Kurt Herzinger and Beth Schaubroeck* (beth.schaubroeck@usa.ac.edu), HQ USAFA/DFMS, 2354 Fairchild Dr, Ste 6D124, USAF Academy, CO 80840-6252. Does Experience Matter? Comparisons of freshmen and sophomores in Calculus III. Preliminary report.

At the U.S. Air Force Academy, freshmen placed into Calculus III and sophomores taking it during their 3rd semester at college are in different classes, with largely the same content and evaluations. We examine what differences, if any, can be seen in the performance of these two groups of students. We were particularly interested in their ability to do a semester-long open-ended group project, wondering if the sophomores would use their additional year of college experience to their advantage. (Received September 22, 2005)