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Jerrold W. Grossman* (grossman@oakland.edu), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Oakland University, Rochester, MI 48309-4485. *What's for Dessert? An Enrichment Course for Prospective Middle School Mathematics Teachers.*

The CBMS MET document suggests that prospective middle grade teachers of mathematics should take at least 21 semester-hours of mathematics content. The credit requirement for our elementary education mathematics majors (who will be certified up to grade 8) stands at 30, so after they have studied all the recommended material and then some, they must take still more. We offer them a 2-credit course under a Special Topics banner, and many of them jump at the opportunity to try something different. At least three distinct syllabi have been implemented over the past decade, with considerable success (in the opinion of the instructors and students): a potpourri of intriguing investigations using Burger and Starbird's *The Heart of Mathematics* as a jumping-off point; a course based on some of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics' *Navigations* publications for middle school students; and a course that revolves around middle school contest problems (using the MAA's AMC 8 exams and materials from MathCounts). This talk will describe the details of our experiments and the philosophy of why a course like this is exactly what this audience needs after the heavy meal served up by the CBMS. (Received September 15, 2006)