Modeling with Geometry

Professional Development Program

for Teachers of Grades 9–12

Sponsored by

Ohio University

Modeling with Geometry is a yearlong professional development program. This program is intended for high school mathematics teachers and intervention specialists. It is open to commuters and residential participants.

Modeling with Geometry begins at Ohio University in Athens with a six-day (33 contact hour) summer institute, 10–15 July 2016, followed by:

- two days highlighting scholar presentations on 1–2 August at Ohio University,
- a Friday workshop on 28 October 2016 at the Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics meeting in Sandusky, and
- a Friday workshop on 17 February 2017 at Ohio University in Athens.

In addition, there will be yearlong online support, including biweekly webinars.

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1 The Modspar professional development program is offered through Ohio University. The program receives support from the Mathematical Modeling and Spatial Reasoning (Modspar) grant from the Ohio Department of Higher Education Improving Teacher Quality Program. Partners include Athens City Schools, the Athens–Meigs Educational Service Center, the OHIO Center for Equity in Mathematics and Science, the Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools (CORAS), Ohio University’s College of Arts and Sciences and Patton College of Education, the Departments of Mathematics and Teacher Education, and the Morton Professorship Endowment. The total estimated costs for the 2016–2017 Modspar project are $313,978, which includes a $175,598 grant of federal funds from the Improving Teacher Quality Program administered by the Ohio Department of Higher Education, covering approximately 56% of the total costs.

2 On-campus housing check-in for residential participants will occur on Sunday 10 July, and on Sunday 31 July or Monday 1 August as desired.
Modeling with Geometry Professional Development Program Details

Instructors: Greg Foley, Gaurav Sinha, Steve Phelps, Chris Haren, and Luci Howard

Participant benefits and take-away materials

- Low application costs ($100) to be returned to participants in the form of stipends.
- NCTM’s Implementing Standards-Based Mathematics Instruction.
- Lénárt Sphere for geometric modeling
- Workshop lunches are provided. Stipends: $280 for the summer institute ($40/day for 7 days).
- Free housing and meal plan for participants who live more than 45 mi away; commuter option available.
- Graduate credit option available: $600 for 4 graduate semester hours of credit ($150/credit hour).

Target Audience Teachers in Grades 9–12. To participate, teachers must have an implementation plan and the support of their school principal. Teachers are encouraged, but not required, to apply in pairs so that they can support each other’s implementation of the ideas and methods learned in the Modeling with Geometry program. Selection priorities include teachers who are not “highly qualified,” who are from schools with Performance Index letter grades of “D” or “F,” and teachers from districts identified as high poverty. All 9–12 teachers are welcome!

What Students now need to take 4 years of mathematics in high school to meet Ohio’s graduation requirements. Most of these students will follow career paths that do not require calculus, so they will benefit from a senior-level mathematics course that is different from traditional precalculus. Modeling with Geometry is a yearlong professional development program that explores geometric modeling and spatial reasoning. The program uses technology and inquiry as tools for teaching and learning mathematics. Modeling with Geometry will focus on the mathematics and modeling used in college and in workforce applications. The program includes 1 week of face-to-face instruction plus 2 days of participant presentations, online support including biweekly webinars, and two follow-up workshops on Fridays during the 2016–2017 school year. Substitute teacher pay (up to $100/day) will be provided for follow-up workshop participants.

Where Ohio University, Athens, Ohio. A room and meal plan is provided for residential participants who live more than 45 miles from Athens. The October follow-up will be held at the Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics conference in Sandusky. The February follow-up will be held at Ohio University in Athens.

When On-campus housing check-in for residential participants: 10 July, and 31 July or 1 August as desired. Classes: 10–15 July 2:00–5:00 PM Sun., 8:30 AM–4:30 PM Mon.–Thurs., 9:00 AM–2:00 PM Friday Follow-up workshops: 1–2 August & 28 October 2016 and 17 February 2017, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM.

Content

- What is a mathematical model? What is mathematical modeling?
- Modeling with transformational geometry
- Modeling with parametric equations and alternative coordinate systems
- Using 2D, 3D, and spherical models
- Planning and presenting rich lessons involving modeling and spatial reasoning

Technology Lénárt Sphere and geometry software, such as GeoGebra, TI-nspire CAS, Trimble SketchUp, Google Earth, and Spherical Easel

Objectives

- To give teachers activities and strategies for delivering the Ohio’s Mathematics Learning Standards for Grades 9–12.
- To engage teachers in investigating rich mathematical tasks and classroom discourse to enhance learning.
- To help teachers set up and enact lessons that incorporate cognitively demanding tasks, formative assessment, linked representations, modeling, and technology.
- To enhance the capacity to teach modeling in courses such as Ohio’s Modeling and Quantitative Reasoning (EMIS code 111350).
- To develop teachers' comfort level and proficiency in using the Lénárt Sphere and in using geometry software, such as GeoGebra, TI-nspire CAS, Trimble SketchUp, Google Earth, and Spherical Easel.
- To help teachers develop lesson alternatives for geometry courses and Grade 12 course alternatives to precalculus that incorporate modeling and technology in meaningful ways.