

UMW Colloquium Announcement

Department of Mathematics (with support from the Teaching Center)

Inquiry-Based and Active Teaching Methods for Improving Student Engagement in the Classroom

Presented by

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**Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 4 p.m.
140 Farmer Hall**

Abstract: Teaching is a difficult task, especially when teaching somewhat abstract material as can be found in many STEM fields. However, what is considerably harder is teaching in such a way that students learn. To accomplish this, we need to move away from traditional lecture based models towards more active and inquiry-based methods. Teaching in such a way encourages the students to be participants in the learning process, rather than passive listeners. This talk will discuss the elements of an active teaching method, the benefits they give both to the students and the teacher, as well as what it looks like in the classroom. We will show some first-hand evidence of adopting such methods in a classroom, and then show how such learning occurs through some active audience participation.

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