1067-X1-2146   **Mazen Shahin*** (`mshahin@desu.edu`), Delaware State University, 1200 N. DuPont Highway, Dover, DE 19901. *Introduction to Mathematical Models in Biology.* Preliminary report.

In this paper we present some mathematical models in biology and ecology that illustrate the pedagogy and the approach utilized in a course being developed called Introduction to Mathematical Models in Biology. This one-semester course is designed for freshmen life science students and introduces modeling biological, ecological, and environmental systems with difference equations and matrices using a computer algebra system and/or spreadsheet. We emphasize the use of graphical and numerical techniques to investigate and analyze the behavior of solutions of the mathematical models. Group projects are AN integral part of the course and utilize cooperative learning. This course does not utilize differential equations and does not require calculus as a prerequisite. (Received September 22, 2010)