Karl-Dieter Crisman* (karl.crisman@gordon.edu), 255 Grapevine Road, Wenham, MA 01984. When Time is Short: Using Notebooks to Supplement the Bridge Course.

For some faculty or institutions, external factors prevent a bridge course from being longer than seven to nine weeks, yet a bridge course is mandated in the curriculum. Particularly if students in this course truly need exposure to a wide variety of basic mathematical structures, it is difficult to avoid a more traditional, less unified, course centered on developing proof skill via all such structures.

We describe two years of using a low-pressure supplemental notebook in a specific structure (graphs), where a guided exploration can take place. This provides a unified environment for students to attempt various proof strategies, but, if properly managed and prepared beforehand, does not add appreciably to the pace or stress of courses for which time is already short. (Received September 18, 2007)