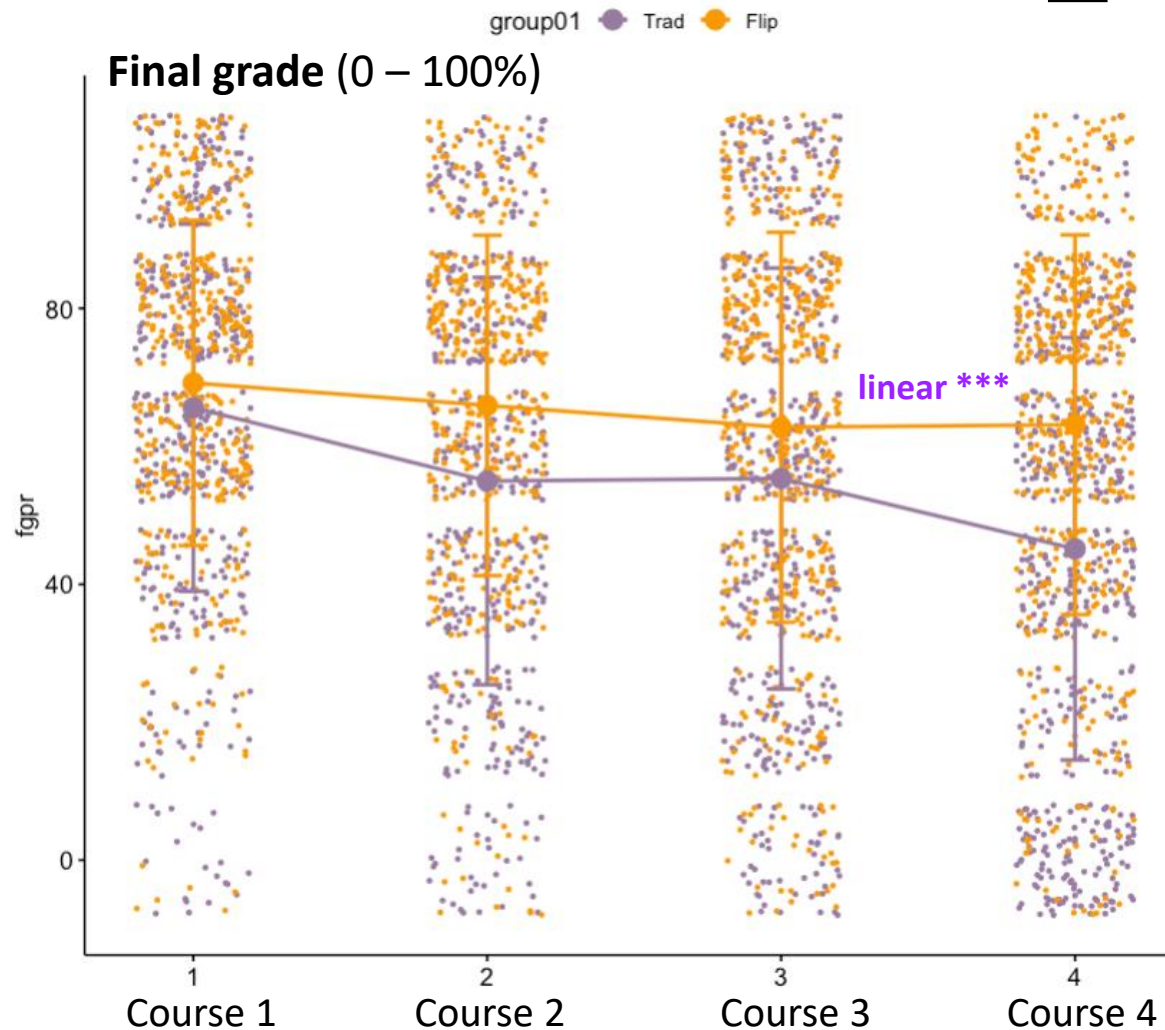
Students' grades were based on the tasks and other activities completed during the course (70%) and a final exam (30%).

MathFlip - Design



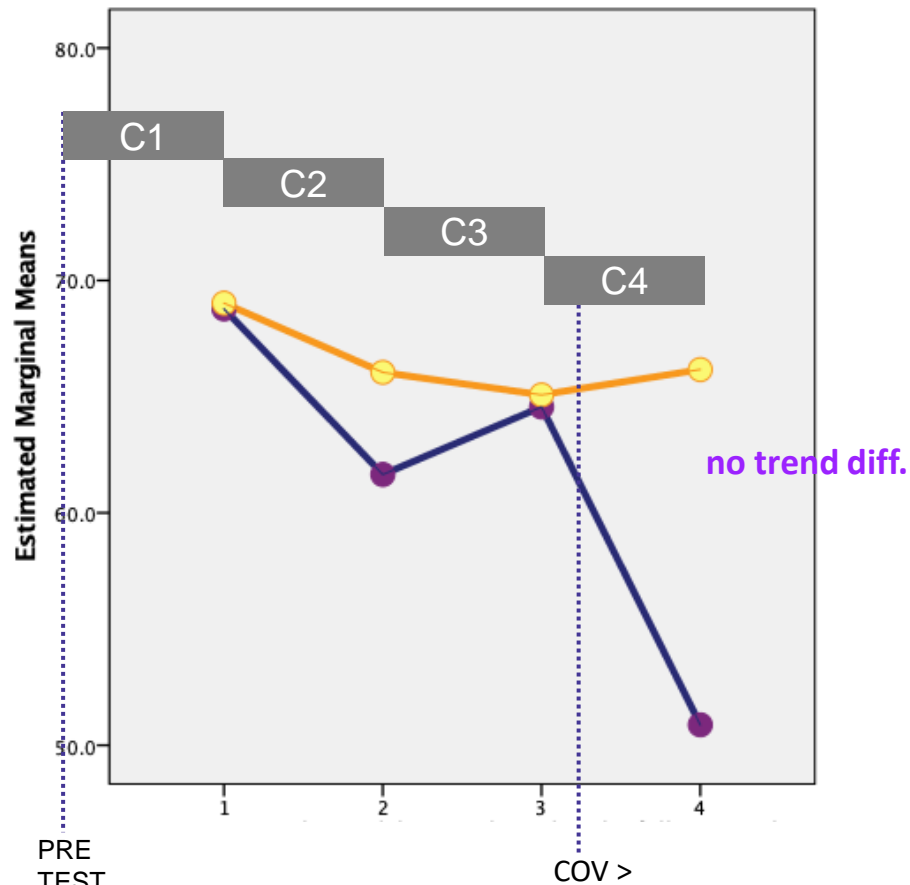
How pedagogical implementation (Trad/Flip) is related to the development of **students' mathematical skills** (final grade, shared exam score)?

Trad ($n = 216$, 53.3%)
Flip ($n = 189$, 46.7%)



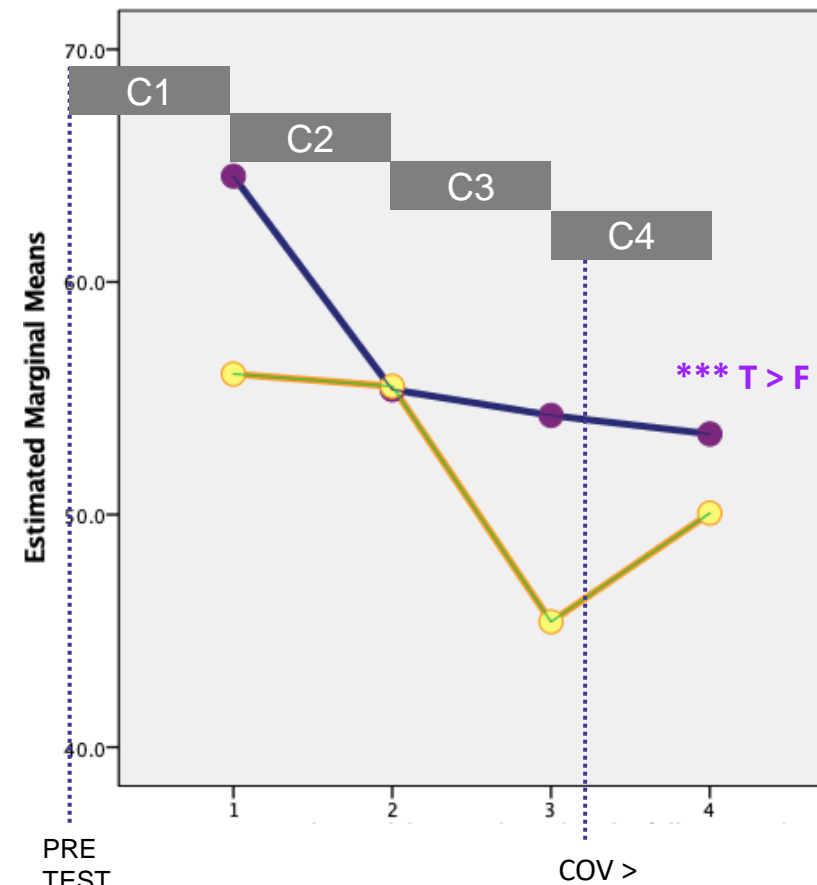
How pedagogical implementation (Trad/Flip) is related to the development of female and male students' mathematical skills (final grade, shared exam score) **after controlling for the pretest score?**

Final grade (0 – 100%)



Final grades over time controlled for the pretest score

Shared exam score (0 – 100%)

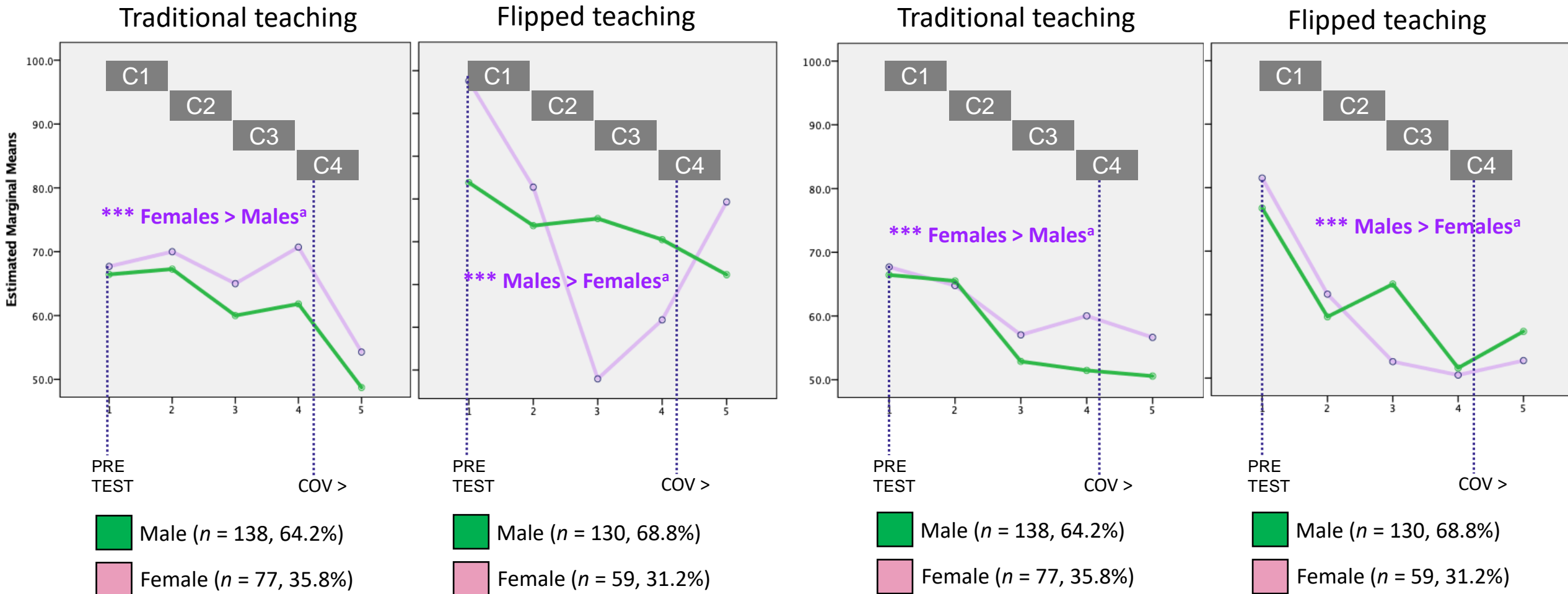


Shared exam scores over time controlled for the pretest score

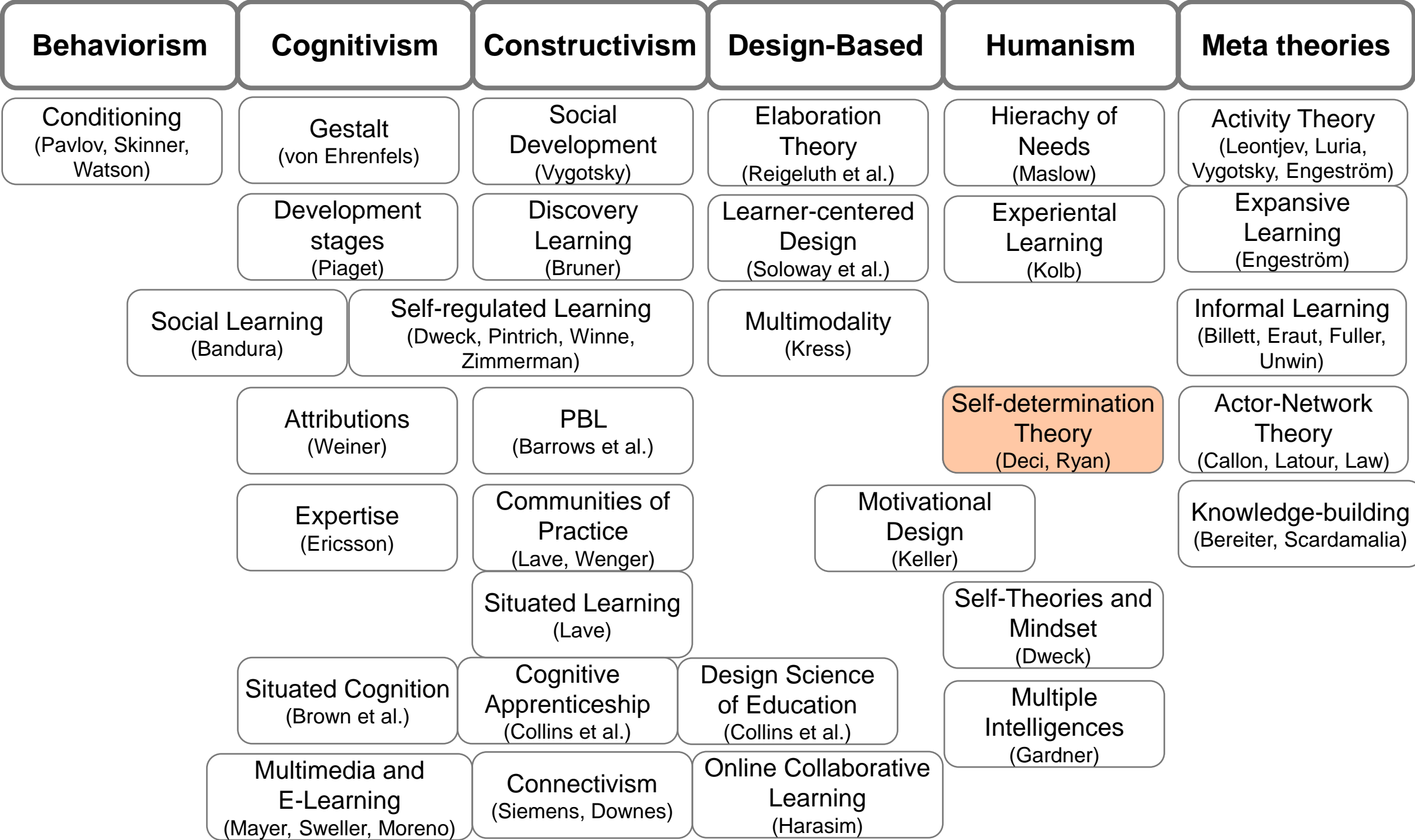
How pedagogical implementation (Trad/Flip) is related to the development of **female** and **male** students' mathematical skills (final grade, shared exam score)?

Final grade (0 – 100%)

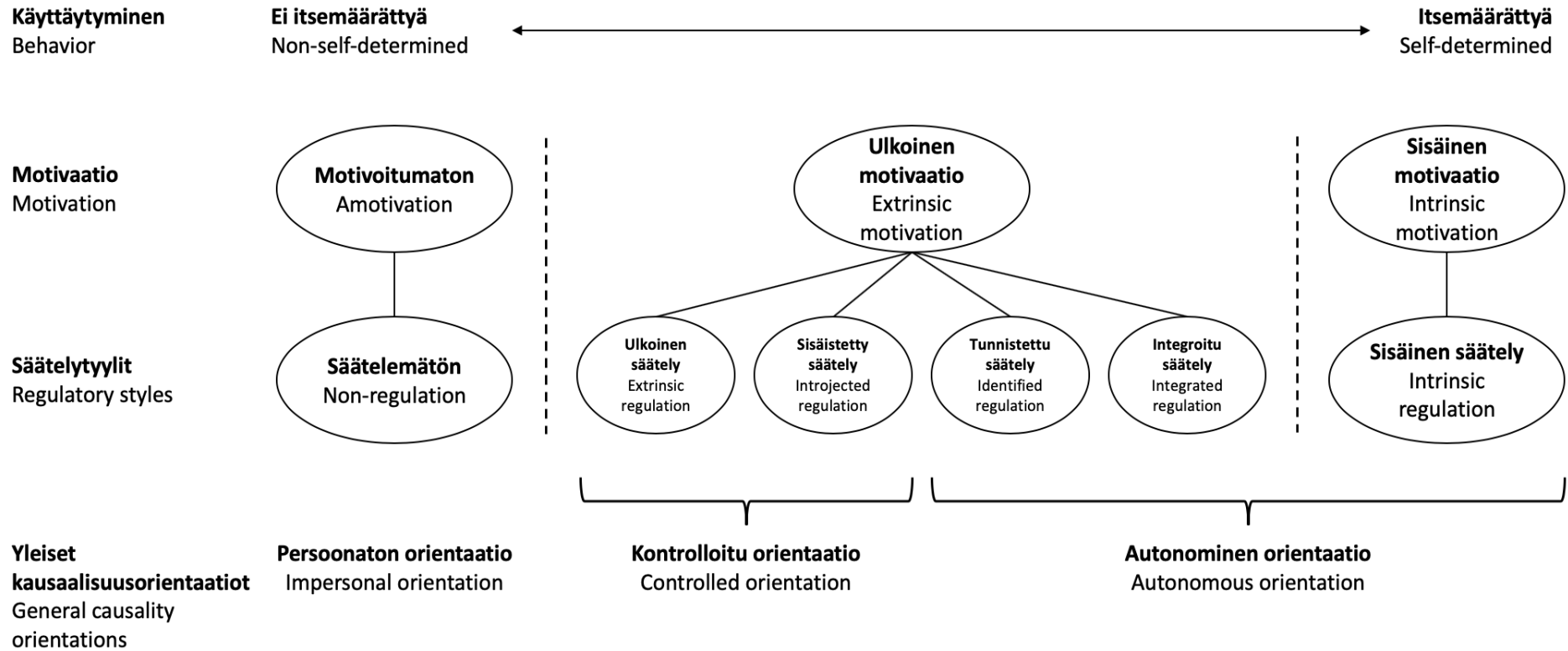
Shared exam score (0 – 100%)



^a After controlling for the pretest



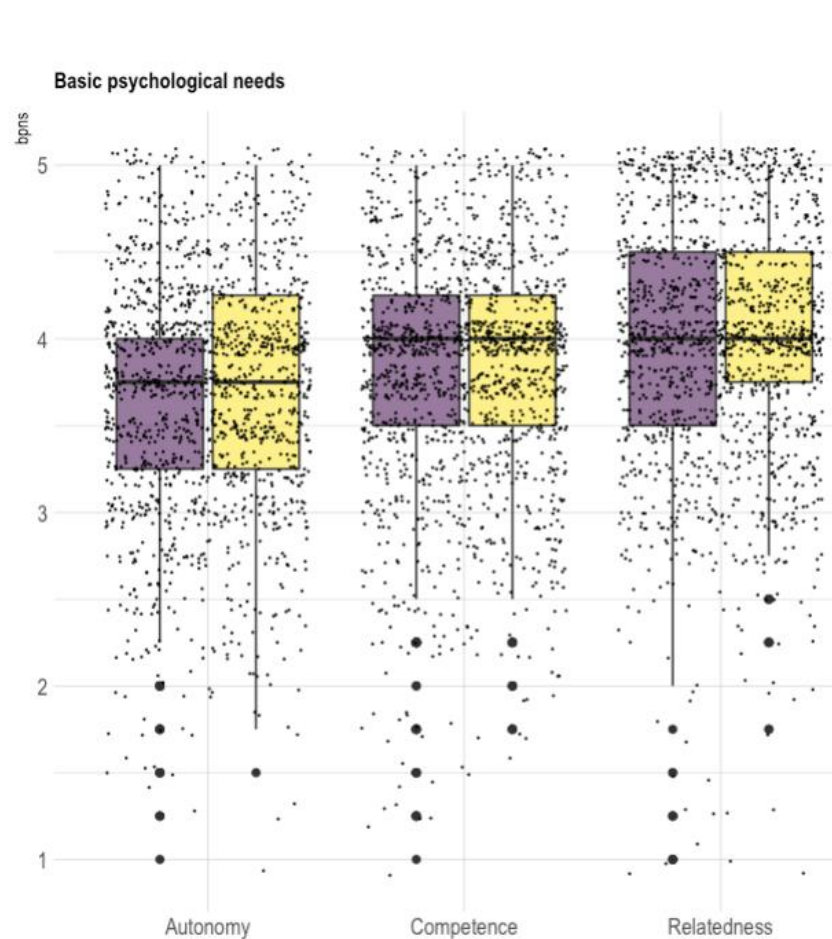
Self-determination theory



Kuvio 1. Opiskelun itseohjautuvuus autonomisen, kontrolloidun ja persoonattoman orientaation mukaan (Nokelainen, 2019, muokattu Ryan & Deci, 2000, p. 72)

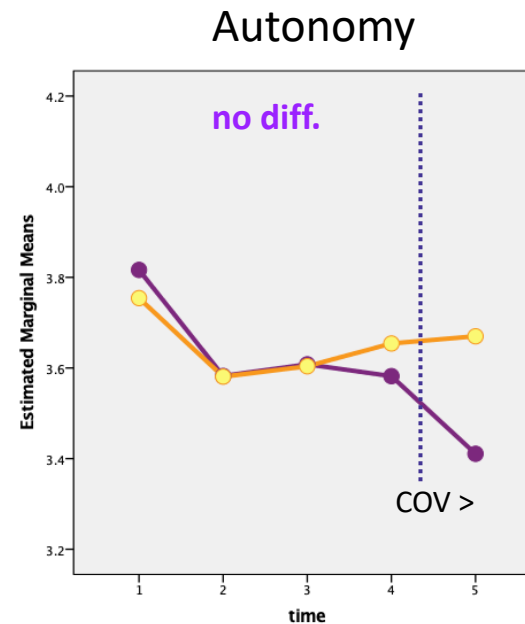
(Nokelainen, 2019, muokattu Ryan & Deci, 2017, p. 193)

How pedagogical implementation (Trad/Flip) is related to the development of students' **basic psychological need satisfaction** (autonomy, competence, relatedness)?

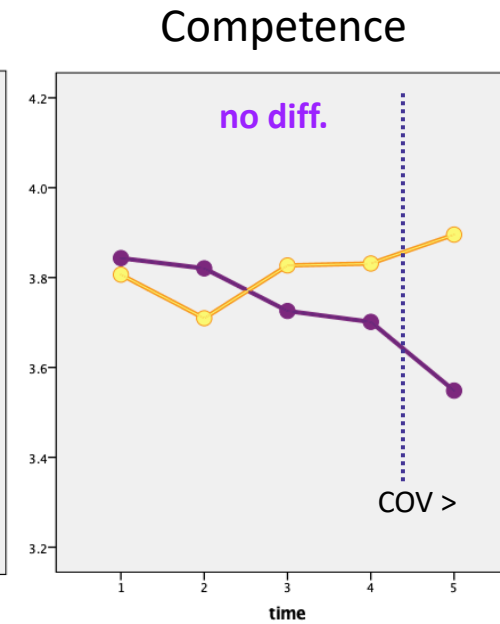


Traditional teaching group ($n = 216$)

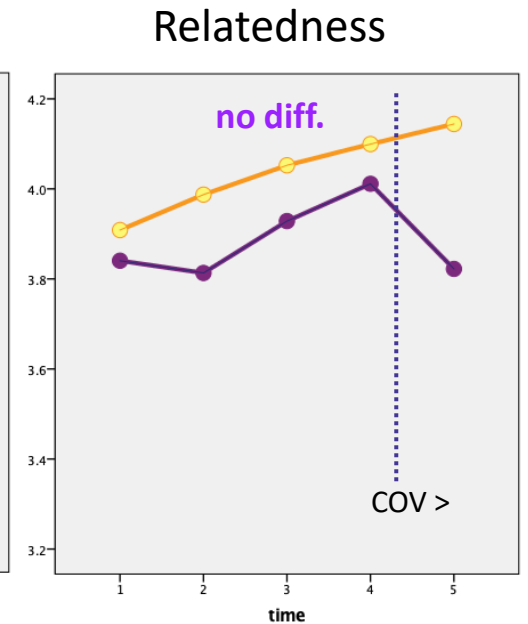
Flipped teaching group ($n = 189$)



Sample item:
"In my studies, I feel a sense of choice and freedom in the things I undertake."



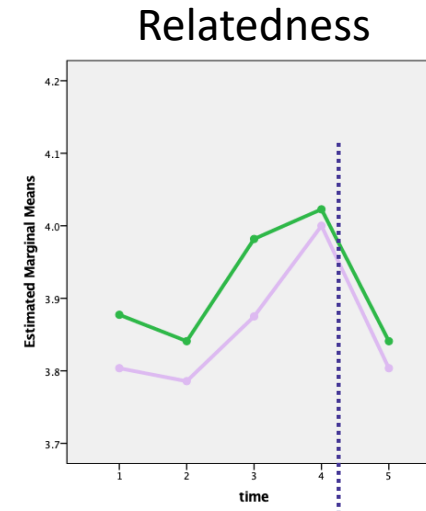
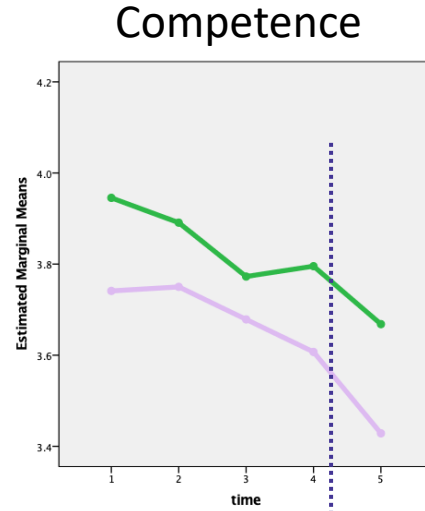
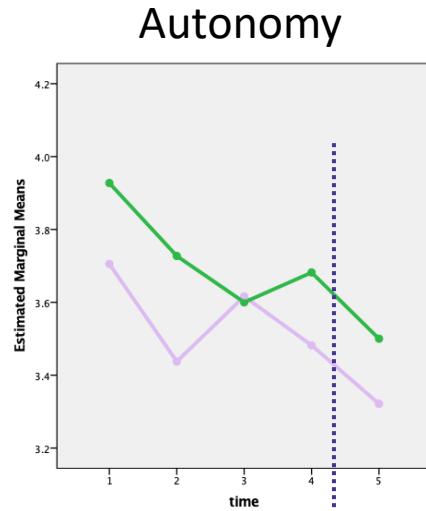
Sample item:
"I feel confident that I can do things well in my studies."



Sample item:
"I feel that the people I care at the university about also care about me."

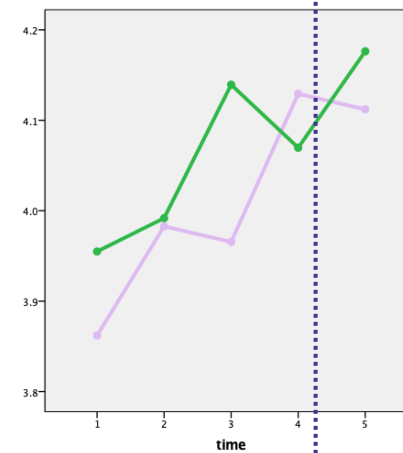
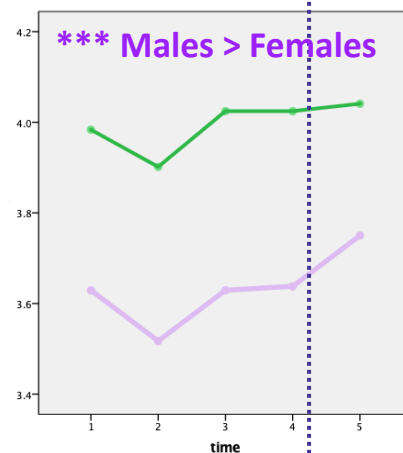
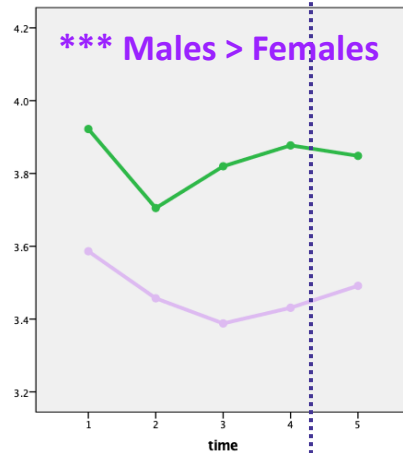
How pedagogical implementation (Trad/Flip) is related to the development of **female** and **male** students' **basic psychological need satisfaction** (autonomy, competence, relatedness)?

Traditional



Male ($n = 138$, 64.2%)
Female ($n = 77$, 35.8%)

Flipped



Male ($n = 130$, 68.8%)
Female ($n = 59$, 31.2%)

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Thank you!

MathFlip research team:

Technology-Enhanced Mathematics Teaching (TTMOT) research group

- Terhi Kaarakka, Simo Ali-Löytty, Jani Hirvonen, Riikka Kangaslampi, Johanna Rämö, Elina Viro, Vikke Vuorenpää

Professional Growth and Learning (PGL) research group

- Petri Nokelainen, Susanna Hartikainen, Essi Saario, Jenni Piirto, Ilmari Puhakka, Eija Lehtonen, Tiia Lehtinen

For more information about flipped learning research in mathematics, please contact:

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Terhi Kaarakka (terhi.kaarakka@tuni.fi) <https://research.tuni.fi/ttmot/tutkimusryhma>

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Visit also Teaching and Learning Centre: <https://www.tuni.fi/tlc>