What are Lightweight Teams?

- Teams of students who are assigned to ‘work’ together for the whole semester
- Only a small (< 10%) portion of the students’ grade is dependent on teamwork
- Teams sit together during class
- Teams do some activities together every week

NOT a team project!
Idea & Purpose

• Help students make friends
• Make learning more social
• Encourage peer instruction
• Benefits of teams without the grade stress
Research Hypotheses

- Remove social anxiety
- Higher engagement
- Better learning outcomes
- Better retention (in major and/or in university)
- Improved verbal communication skills

37. (TeamLike) I like being part of a team and sitting with my team each week.

- Strongly Disagree (1): 0
- Disagree (2): 0
- Neutral (3): 1 (2.22 %)
- Agree (4): 23 (51.11 %)
- Strongly Agree (5): 21 (46.67 %)

Average: 4.44
Implementation in ITIS 1212

• Random groups of 5 students (gender-tweaked)
• Sit together during 3-hour weekly workshops
• Students take clicker quizzes, talk with teammates before answering every question
• Clicker quizzes show team standings
• Also do other activities as a team in class
• Moodle leaderboard shows team badge stats
• Wanted to give each team a badge when all teams members attend (but couldn’t)
Enablers, Constraints & Issues

• Fits well with flipped class model – may not work with traditional lecture model
• Works well with gamification and peer instruction clicker quizzes
• Assigned seating can cause issues (eye-sight, wheelchairs, etc)