Colleen Duffy* (duffycm@uwec.edu). Engaging liberal arts students in mathematics.

In this talk I will talk about strategies I use for engaging students in our “Introduction to Mathematical Thinking” and “Mathematics in Latin American Cultures” courses, the former of which I refer to as “Math is fun.” My goal is for all of my students to see mathematics in a (positive) new light and to stretch their abstract thinking skills. I cover topics such as infinity, mathematical paradoxes, fractals, music, art, and Maya and Inca mathematics. I use a story-telling context of traveling to various places, such as Paradox City. In the stories the students meet different mathematicians and discuss abstract mathematical concepts; it is a discussion and project based course. I will describe my teaching model, give examples, and mention ways in which another faculty member could develop similar courses. (Received September 17, 2013)