

1067-N1-1093 **Marko Kranjc*** (M-Kranjc@wiu.edu), Department of Mathematics, Western Illinois University, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455. *Ways to teach meaningful modeling in algebra-based courses*. Preliminary report.

We will discuss possible approaches to teaching algebra-based courses at pre calculus levels. In particular, our experience teaching a particular course with the use of spreadsheets will be described. We will explain how meaningful models of varying complexities can be introduced and understood, starting with simple exponential models and leading to models of the predator-prey type. We will discuss observed advantages and disadvantages. We will compare this course with a similar course that was taught with the use of graphic calculators. (Received September 18, 2010)