MS1-3: Functions Applied: Precalculus Concepts Via Scientific Uses

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Students wishing to enter most science majors need a solid grounding in functions, graphs, and number sense. Research on undergraduate math education encourages applications, hands-on learning, and attention to current events. The course described in this talk covers many topics from precalculus, introducing each topic via applications drawn from at least two different science departments. Students write about and discuss mathematics, go to presentations, read current news articles, and in these and other ways, engage directly with the math topics they are learning and the ways math is used to support scientific endeavors.