1035-F1-935   **Thomas W Polaski*** (`polaskit@winthrop.edu`), Department of Mathematics, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC 29733. *Mathematical Reasoning at Winthrop University.*

The speaker has taken on the task of creating and testing a course in mathematical reasoning at Winthrop University. The talk will concern the process by which this course was created, beginning with the reasons for its creation and the resistance that some faculty expressed to offering such a course. Most objections came from a perceived lack of content and from the belief that the bridge to higher mathematics ought be built in a linear algebra course. The talk will further discuss the two experimental offerings of the course over the last two years. Two different syllabi have been used, each designed to overcome some of the faculty objections. The first attempt incorporated material on abstract vector spaces not covered in the linear algebra course. The second attempt introduced students to basic concepts in modern algebra and real analysis. Both attempts were deemed helpful by students, but small sample size has made it difficult to determine whether the course has truly been useful. The talk will close with an assessment of whether faculty attitudes have changed appreciably as a result of offering these courses. (Received September 17, 2007)