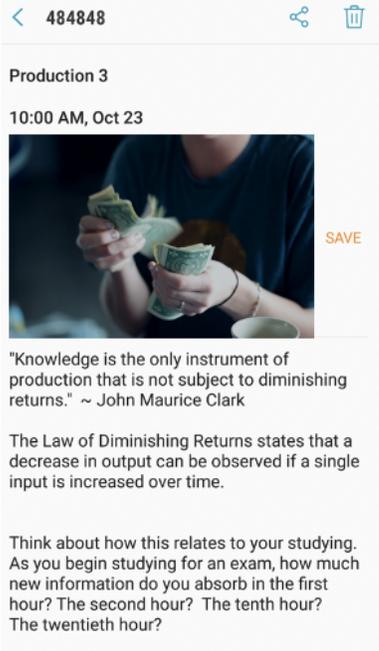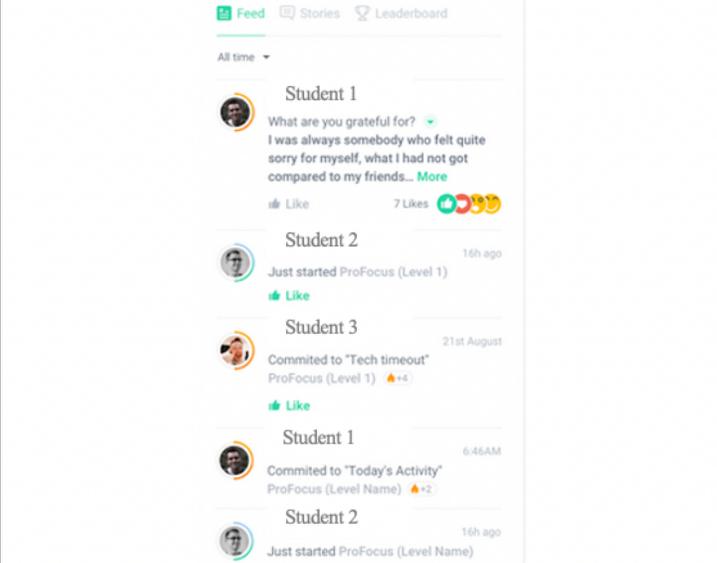# Microcommitments: The Effect of Small Commitments on Student Success

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Online Appendix
Control and Treatment Experience

Control Group	Treatment Group	
Content delivered via text message every weekday morning at 9am.	A link to the content is delivered via text message twice a day. In the morning it includes an "I commit" button and in the afternoon, it includes an "I did it" button.	
9am Text Message	**Commitment Device**	
	9am Text Message	**4pm Text Message**
	Today's Activity-Production 3: http://prohab.it/kl1sxf4	Did you do it?-Production 3: http://prohab.it/aun5hy3
	Social Feed For Accountability	

Image, "A twenty-four-year-old woman counting dollar bills", by Sharon McCutcheon.

Table 1. Variable Definitions and Descriptive Statistics By Course Type

	Definition	**Total** Mean (s.d.)	**Face-to-Face** Mean (s.d.)	**Online/Hybrid** Mean (s.d.)
Dependent Variables				
Exam After	Score on exam immediately following experiment, percentage	81.14 (13.36)	82.35 (10.91)	79.10 (16.53)
Relative Exam After	(Student Exam After Score – Class Mean Exam After)/Class Mean Exam After	0.010 (0.154)	0.010 (0.131)	0.009 (0.186)
Explanatory Variables				
Microcommitments	=1 if student was offered microcommitments with social accountability	0.532 (0.499)	0.530 (0.500)	0.535 (0.499)
Exam Before	Percentage score on exam before the experiment	85.41 (12.42)	87.15 (10.11)	82.46 (15.15)
Relative Exam Before	(Student Exam Before Score – Class Mean Exam Before)/Class Mean Exam Before	0.002 (0.138)	0.000 (0.112)	0.006 (0.174)
Prior Econ	=1 if has taken a college-level micro- or macroeconomic course in a prior semester	0.279 (0.449)	0.300 (0.459)	0.243 (0.429)
High Perform	=1 if prior GPA > 3.75 or SAT score > 1450 or ACT score > 32	0.571 (0.495)	0.777 (0.416)	0.222 (0.416)
Required	=1 if the course is required for major	0.769 (0.422)	0.748 (0.434)	0.804 (0.398)
High Study Hours	=1 if student studies at least 7 hours per week	0.095 (0.294)	0.105 (0.306)	0.079 (0.271)
Female	=1 if female	0.468 (0.499)	0.421 (0.494)	0.549 (0.498)
Nonwhite	=1 if nonwhite	0.304 (0.460)	0.212 (0.409)	0.460 (0.499)
Financial Aid	=1 if student receives financial aid	0.389 (0.488)	0.366 (0.482)	0.428 (0.495)
High Efficacy Type	=1 the student's responses to the MSLQ self-efficacy questions were above average	0.566 (0.496)	0.550 (0.498)	0.593 (0.492)
High Procrastination	=1 if the student's IPS responses were above the participant average	0.517 (0.500)	0.477 (0.500)	0.584 (0.493)

Table 2. Relative Student Performance By Class Type

	Dependent Variable: Relative Exam After							
	Total		Face-To-Face		Hybrid		Online	
	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)
Microcommitments	0.017**	0.015**	0.001	-0.001	0.032*	0.040**	0.054***	0.044**
	(0.008)	(0.008)	(0.009)	(0.009)	(0.019)	(0.019)	(0.021)	(0.021)
Exam Before	0.576***	0.526***	0.535***	0.469***	0.690***	0.667***	0.614***	0.559***
	(0.028)	(0.029)	(0.038)	(0.042)	(0.124)	(0.129)	(0.049)	(0.052)
Prior Econ		-0.003		-0.001		-0.002		-0.005
		(0.010)		(0.011)		(0.034)		(0.022)
High Perform		0.042***		0.046***		0.027		0.064**
		(0.010)		(0.011)		(0.022)		(0.022)
Required		0.029***		-0.021**		-0.044**		-0.068**
		(0.009)		(0.010)		(0.021)		(0.033)
High Study Hours		-0.004		-0.010		-0.064		0.014
		(0.013)		(0.014)		(0.049)		(0.034)
Female		0.0004		-0.006		0.034*		-0.014
		(0.008)		(0.009)		(0.019)		(0.021)
Nonwhite		-0.002		0.012		-0.049**		-0.008
		(0.009)		(0.011)		(0.020)		(0.021)
Financial Aid		-0.020**		-0.014		0.005		-0.040*
		(0.008)		(0.009)		(0.021)		(0.021)
Adjusted R^2	0.276	0.296	0.230	0.250	0.180	0.211	0.358	0.385
Sample Size	1155	1155	727	727	152	152	276	276

*Standard errors are in parentheses. *, ** and *** indicate significance at the 10%, 5% and 1% levels, respectively*

Table 3. Online and Hybrid Student Performance By Procrastination and Self-Efficacy

	Dependent Variable: Relative Exam After							
	By Procrastination				By Self-Efficacy			
	High	High	Low	Low	High	High	Low	Low
	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)
Microcommitments	0.052***	0.051**	0.037*	0.048**	0.051***	0.051***	0.034	0.032
	(0.020)	(0.020)	(0.022)	(0.022)	(0.019)	(0.018)	(0.025)	(0.025)
Exam Before	0.568***	0.549***	0.675***	0.602***	0.669***	0.625***	0.479***	0.449***
	(0.059)	(0.061)	(0.062)	(0.064)	(0.054)	(0.056)	(0.072)	(0.074)
Prior Econ		-0.020		0.024		-0.026		0.038
		(0.024)		(0.027)		(0.022)		(0.031)
High Perform		0.029		0.061**		0.046**		0.024
		(0.026)		(0.027)		(0.022)		(0.035)
Required		-0.048*		-0.057*		-0.053**		-0.046
		(0.026)		(0.034)		(0.025)		(0.032)
High Study Hours		-0.012		0.016		-0.021		0.055
		(0.044)		(0.035)		(0.032)		(0.053)
Female		0.007		0.003		-0.010		0.047*
		(0.021)		(0.022)		(0.019)		(0.026)
Nonwhite		-0.002		-0.056**		-0.022		-0.030
		(0.021)		(0.023)		(0.019)		(0.024)
Financial Aid		-0.013		-0.038*		-0.012		-0.039
		(0.021)		(0.025)		(0.020)		(0.025)
Adjusted R^2	0.278	0.248	0.395	0.441	0.389	0.411	0.201	0.218
Sample Size	250	250	178	178	254	254	174	174

*Standard errors are in parentheses. *, ** and *** indicate significance at the 10%, 5% and 1% levels, respectively*