

962-D1-318

Jay A Malmstrom* (malmstrm@qns.com), 7777 S May Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73159, and
Chris Chris Oehrlein (coehrlein@okc.cc.ok.us), 7777 S May Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73159.

Integrating Projects Into the College Algebra Curriculum. Preliminary report.

Technology combined with the availability of realistic projects allow instructors to design and implement collaborative activities and extended explorations in College Algebra classes. These types of activities help students to explore material in greater depth than is possible through traditional lecture-only techniques. These include in-class collaborative activities, extended explorations using CAS and hand-held graphing technology, as well as projects of a more comprehensive nature. Projects like these: 1) Allow the introduction of new concepts through guided discovery, 2) Encourage extended exploration of connections between concepts and across disciplines, and 3) Give the students a means of more readily understanding difficult concepts. Initial results indicate that these activities have a positive impact on completion rates in College Algebra classes. (Received September 08, 2000)