

**FED-CSAE University of Macau Distinguished Visiting Scholar
Seminar: “Mathematical flexibility: A promising focus for research
and practice”**

Date: 8 October 2025 (Wednesday)

Time: 10:00-11:30

Venue: Tin Ka Ping Lecture Hall, Faculty of Education (E33-G021)

Language: English

Registration: <https://go.um.edu.mo/oj7zc2e0>

Enquiries: Mr. Harvey LO (Email: FED_Event@um.edu.mo / Tel: 8822-4593)

Speaker:

Prof. Jon STAR is an educational psychologist who studies children's learning of mathematics in middle and high school, particularly algebra. His current research explores the development of flexibility in mathematical problem solving, with flexibility defined as knowledge of multiple strategies for solving mathematics problems and the ability to adaptively choose among known strategies on a particular problem. He also investigates instructional and curricular interventions that may promote the development of mathematical understanding.

Abstract:

Mathematical flexibility is increasingly recognized as an important construct of interest for both researchers and practitioners in mathematics education. Flexibility can be characterized as a learner's willingness to change strategies based on the particular problem-solving conditions or goals. In this talk, Prof. Star first provides an introduction to flexibility. He then explores different ways that flexibility has been assessed, highlighting successes and challenges in the various forms of assessment. He then presents recent empirical research results on flexibility, and he concludes by suggesting some promising areas for future research on flexibility.