Jason Parsley* (parslerj@wfu.edu). A first-year seminar on the Mathematics of Sports Rankings.

Teaching a first-year seminar is unlike teaching a more traditional, introductory mathematics course. Through the lens of a recent seminar on the Mathematics of Sports Rankings, we explore how to manage the different pedagogical demands of a first-year seminar – preparation, fostering classroom discussion, teaching with no prerequisites. We discuss its successes (e.g., several students presented at a sports analytics conference) and how to avoid its failures. (Received September 26, 2017)