

1135-34-931

**Christina M. Alvey\*** ([christina.alvey@msmc.edu](mailto:christina.alvey@msmc.edu)). *Qualitative Analysis of Differential Equations and the Zombie Apocalypse in a Mathematical Biology Course.*

In a special topics course on mathematical biology focusing on qualitative analysis of differential equations, we introduced models to describe the transmission of both real and fictional diseases, among other topics. Modeling scenarios included diseases such as influenza, varicella, greyscale from Game of Thrones, and zombie infection. In this talk, we will explore the effectiveness of using these phenomena as motivating models for studying differential equations, as well as discuss the advantages and disadvantages of using the zombie apocalypse as an extended example throughout the course. (Received September 17, 2017)