

# What Games Teach Us About Teaching Math

What: **Bi-State Math Colloquium**

When: **Friday, September 6, 4PM**

Where: **Loras College, Hennessy 250**

Who: **Jacob Heidenreich**

Believe it or not there is now a long history of research into the psychology of games and game design. What interests us in a game? What do we get out of playing a game? Why are games fun? What makes them fun? This research has recently been mined for what it can tell us about other topics, like how people learn. This talk will look at what the research in games can tell us about how people learn, and strategies for using that research in teaching Math.

**Bonus!** This talk will begin with a brief presentation by Kristin Look on a great volunteer opportunity for Math-interested people through the VITA program. VITA offers a brief training program to certify volunteers in 'Basic Tax Preparation' accredited through the IRS. The volunteers then work with VITA to help underprivileged people prepare their tax returns. Learn important life skills (how to prepare your taxes!!) Gain accreditation (looks good on a resume)! Help people! Learn the details here.

**Dr. Heidenreich** is an Associate Professor of Mathematics at Loras College. He received his Ph.D. in Mathematics at the University of Notre Dame where he studied both mathematics and philosophy.