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Quantitative Literacy and College Readiness.

Quantitative literacy is critical, but nearly non-existent in the typical high school program. With the wide acceptance of the recently published Common Core State Standards, there are new reasons to look at our high school mathematics offerings from a fresh perspective, especially the mathematics that might follow the three years of the high school 'Common Core.' The increasing expectation for all students to study mathematics every year in high school provides an opportunity to consider what additional mathematics content might best serve all students, regardless of their future path. We will look at how to incorporate statistics, discrete mathematics, finance, and other mathematics topics, as well as examining pedagogical approaches that help students develop critical college readiness skills and increasingly develop responsibility for their own learning. A recently developed 'fourth-year' mathematics course will be discussed as an example of a new generation of capstone mathematics courses for high school students that can engage them in rigorous, yet accessible mathematical tasks. (Received September 23, 2010)