



Department of Mathematics and Statistics Colloquium

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

AMB 164 4:00 pm

It's Still Diff Eq to Me

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NAU Maths/Stats

Abstract

I will reflect on 36 years of teaching undergraduate differential equations. How the course/textbooks have changed in that time, how I have adapted to trends as our discipline has moved from the traditional, through calculus reform and into an era of greater student engagement.

I will talk about the things that have driven me through the years, my expectations of students in the course, and my frustrations as student learning has come to mean mimicry rather than understanding, as the *whys* have been traded for the *hows*, especially in the worksheet age. I will illustrate how I have endeavored to meet my course goals, as well as confessing the flaws of my approach.

I will teach MAT 239 for the last time this semester. I have had enough. I just can't face the grading anymore.

Bring pen and paper as I will have you refresh your skills.

Refreshments at 3:45