

1106-VD-2875 **Elizabeth A Miller*** (elizmiller@math.osu.edu), **Jason A Miller** (millerj@math.osu.edu)
and **Carolyn Johns** (johns.125@math.osu.edu). *Orient Students to your Course with a Treasure Hunt.*

Does this sound familiar: "How are we graded in this course?", "How do I register for the online homework system?," "How was I supposed to know this was due!" For many math courses, especially first year courses which use technology, students are expected to assimilate a large amount of information about how the course is set up very quickly. As much as we want students to carefully read through the syllabus, they often just skim it. Some don't look at it at all. In order to help address this problem, we have starting using a Treasure Hunt to introduce students to the important information about the course in our online and hybrid courses. The treasure hunt, which is built into our course management system using release conditions, begins with a short video which welcomes students to the course and introduces how the course is set-up. At the end of the video, there is a clue to what students should do next. As the students work through the Treasure Hunt, they learn about each aspect of the course before the next clue is released. From an instructor's prospective, the treasure hunt prepares most students to understand the course format before the first day of class. It also allows early intervention with students who are not on track before they miss a crucial deadline. (Received September 16, 2014)