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*Prospects for a Transition Course to University Mathematics*

The transition to university mathematics is not a smooth one for a large number of students. University mathematics builds on high school mathematics, yet many students forget important concepts and techniques; more often, they simply do not know which concepts are the most important. In addition, university students are exposed to advanced mathematical thinking that relies on a more extensive use of formal definitions and proofs and that is critical for success in university. There is a need to bridge this gap with something other than remedial courses at the post-secondary level.

In this presentation, I will try to begin a discussion around the possibility of a foundation/transition course in mathematics at the first-year university level. I will suggest some ways in which such a course might be designed, appropriate pedagogy and assessment, and how it would fit into the existing curriculum. The goal is to create a course that would be of value to all students intending to take university mathematics.

It is hoped that this CMS presentation will form the basis for an ongoing dialogue that can be continued at the 2009 Canadian Mathematics Education Forum, where transition to university will be the focus of one of the working groups.