

1086-VQ-1749 **Erika L Ward*** (eward1@ju.edu) and **Pam Crawford**. *Engaging Students as Listeners to Enhance Student Oral and Written Communication.*

Mathematics majors at Jacksonville University take two courses that put communication at the forefront. Mathematics and Reasoning (an introduction to proofs class), and History of Mathematics fulfill the university's writing intensive and speaking intensive requirements, respectively. Both classes give students ample opportunities to refine their written and oral skills.

The focus of Mathematics and Reasoning is on writing proofs, but each class period starts with student presentations of their proofs. By engaging in daily practice of presenting mathematics, listening to another's reasoning, and finding ways to give constructive feedback and ask useful questions, students develop critical skills in approaching their own thinking and writing.

In History of Mathematics, students give short general audience talks as well as longer term paper presentations, all evaluated by fellow students and the instructor. Also, students must evaluate three on-campus talks by invited speakers. Students use criteria similar to those used to evaluate their own presentations, developed with a speech instructor. By considering what makes a talk effective as an audience member, students are able to craft better presentations themselves. (Received September 24, 2012)