

Department of Mathematics and Statistics Colloquium

Quantitative Reasoning: Habits and Hurdles

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Abstract: Almost five years ago I began developing a college-level course in quantitative reasoning based on analyses of public media articles, mostly from newspapers and magazines. The course is now taught by several instructors at a few institutions and supported by NSF, and we have discovered something about students quantitative reasoning habits and some of the obstacles to achieving quantitative literacy. I will discuss some of these discoveries, for example, the avoidance of algebra, using actual examples from the class and results of student think-aloud sessions and in-service professional development workshops for teachers. For more about the course, see <http://www.cwu.edu/~boersmas/QRCW/>.

**Monday, October 26 at 3:45 in Roop 103,
tea at 3:30**