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Preparing Liberal Arts Faculty to Teach Modeling and Problem Solving at the College Algebra Level at Francis Marion University.

In the Fall of 1999, we introduced a new sequence of courses at Francis Marion University. These courses were intended to fulfill the mathematics general education requirements for all students. Because we intended to use a problem solving format, we named them Mathematical Modeling and Problem Solving I and II. For a text we used a College Algebra text and supplemented with a 100-page student guide. We required a graphing calculator and the students had to complete five group projects per course. Some projects required students to implement specific models and some required original modeling. The calculator, projects, and problem-solving approach were new to most of our faculty. Originally we sat down with all instructors as a group and went over the next week's instruction. We provided all tests and projects. The courses have been expanding each year and we introduce them to each new faculty member utilizing our group meetings. In addition in 2003, we utilized this material to give the entire math faculty a workshop on mathematical modeling. As a result the use of projects and technology has spread throughout the many courses that the department offers. For this session we will describe our courses, our program of faculty development, and examples of projects. (Received September 12, 2007)