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**Julie A. Belock\*** ([julie.belock@saalemstate.edu](mailto:julie.belock@saalemstate.edu)), Salem State College, Department of Mathematics, 352 Lafayette St., Salem, MA 01970. *A Master's Program for Middle School Mathematics Teachers.*

Many current middle school math teachers were trained as generalists who were elementary or middle school education majors in college. The No Child Left Behind legislation and various state initiatives have called for "highly qualified" teachers, a term that has come to mean, among other things, teachers who have had additional course work in the discipline of certification.

In the spring of 2004 a group that included mathematics professors at Salem State College along with teachers and mathematics supervisors from two local school districts was awarded a grant to develop a Master of Arts in Teaching Middle School Mathematics program specifically for in-service middle school math teachers. In this talk, I will outline the resulting program, which is now a permanent offering of our graduate school. Five of our full-time mathematics faculty members teach in the program.

In addition to describing the program's requirements, I will outline the issues that came up in its design, including the very large concern of designing graduate mathematics courses for students who had taken little or no undergraduate mathematics. I will also share some of the challenges and rewards of working with this audience, based on now having taught three different courses in the program. (Received September 26, 2005)