

Designing Activities that Enhance Student Learning

Please use this form to describe a teaching activity that you have modified or developed (or will modify or develop) in response to the working group sessions.

Name: Michael Hutchings

Role (circle one): Faculty Member

Home Department(s): Mathematics

Course(s) in which you would use this teaching activity: Math 1A

Activity Title: Understanding Limits

Description:

Please give a short synopsis of the activity and its learning goals, maximum 100 words.

The goals of the activity is for students to understand the precise definition of a limit and to write proofs that certain limits do or do not exist. This is much less routine than the usual Math 1A exercise but will force students to really understand the concepts and some of the ways that mathematicians think.

If this is an activity you have used in the past but now will modify in response to the Working Group sessions, please describe the activity as you previously conducted it:

Blank

Describe the changes you made or will make to the activity and the reasoning behind these changes.

Blank

Which session(s) of the Working Group influenced the changes you made or will make to this activity? How so?

Sessions 4, 5 emphasized the importance of getting the students actively engaged with the material and the habits of mind of mind of the discipline.

How will you assess the effectiveness of this activity in enhancing student learning?

I will ask exam questions to test whether the students have learned to write proofs regarding limits, and I will read student evaluations to see how students felt about the value of the course.