

1145-VJ-2840 **Katherine Walsh Hall*** (katie.hall@uconn.edu), Department of Mathematics, 341 Mansfield Drive, Storrs, CT 06269, and **Amit Savkar**. *Homogeneous Discussion Sections for New Start Calculus Students*. Preliminary report.

Many students taking calculus 1 at the university level have already seen some calculus before. Through a preliminary survey, we found that in the Fall of 2018, approximately 80% of the students enrolled in calculus 1 had seen calculus before. Our focus is on the rest of the students, i.e. the group of students who have not seen calculus before. We will refer to these students as the “New Start” calculus students.

In the past, New Start calculus students have reported feeling uncomfortable asking questions during class and discussion section because they feel they are not able to grasp the material as quickly as their classmates. They often attribute this feeling to their lack of ability to do math instead of to the fact that their classmates have seen this material before. To help New Start calculus students feel more comfortable getting the help they need, we are piloting a program where we group students into discussion section based on previous calculus experience. We are hoping that this homogeneous classroom will create an environment where students are more comfortable getting their questions answered. The talk will focus on the implementation of the intervention, and the results for the pilot as well as future plans. (Received September 25, 2018)