962-D1-427 **Hengli Jiao*** (hjiao@ccaix.jsums.edu), Department of Mathematics, Jackson State University, Jackson, MS 39217. *Enhancing College Algebra Instruction*.

We discuss our experiences about college algebra instruction. We identify the typical problems and discuss implemented strategies to resolve these problems. The major problems: 1. Little motivation and low expectation among students Little motivation and low expectation are two serious problems among students. These problems are compounded for students who need the course only to fulfill the requirement. 2. Little efforts on making connection and sharing among different disciplines. Although various successful teaching strategies have been developed across different disciplines, they seem work only for certain locations. The strategies: A. Motivating students by creating a learn-centered environment. B. Encouraging collaborative teaching and learning. C. Implementing instruction in a way to balance traditional and technological methods. D. Investigating study habit across disciplines. E. Enforcing award and punishment policy across disciplines. F. Investigating students' reaction to course instruction. The outcomes: A. Students' study habit and grades were improved significantly. B. Enrollment in the section that implemented the strategies increased. C. Students' Enthusiasm about learning mathematics, confidence, and learning skills were gained. (Received September 14, 2000)