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Quantitative Literacy Topics: The Need for an "Industry Standard"?

Anyone who has spent time perusing the growing number of quantitative literacy (QL) textbooks will appreciate the lack of any agreement as to which topics are included. This talk will explore what the possible core QL topics are and how they should be defined. A topic such as ratios is defined differently in several of the best selling QL books on the market, or left out entirely; even though the National Center for Educational Statistics defines someone to be QL "proficient" if they can compare and contrast cost per ounce of food items. Unit conversions are emphasized in some texts while non-existent in others. In the MAA publication, *Mathematics and Democracy*, the editors list broad "elements" of QL and offer many "expressions" of QL in society but fall short of offering specific math topics central to QL. This talk will discuss these issues in the context of the creation of a proposed Masters in Numeracy program at Alfred University, and in particular the development of curriculum for a course titled: Teaching Numeracy. If we are to prepare teachers to teach numeracy, what should they learn? (Received September 21, 2006)