

1067-R1-1504 **Kimberly R. Swetz*** (kimberly.swetz@usafa.edu), Dept of the Air Force, HQ USAFA/DFMS, 2354 Fairchild Dr, Suite 6D124, USAF Academy, CO 80840-6252. *An Ode to Modeling with ODEs.*

One of the goals of the ODE course at the US Air Force Academy is to allow students to practice their modeling skills by exposing them to a variety of scenarios. We believe that modeling exercises are useful because they allow students to practice analytic, qualitative, and numeric skills all within the same context. Some of the topics that I've used in recent projects include: a droplet of water, electric circuits, the swine flu, the oil spill in the Gulf, and the Tacoma Narrows Bridge. In this talk, I will share a few of these modeling exercises and also briefly discuss the pedagogy that I've used to assess the modeling efforts of the students. (Received September 21, 2010)