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14850. *Using Projects and Oral Reports in the First Linear Algebra Course*. Preliminary report.

While many instructors acknowledge that projects and/or oral reports are a valuable pedagogical tool, they feel that the time required to use them will detract from the content of the course. I have been using oral reports for over 25 years and written reports more recently in a sophomore level linear algebra course with about 20-25 students per section. In fact the use of the reports leaves students with a better overview of the topics of linear algebra than what we would accomplish in a week of regular classes. I will discuss techniques and resources as well as my experiences with projects and oral reports. (Received September 16, 2008)