1046-Z1-403   **Lawrence A. D'Antonio*** (`ldant@ramapo.edu`), Ramapo College of New Jersey, School of Theoretical and Applied Science, Mahwah, NJ 07430. *Is Mathematics an Exact Science?*

This talk discusses an article of the same title written in 1948 by N. A. Court. He makes the argument that while mathematics is generally viewed as being synonymous with exactness, an historical perspective shows mathematics to be a very human enterprise, fraught with personal invective, disputes, errors, and uncertainty. A similar theme, namely the evolution of the concept of mathematical rigor, can be found in an article written by James Pierpont in 1928. This broadening of our idea of the mathematical enterprise was influenced by the work of Brouwer and Goedel. Nathan Altshiller Court was born in Warsaw in 1881 and emigrated to United States in 1911. He taught at the University of Oklahoma from 1917 to 1951 and wrote extensively on geometry, including well received texts on college and solid geometry. (Received August 31, 2008)