

1125-C1-611 **Susanna S. Epp*** (sepp@depaul.edu). *Introductory Combinatorics: Language, Visual Representations, and Models.*

Many beginning combinatorics students believe that the way to answer a given counting question is to quickly choose and apply a formula, but they often make mistakes because they have little insight into the concrete nature of the objects they are supposed to count. This talk will describe techniques to encourage students to analyze counting situations more deeply, through the use of visual representations, careful and unambiguous use of language, and emphasis on thinking in terms of models. (Received September 07, 2016)