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A personal journey: From a Bourbaki devotee to an ethnomathematics enthusiast

In this presentation I will talk about my experience with teaching a remedial mathematics course to students enrolled in the Simon Fraser University's Indigenous Languages Program. With the aim to place this experience in the wider context of ethnomathematics and, even more generally, in a cultural context, I will share with the audience some student-led projects that explored how various mathematical notions were imbedded in the Hul'q'umi'num' language. In addition, I will talk about several of my own ethnomathematics-related projects. In particular, I will present mathematical takes on two old Haida betting games.

Throughout my presentation, I will try to demonstrate that a journey from a Bourbaki devotee to an ethnomathematics enthusiast may still be part of a long, happy, and productive mathematical life.