

INFORMS FUTURE ACADEMICIAN COLLOQUIUM 2009

Panel 7: Teaching

Jeff Linderoth

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Jim Cochran



Connecting with Your Students

Jeff Linderoth



Connect!

- Connect with your students!
- Bring a camera, take their pictures, and learn their names. Find out about them.
- Students are more likely to try hard if you really care about the outcome
- Students may be less likely to cheat if you know them all
- Empathize with their plight, but also push them to achieve. They won't want to disappoint you!

Connect!

- Connect with your colleagues.
- They are a valuable source of teaching materials and ideas!
- Some of the best mentoring I've received was over a coffee or beer with fellow junior faculty
- It's even therapeutic to "vent" to a sympathetic ear about your students once in a while

Raise the Bar

- Be honest: tell the students that you will expect a lot
 - In turn, they should expect a lot from you
- When introducing difficult material to undergrads, explain beforehand why they should be learning this
 - Return to the motivation frequently
- Let them know that you're all in it together!

Tips for an Effective Syllabus

Pinar Keskinocak



Syllabus Essentials

- Basic administrative info
 - Course name, semester/year, instructor's name, contact info, TA, office hours, course page
- Course descriptions and objectives
- Course topics
 - Tentative timeline
- Textbook
- Prerequisites
- Class attendance

Syllabus Essentials

- Grading
 - Homework
 - Due dates, late assignments, collaboration, other requirements
 - Midterm and final exams
 - Dates, open/closed book/notes, make-up exams
 - Projects
 - Team evaluations
 - Other assignments?
 - Grading percentages
- Honor code
- Contract between you and students!

Engaging Students in ORMS

Jim Cochran



ENGAGING STUDENTS IN ORMS

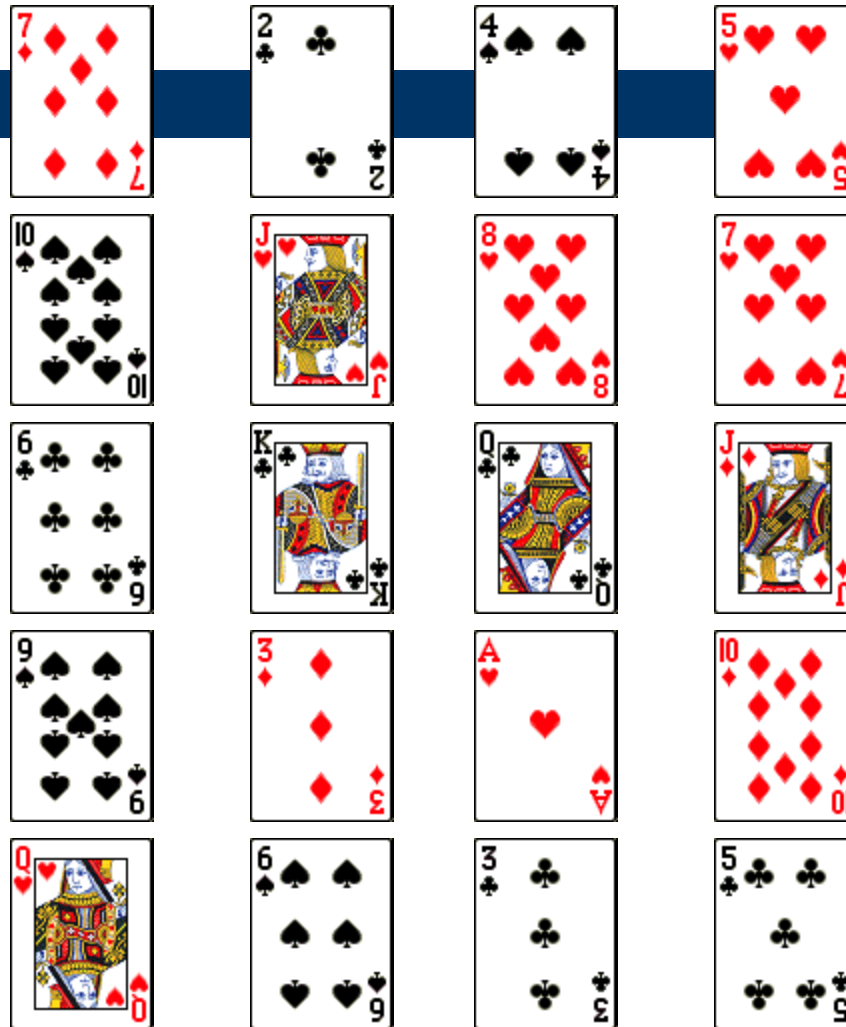
- Use various **active learning** techniques with introductory students to
 - recapture students' attention
 - emphasize critical points
 - encourage higher-order thinking
 - unify various concepts
 - smooth the transition between major areas of coverage
 - ultimately improve comprehension and retention

WHAT IS *ACTIVE LEARNING*?

Instructional strategies and activities designed to engage students through their participation in exercises that involve them in higher-order thinking tasks such as analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of course material.

A GOOD CARD TRICK

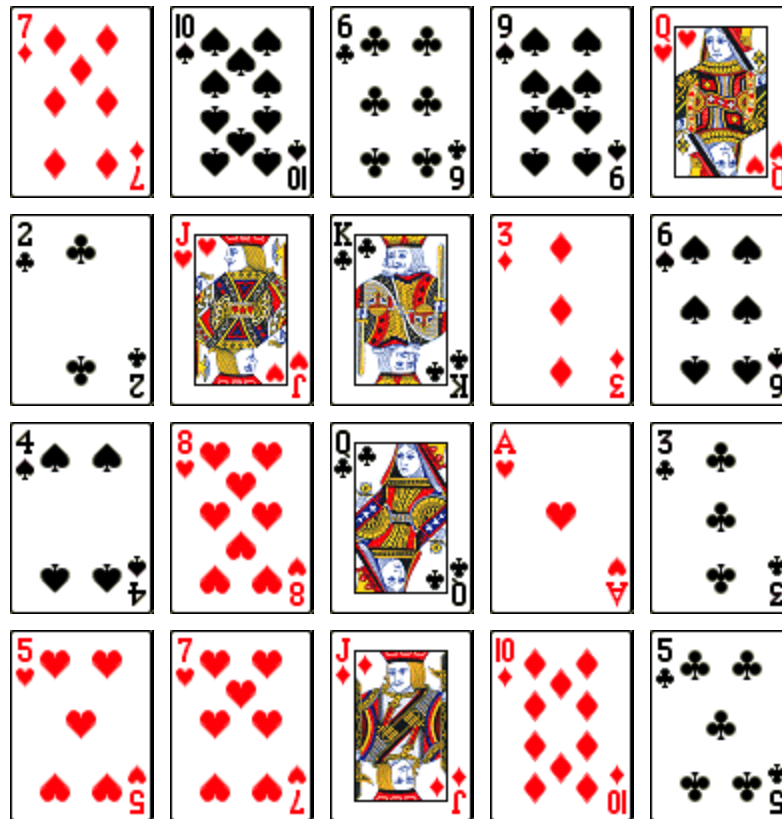
Pick a card...



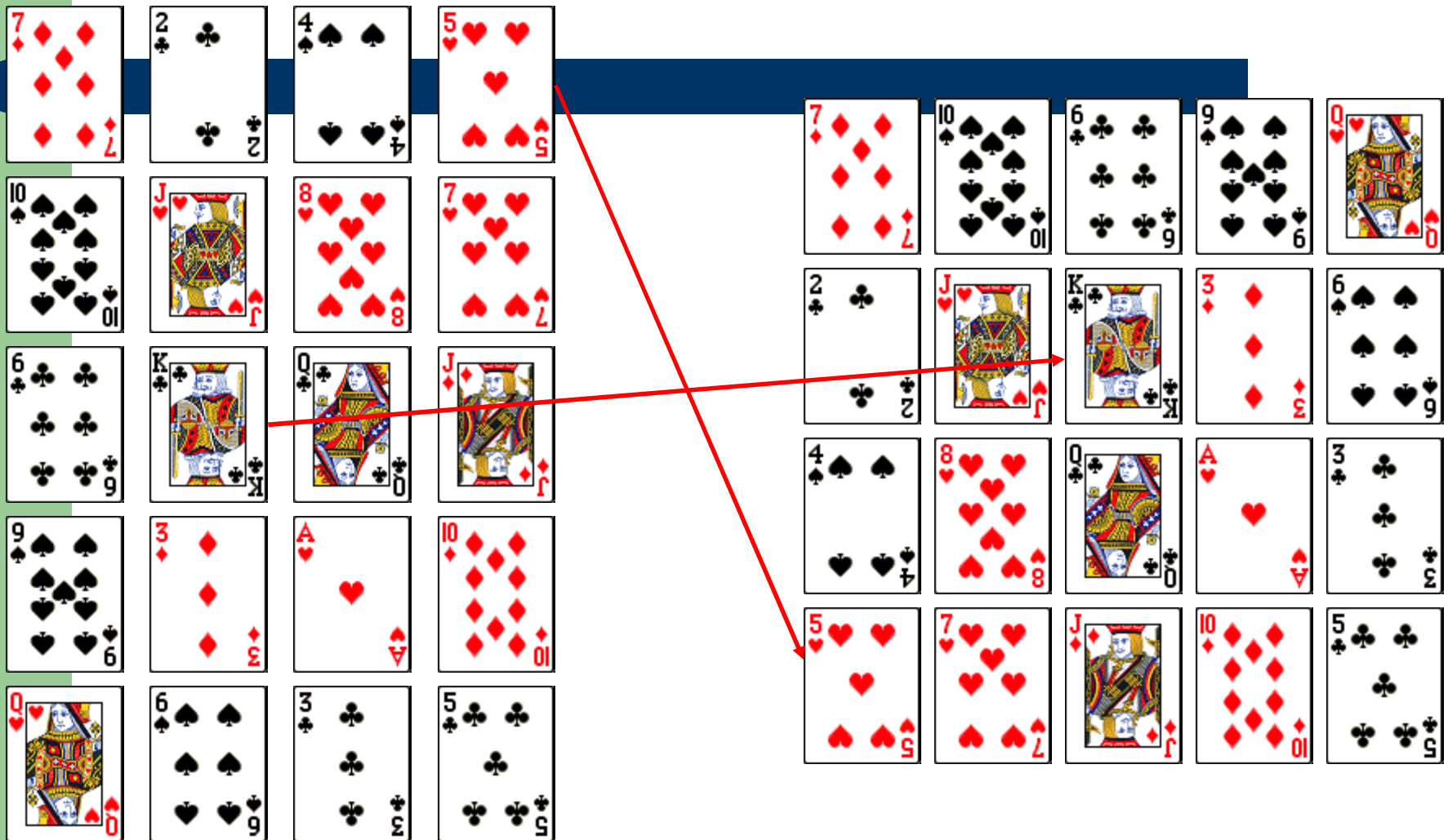
In which column is your card?

A GOOD CARD TRICK

In which column is your card now?



A GOOD CARD TRICK





HOW ABOUT A GAME SHOW?



**WHO WANTS TO BE A
MILLIONAIRE?**



Questions?

Potential Topics

- Course Design & Administration
- Creating an Effective Classroom
- The Teaching Component of your Academic Career
- Dealing with Difficult Students/Situations