

1135-M5-1834      **Jeffery D Sykes\*** ([sykesj@obu.edu](mailto:sykesj@obu.edu)), Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, AR 71998.  
*Discrete mathematics as a first course for mathematics and computer science majors.* Preliminary report.

At my small liberal arts college, all students majoring in mathematics or computer science take my introductory discrete mathematics course in their first semester. The students engage in a study of discrete topics ranging from counting to primality testing, passing through modular arithmetic and cryptology along the way. Most importantly, they are provided the opportunity to get to know each other and form a community that will enhance their learning experience for the next four years. In this talk, I will share information about the content and structure of my course, the WeBWorK problems I have authored, the web tools I use for cryptology assignments, and some of the outcomes we have observed of our students. (Received September 25, 2017)