Jen E. Szydlik* (szydlik@uwosh.edu). Four Content Courses and Activity-Based Materials
Designed for Preservice Middle School Teachers and Elementary Mathematics Specialists.

In 1995, mathematics faculty at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh created a program for preservice middle school teachers and elementary mathematics specialists based on our participation in the Middle Math Project. We now offer four content courses (Ideas in Algebra, Ideas in Probability and Statistics, Ideas in Infinite Processes, and Ideas in Geometry) as well as a Senior Seminar designed exclusively for the middle grades program. (The three mathematics courses required of all elementary education students (Number Systems, Geometry, and Data Exploration) are prerequisites for this program.) Recently we have written a set of materials to serve as a textbook for each of the four content courses. I will describe our courses and philosophy, and share our materials as well as my observations from a decade of educating preservice middle grades teachers. (Received September 12, 2006)