INTRODUCTION
Background of Instructional Internships:
- Teaching skills are beneficial to CSD students aiming for clinical or academic careers
- To develop those skills, students need opportunities to learn about and practice teaching, such as an instructional internship

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY
Determine if bi-weekly discussion forums are an effective way to expand students’ knowledge and use of pedagogical techniques while completing an internship

PARTICIPANTS
- Undergraduate Students
- Enrolled as Instructional Interns (IIs) at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
- Communication Sciences and Disorders program
- Fall 2018 & Spring 2019 semesters

METHODS
Fall 2018 Data Collection
- Pre-Experience Essay
- Post-Experience Essay
- Post-Experience Survey

Spring 2019 Data Collection
- Pre-Experience Essay
- Pre-Experience Survey
- Post-Experience Essay
- Post-Experience Survey

PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION POSTS
- Target certain skills that are needed to excel within the instructional intern experience
- Close the gap in self-efficacy between IIs with previous teaching experience and those with none
- Discussion posts provide opportunities to:
  - Review evidence to support teaching strategies
  - Create mastery experiences
  - Share success stories
  - Provide encouragement and rapport
  - Increase knowledge

PRELIMINARY RESULTS
- Teaching experience affects self-efficacy across all categories
- Relatively high self-efficacy in the categories of Communication Strategies & Organizational Strategies
- These strategies are common traits for those pursuing this program of study
- IIs are responding to discussion posts and providing thoughtful answers and using the information to create positive experiences and share those experiences with their peers (vicarious learning)

QUALITATIVE DISCUSSION POSTS
Over the past couple of weeks, I was able to take on teacher roles in the classroom by giving my advice as to how to study and get the most out of the flipped classroom style. I did my best to share study tips with my students and show them the resources on D2L that I thought would be most helpful for their learning. I think my students really appreciated the advice that I gave them, and it made them feel more comfortable with the flipped classroom style.

DATA ANALYSIS
- Mean self-efficacy ratings across areas of teaching skills, as outlined by syllabus
- Comparisons between experienced and new instructional interns
- Qualitative analyses pending:
  - Content analysis of essays
  - Content analysis of discussion posts

REFERENCES