
One of the goals of first-year seminars at many institutions is to introduce students to critical thinking. This first-year experience explores questions in the mathematics of social choice as a means to encourage students to think critically, using several applications of inquiry-based learning techniques. The text and class sessions are structured around group explorations, students are encouraged to bring questions suggested by current events to class, and writing exercises are used to introduce problems to students ahead of any mathematical terminology. The presentation will provide examples of assignments and classwork, discuss the potential to rapidly adapt the material to current events or recent advances in the field, and consider the issues in implementation at two different institutions. (Received September 25, 2018)