

1135-Q1-2620 **Michael P. Saclolo*** (mikeps@stedwards.edu), St. Edward's University, School of Natural Sciences, 3001 South Congress Avenue, Austin, TX 78704. *Order and Disorder: A First-Year Seminar*. Preliminary report.

This presentation reports on the implementation of a first-year seminar course with a mathematical theme. The course is designed to introduce entering college students to a liberal arts thematic course as well as orient students to academic life as a whole. As part of a cluster of four seminars with a general theme of "Utopias and Dystopias", this particular seminar focuses on the concepts of order and disorder within mathematics and their depiction in mathematically themed or oriented texts, both fiction and non-fiction. The readings and classroom activities are partly oriented to the discussion utopias and dystopias as social constructs, but they also tackle mathematical topics such as dimension, classification, symmetry, chaos, entropy, similarity and self-similarity. (Received September 26, 2017)