

Meeting: 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, MAA CP X1, MAA General Contributed Paper Session, I

1003-X1-211 **Paul Kochanowski*** (pkochano@iusb.edu), School of Business and Economics, Indiana University South Bend, P.O. Box 7111, South Bend, IN 46634, and **Morteza Shafii-Mousavi** (mshafii@iusb.edu), Mathematical Sciences, Indiana University South Bend, P.O. Box 7111, South Bend, IN 46634. *Promoting and Incorporating Technology in Teaching a First Year Finite Mathematics Course.*

The paper describes an interdisciplinary project-based mathematics course linked to a computer technology course. The linkage encourages an appreciation of math and technology as students see an immediate use for these skills in completing actual real-world projects. Linking mathematics and technology integrates subjects taught in traditional sections of discrete math with skills and concepts acquired in traditional sections of introduction to computer technology. Placing these related subjects in parallel, we emphasize the linkages and practical applications between the two components. Through this association, students 1) gain comprehension of the relevance of the concepts articulated in both areas; 2) obtain better preparation to apply both skill sets in future academic undertakings; 3) learn finite math; 4) gain basic skills of information technology; and 5) apply math and technology to solve actual projects. The paper emphasizes these linkages by describing projects solved for actual organizations. (Received August 28, 2004)