Meeting: 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, MAA CP C1, MAA Session on Courses Below Calculus: A New Focus, I

1003-C1-1004 Fred Peskoff* (fpeskoff@aol.com), Borough of Manhattan Community College/CUNY, Department of Mathematics, 199 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007. When General Education Meets Mathematics: Designing a New Quantitative Literacy Course.

The Borough of Manhattan Community College of the City University of New York has developed a new Learning Outcomes Goals and Objectives document which will serve as the basis for General Education assessment. Concurrently, the Department of Mathematics has designed a new Quantitative Literacy course for liberal arts students that aims to meet these goals. The author has been involved in both of these initiatives. The Learning Outcomes Goals and Objectives document outlines nine thematic areas: communication skills, quantitative skills, critical thinking, values, socio-historical and multicultural awareness, scientific reasoning, arts and humanities, information and technology literacy, and collaborative skills. Each area contains a list of learning objectives. The Quantitative Literacy course spans many of these areas and aims to meet a broad range of objectives beyond those of a traditional introductory mathematics course. The course was designed in an attempt to equip our graduates with mathematics skills that every educated person needs. It should be of interest to all faculty involved in fine tuning the mathematics component of their school's General Education curriculum in order to provide students with essential quantitative reasoning skills. (Received October 01, 2004)