
Oral Presentation

A COURSE TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF DIVERSITY

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Brooklyn College is now offering an upper level CORE course entitled "The Mathematics of Non-Western Civilizations". The course is offered to all students who have completed a number of lower level CORE courses. The original course designed by Jeff Suzuki was based on readings from Katz' Sourcebook (2007). Several instructors in the department have now taught the course.

Since the recent publication of a third of edition Joseph's The Crest of the Peacock (2011), I have successfully used it as the main text in the course. Through the use of this text students become acquainted with concepts such as Eurocentism and Ethnomathematics in addition to learning some elementary mathematics developed in civilizations which have been frequently neglected.

This talk will discuss issues regarding teaching a course on the diversity of mathematical development to a diverse population with diverse abilities. Examples of syllabi, assignments and assessments will be provided. I hope that this presentation will lead to some fruitful discussion of using history of mathematics in your classroom.