

PROACTIVE REMOTE TUTORING

William C. Rouse and Kai Tillman, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jam Jenkins, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

This poster explores the potential of a remote proactive tutoring system to enhance learning and ameliorate attrition rates in introductory Computer Science courses. The system we analyze uses Java WIDE to connect students to a remote tutor, who offers help when usage statistics indicate that a student be having difficulty. This format is effective because students prefer drop in appointments to scheduled appointments, short and frequent help to long and infrequent help, tutoring at their own location instead of a central tutoring center, and online tutoring to in-person tutoring. Students seeking proactive remote tutoring learn more than those who do not, spend more time with the tutor than when the tutor waits for students to ask for help, view their learning as more comprehensive than those who do not, are less likely to quickly give up on tasks, and learn more.