

1096-D1-2266

Kristin A. Camenga* (kristin.camenga@houghton.edu), Houghton College, 1 Willard Avenue, Houghton, NY 14744. *Developing community norms for proof: forum discussions of the nature and import of proof*. Preliminary report.

Proof is central to the mathematical community, not just as a mechanical form but as a means of knowing and communicating. How can a transition course help students understand the nature and import of proof in the mathematical community as well as the mechanics? We share forum assignments and discussions from a 7-week Introduction to Proof class which are intended to place the students' work with proof in a larger context and help form their attitudes toward proof. Discussion topics include the nature of proof, how it is communicated, and mathematical beauty. We believe these assignments also support students' motivation and minimize frustration in the process of learning the mechanics of proof. (Received September 17, 2013)