

1077-VD-77

Elana Reiser* (ereiser@sjcny.edu), 155 W Roe Blvd, Patchogue, NY 11772. *Using a capstone course to learn how to teach mathematical proofs.*

Students in a capstone course picked a branch of mathematics and thought of a fun way to teach proofs within that subject. By challenging them to think about proofs in unorthodox ways, students have an easier time grasping this conventionally frustrating topic. Groups researched proof techniques and used this knowledge along with their own experiences to create an activity to teach proofs. Through this project, students have started to think about how to teach proofs in their future classrooms and have seen five different techniques that they might choose to use as a springboard. Hopefully this experience made them more confident and this will get a new generation of mathematicians excited about proofs. (Received July 18, 2011)