



**SRIKANT
DEVARAJ, PHD**

Research Assistant Professor
Ball State University
Muncie, IN

Interactive Features Within MindTap Improve Student Engagement and Exam Scores

CHALLENGE

Srikant Devaraj was in need of an interactive and user-friendly digital learning resource that would motivate his students to complete weekly assignments.

SOLUTION

MindTap Economics



RESULT

After implementing *MindTap*, Devaraj saw an increase in exam scores, engagement and confidence among students.

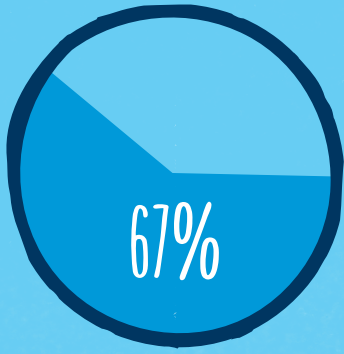
"MindTap is an easier and more convenient way to read your book, complete homework assignments and study, all on one platform instead of juggling many different tools."

– Student of Srikant Devaraj

Median Final Exam Score
Before and **After** MindTap



225 Points out of 300
20 points higher than last semester



of students
found that by
using *MindTap*,
they were more
motivated
to learn.

The Challenge:

Professor Seeks Interactive, User-friendly Digital Resource for Students

Srikant Devaraj, PhD, is a Research Assistant Professor of Microeconomics in the Center for Business and Economic Research at Ball State University. In his Economics class, students work to enhance their knowledge of supply and demand, market efficiency, market structures and other important microeconomics concepts by completing weekly homework assignments and coming to class.

Because so much of the students' success in class and understanding of the material was dependent on homework assignments, Devaraj was in need of an interactive, user-friendly digital resource that would motivate his students to immerse themselves in these weekly assignments and help them better prepare for upcoming exams. He also sought a tool that would allow him to easily monitor his students' overall and individual performances as they completed homework assignments throughout the semester.

The Solution:

MindTap Provides Interactive Homework Assignments and Tools to Monitor Student Progress

Once *MindTap* was implemented, Devaraj noticed that motivation and engagement increased substantially as students completed their weekly homework assignments. Students were especially responsive to the instant feedback provided on wrong answers and many were eager to attempt another version of the same question to achieve a better score on their assignments.

"The students were spending more time on their homework to ensure they got the maximum points possible," stated Devaraj. "They also made an effort to take all three tries on homework after reading their feedback."

The Progress Tool within *MindTap* provided Devaraj with excellent insight into the overall performance of his class and individual students as they completed homework assignments. This allowed him to better plan for other topics to focus on during classroom time.

Devaraj's students also shared positive remarks about the usability of *MindTap*! "*MindTap* is an easier and more convenient way to read your book, complete homework assignments and study, all on one platform instead of juggling many different tools," reported one of Devaraj's students.

The Results:

MindTap Leads to Increased Student Engagement, Improved Exam Scores and Greater Confidence

Devaraj was pleased to find that engaging homework assignments, coupled with the use of interactive exam prep tools and graphs available in *MindTap*, not only improved exam scores, but also lessened test anxiety among students. In fact, 8 out of 10 students in his Microeconomics course reported that *MindTap* increased their confidence.

Overall, Devaraj saw the following results after implementing *MindTap*:



20 Point
increase

A median final exam score of 225 points out of 300



100%
retention rate

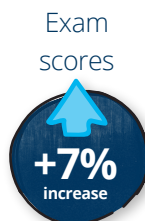
Improved course retention rate and course pass rate. In fact, no one dropped or withdrew from the course



71%
of students

stated that *MindTap* increased their level of engagement in the course

Homework and exam scores were also on the rise:



After seeing such success, Devaraj plans to continue using *MindTap* in the future, and strongly recommends that other professors consider utilizing this digital learning platform too to increase engagement among students.

To learn more about Cengage products for Economics, visit:
cengage.com/discipline-economics.



CENGAGE

Cengage is the education and technology company built for learners. As the largest US-based provider of teaching and learning materials for higher ed, we offer valuable options at affordable price points. Our industry-leading initiatives include Cengage Unlimited, the first-of-its-kind all-access digital subscription service. We embrace innovation to create learning experiences that build confidence and momentum toward the future students want. Headquartered in Boston, Cengage also serves K-12, library and workforce training markets around the world. Visit us at **cengage.com** or find us on **Facebook** or **Twitter**.

Copyright © Cengage.
All Rights Reserved.
960825

BE UNSTOPPABLE