1056-C1-1757   **Debra L. Hydorn*** (`dhydorn@umw.edu`), 1301 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA 22401. *Group explorations and art projects in a mathematics of art course for first-year students.*

I was a participant in the 2008 MAA PREP Course on Geometry and Art and have successfully created my own first year seminar based on that on-line course. In this presentation I will provide an outline of the course content, which draws on the resources of the PREP course website and the web textbook the course instructors have created. I will then describe the group exploration activities I created to allow students to discover the mathematics behind the work of M.C. Escher and other artists, and the course blog where students take turns writing about the mathematics they found through these activities. I will also describe the two course art projects and group art exercises from the course. (Received September 22, 2009)