

1135-Q1-914      **Janine Wittwer\***, 1840 South 1300 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84105. *Student Driven Modeling in a first year Game Theory Seminar.*

Westminster College (UT) has recently switched to a new model for its Liberal Arts Core where students take seminar courses without prerequisites, designed to take them deeply into the material and methods in a particular subject which is new to them - not usually one covered in any major. In “Games and Decisions”, students learn elements of Game Theory with a focus on discovery, critical thinking and modeling. In this talk, we will describe the process, along with its challenges and shortfalls, of working with groups of first year students who come in expecting to memorize what the teacher tells them, and leading them to active learning and critical thinking. By the end of the semester, students collectively and voluntarily created their own game theory competition, and each student completed an original (and often very creative) project relevant to their personal lives, where they explore how the ideas of game theory can help them understand the world around them. (Received September 16, 2017)