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This presentation will introduce a modeling first approach to the differential equations course. Participants will be introduced to SIMIODE–Systemic Initiative for Modeling Investigations and Opportunities with Differential Equations. SIMIODE is an online community of teachers and learners of differential equations who use modeling and technology throughout the learning process. This is a free community of those interested in the modeling first approach in differential equations and it provides a comprehensive and cohesive approach to studying differential equations.

The presenters will explain how they used their involvement in the SIMIODE community to introduce change in the differential equations classroom. We will explain how we used a computer algebra system together with modeling scenarios to transform our sections of differential equations. (Received September 20, 2016)