James J Madden* (mmmad@lsu.edu), Dept. Math., 301 Lockett Hall, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. Using Historical Sources to Understand the Contemporary K-12 Mathematics Curriculum. Preliminary report.

The Mathematics Department at Louisiana State University offers a variety of graduate-level courses for secondary mathematics teachers that can be taken to meet the requirements of the LSU Masters of Natural Sciences degree program or the LSU Graduate Certificate in Mathematics for Advanced Secondary Instruction. Over the years, we have experimented with many different instructional designs. One of the most engaging things we have tried is reading and discussing original historical sources (such as Fibonacci, Viète, Descartes, Oughtred) or transcriptions of these sources in modern language. Direct connections to the contemporary K-12 curriculum are often easy to make. At the same time the historical sources frequently lead to novel perspectives on familiar topics, and they support teachers in anticipating and understanding the ways that students may interpret what they are learning. We will distribute some classroom materials that we have had success in using. (Received September 15, 2020)