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The Massachusetts Board of Higher Education requires all day students entering state colleges to take a math placement exam. Students receiving the lowest math code are required to take and pass an algebra skills course prior to taking math courses toward the general education requirement or a major. The Framingham State College's General Mathematics course is designed to enable students to work with functions and equations of various types. Using applications in a variety of disciplines including Biology, Chemistry, Clothing and Textiles, Consumer and Family Studies, Economics and Business, Food and Nutrition, and Food Science, I endeavor to help the students to view math as useful in their course of study as well as in real life. I involve the students in actively learning and applying the material in class through the use of "pair and shares" and groups, both small and large, as well as "tag-team" problem solving at the chalkboard. I will share my experiences in teaching this course and some of the applications that I use together with student reaction to the course, the applications, and the class participation. Information about the student population, attitudes toward math before and after taking the course, and their planned next course(s) in math will be presented. (Received September 16, 2000)