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Erick Brian Hofacker* (UWRFMATH@aol.com), UW-River Falls, 206D North Hall, River Falls, WI 54022. *Designing, Teaching, and Researching Contemporary Based College Algebra Courses.*

Over the last five to ten years, many of the changes that have strengthened mainstream collegiate calculus have been implemented in the college algebra course. Refocusing the college algebra course has resulted in an effort to realign the rationale and course goals with the needs of its current students. Refocusing college algebra has brought about a change in the content taught in the course as well as the implementation of different pedagogical methods.

This paper will present ideas for designing a contemporary based college algebra course. It will discuss ideas and personal teaching experiences of the author during the implementation of a refocused course. The presentation will conclude with a discussion about current and past research the author has conducted on contemporary based college algebra courses. Ideas for future studies to be conducted on these courses will be considered and discussed. (Received September 27, 2006)