

1086-VE-1640 **Suzanne I Doree*** (doree@augsborg.edu). *Just enough algebra – a new approach to preparing college students.*

In 1994, my colleagues at Augsburg College and I had a vision for a new course to replace our intermediate algebra course. We wanted a college level course that would serve primarily as preparation for quantitative courses across the curriculum. The framing question that led to our curricular adventure of the past nearly two decades was: What algebra do college students need to know, and how can we make it relevant to their future studies, their lives as citizens, and their everyday life? From these questions *Just Enough Algebra* was born.

Everything we do in the course is set in some applied context. Our choice to focus primarily on linear and exponential models; to emphasize verbal, numerical, and graphical interpretation of functions; and to include only the most essential symbolic techniques align well with curricular guides from the MAA and AMATYC. More importantly, it works. Student learn a lot in this course. They are ready for what comes next. And, they enjoy it.

In this talk I will outline the process used for constructing the course; describe the course curriculum, pedagogy, and supporting instructional materials; and show a couple of examples to illustrate the approach. (Received September 25, 2012)