Mathematics majors’ believes about mathematics after taking a methods of proof class and professors’ believes about the effectiveness of such a class.

Many universities offer a methods of proof class and make it a requirement for undergraduate mathematics majors. Such a class may be the first formal introduction to proofs for many mathematics majors (other than the geometry proofs students may see in high school) and many of them tend to struggle in this class. A pre- and post survey was given to mathematics majors in four classes to investigate whether their believes about mathematics, their ability to do mathematics, and their confidence of having chosen the right field of study changed after a methods of proof class. The results of the survey will be presented as well as preliminary results of professors’ believes about the effectiveness of a methods of proof class for mathematics majors. (Received September 23, 2009)