

1023-Q5-1774 **Semail Ulgen Yildirim*** (ulgens@gvsu.edu), Department of Mathematics, Grand Valley State University, 2284 Mackinac Hall 1 Campus Drive, Allendale, MI 49401, and **Robert Hunt** (rhunt@olemiss.edu), University of Mississippi, 318 Hume Hall, University, MS 38677. *Online Class Experience in Mathematics at the University of Mississippi*. Preliminary report.

Online classes are often very different from traditional face-to-face classes in terms of how the material is presented, the nature of the interaction among class members, and the overall learning experience. Online mathematics courses are offered at The University of Mississippi for students living on campus or nearby towns, as well as for students living far away from campus. The number of students living in Oxford and taking online math courses exceeds number of students living outside of Oxford. For this reason, online classes should not be considered only as a distance learning activity. Online classes provide an opportunity for many students with self-discipline, motivation, and decent computer literacy to learn in a manner which they prefer to traditional methods. In this paper we describe the mathematics online class experience of The University of Mississippi students and professors. The mathematics department at The University of Mississippi uses a web-based course management and collaboration portal called Angel which enables educators to manage course materials and to communicate quickly, easily, and effectively with their students. In this paper we also compare the online and face-to-face math classes. (Received September 26, 2006)