
ASMITA SODHI, Dalhousie University
Connecting concepts and community

As a pure mathematician who has taken absolutely no life sciences courses in their entire life, I am well-suited to teach calculus, but perhaps not so well-suited to convince my students in a one-and-done life sciences calculus course as to why they should care about this class beyond ticking off a box that gives them a required math credit. This semester, I intend to connect my students to members of the community working in the life sciences through including the work of these community members (loosely) in course assignments, as well as through a series of interviews. The hope is that students enrolled in life science calculus will be able to learn about different STEM professions and areas of study, and to see how they may encounter ideas from their math course in their future work. In this talk, I'll give an overview of how this project is going – it will still be in progress at the time of the conference!