

1096-K1-534

Emelie A. Kenney* (kenney@siena.edu), Department of Mathematics, Siena College, 515 Loudon Road, Loudonville, NY 12211. *HoM Courses to Inspire Liberal Arts Majors (and Others): A Menu of Eleven Organizing Themes*. Preliminary report.

An undergraduate history of mathematics course that is not designed specifically for majors naturally presents seemingly insurmountable challenges for the course designer. In particular, it is difficult to discuss the history of a subject with someone who is mostly unfamiliar with the subject. To circumvent this problem, it is possible to organize course content around one or more themes so that students actually get to do mathematics, rather than solely read about what others have done. Of course, depending on specific topics chosen, depth of discussion, and so on, most of these themes could generate a course entirely suitable for mathematics majors, as well.

Here, I present several ideas for organizing themes, with special emphasis on three of them, which are as follows: (1) Euler's identity, and e , i , π , 1 , and 0 ; (2) Three Centers of Mathematics in the Ancient World: Plato's Academy, The Library at Alexandria, and Baghdad's House of Wisdom; and (3) Mathematical Culture and Its Role in Promoting the Development of Mathematics: Schools of Thought, Journals, Societies, Congresses, Institutions, and Correspondence. (Received September 05, 2013)