1023-G1-277

Laurie Burton (burtonl@wou.edu), Mathematics Department, Western Oregon University, 345 North Monmouth Avenue, Monmouth, OR 97361, Maria Fung (fungm@wou.edu), Mathematics Department, Western Oregon University, 345 North Monmouth Avenue, Monmouth, OR 97261, and Klay Kruczek* (kruczekk@wou.edu), Mathematics Department, Western Oregon University, 345 North Monmouth Avenue, Monmouth, OR 07261. Western Oregon University's Middle School Mathematics Focus.

We will describe Western Oregon University's preservice middle school teacher mathematics program, which includes a year-long foundational sequence and courses in advanced problem solving, college algebra, probability and statistics, pedagogical and manipulative methods, abstract algebra, geometry and calculus. Each course is specifically geared toward future teachers and is designed to meet the content, pedagogy and instructional goals of the CBMS recommendations for middle school teachers (and also to prepare future teachers for the Basic Mathematics Praxis exam). Active learning, appropriate technology, hands-on exploration and other best practices are employed to help prospective teachers develop a deep understanding of the mathematics they will teach as well as to introduce them to some effective techniques to teach the material. We will describe two of our content courses (geometry and calculus) in greater detail. (Received September 02, 2006)