

Gerald L. White  
RR #2  
Colchester, IL 62326

(309) 776-4592

Mathematics Dept.  
Western Illinois Univ  
Macomb, IL 61455

(309) 298-1383

### Testing and Evaluation

#### USING MICRO COMPUTER SUPPORT FOR A CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT PLAN IN A JTPA BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM.

An Apple IIe microcomputer system and a Scrantron 1300 Optical Card Reader were used in conjunction with CDM, a curriculum management plan, to provide immediate listings of individual weaknesses in arithmetic skills and continual updating of records of progress in mastery of objectives in a three week JTPA Basic Education Program.

Forty-two youth between sixteen and twenty years old were enrolled in a Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) Basic Skills Program in a three week residential experience at Western Illinois University. They needed to be separated into three classroom groups and spend six hours each day developing arithmetic, problem solving and calculators skills. An additional hour each day was scheduled in an Apple Computer Lab for investigations with LOGO.

A list of thirty-three objectives involving arithmetic skills were established. Stanford Diagnostic Mathematics Tests, Blue Level, were used for pre and post testing. The curriculum management system and a microcomputer made it possible to quickly form the required groups based upon objectives not yet mastered as shown by the pretest. By continually updating the data base, we were able to share with each individual a printout of the number of objectives that they had mastered. Also each instructor could be provided a matrix showing objectives mastered and not yet mastered for their group each day.

Post test scores showed the mastery of eight new objectives overall and an average increase of three years in grade level equivalences.