

Meeting: 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, MAA CP K1, MAA Session on Countering “I Can’t Do Math”: Strategies for Teaching Under-Prepared, Math-Anxious Students

1003-K1-227 **Heather A. Lewis*** (halewis@naz.edu), Nazareth College, 4245 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618-3790. *Thinking Mathematically (and enjoying it!)*. Preliminary report.

They hate math, but have to take a math class to satisfy a graduation requirement, and so they choose the one that looks the easiest. They discover that the class is more challenging than they expected, with hard problems, few formulas, and lots of student discussion, but at the end of the semester most students say that they really enjoyed it and they are visibly proud of their mathematical work.

What makes this class work? I’ll discuss the format of this math class (problem solving, group work, and projects) and give specific examples that have challenged the students without overwhelming them. (Received August 31, 2004)