

1014-H1-994

Daniel S. Alexander* (daniel.alexander@drake.edu), 2507 University, Drake University, Des Moines, IA 50311, and **Alexander F. Kleiner** (alexander.kleiner@drake.edu), 2507 University, Drake University, Des Moines, IA 50311. *Reading and Writing About Calculus—A First Year Mathematics Seminar.*

Drake University requires that all entering freshman take a First Year Seminar (FYS) that includes a significant writing component. In fall 2003 the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science began offering an FYS entitled *Reading and Writing About Calculus* that is designed to help students get more out of their mathematics studies by developing their ability to read, write and discuss mathematics. The FYS also introduces them to the basics of mathematical typesetting and to *Mathematica*. Our design of the course is not without ulterior motives, for example, to introduce mathematically inclined students to each other early in their undergraduate careers, to increase enrollments in our upper division courses and to entice them into a mathematical life. So far our efforts have been mostly successful, although it is of course too early to tell about the last. The course alternates between traditional mathematical content presented from a somewhat advanced viewpoint, brief units we call mathematical interludes and the writing and discussion activities that will be the focus of this presentation. We'll also discuss the positive collateral effects as well as particularly welcome student behaviors. (Received September 26, 2005)