Jeffrey L. Poet* (poet@missouriwestern.edu), Computer Science, Math, and Physics, 4525 Down Drive, Saint Joseph, MO 64507. Geometric Constructions in Contemporary Problem Solving.

Our liberal arts math course consists of four required units - graph theory, descriptive and inferential statistics, voting theory, and the mathematics of finance – all standard units in a liberal arts math text. I include a fifth unit on geometric constructions in which I teach students to "think with their compass and unmarked straightedge." In addition to pulling some historical context into the class, this unit appeals to students in the fine arts and other tactile learners. This unit gives the usual math non-enthusiasts an opportunity to shine. (Received September 15, 2011)