

Singapore Math Content Program Participant Comments

1. How well has this course met your needs and expectations?

Outstanding...when I read the description on the website which conveyed how to teach Math using Singapore (as a reference) I was concerned that I'd learn enough about Singapore to make a judgment for our school. It was a perfectly balanced course!

This course has met and exceeded any expectations. It is well organized, thorough and an excellent use of professional development time.

This course has met my expectations. I was a little worried that it would be too much over my head or even a sales pitch. I really feel that it taught me not only Singapore Math, but also the best way to teach math and renewed old skills.

Considering I have not seen or done algebra in 32 years, it was a great refresher along with an illuminating learning experience.

I feel it was great. I was able to grasp several concepts and build on some of the things I already know.

It has helped me to have a better understanding of math. Now I have to take what I learned here and apply it to my classroom.

I think it was beyond my expectations. I enjoyed it and learned so much! Thank you!

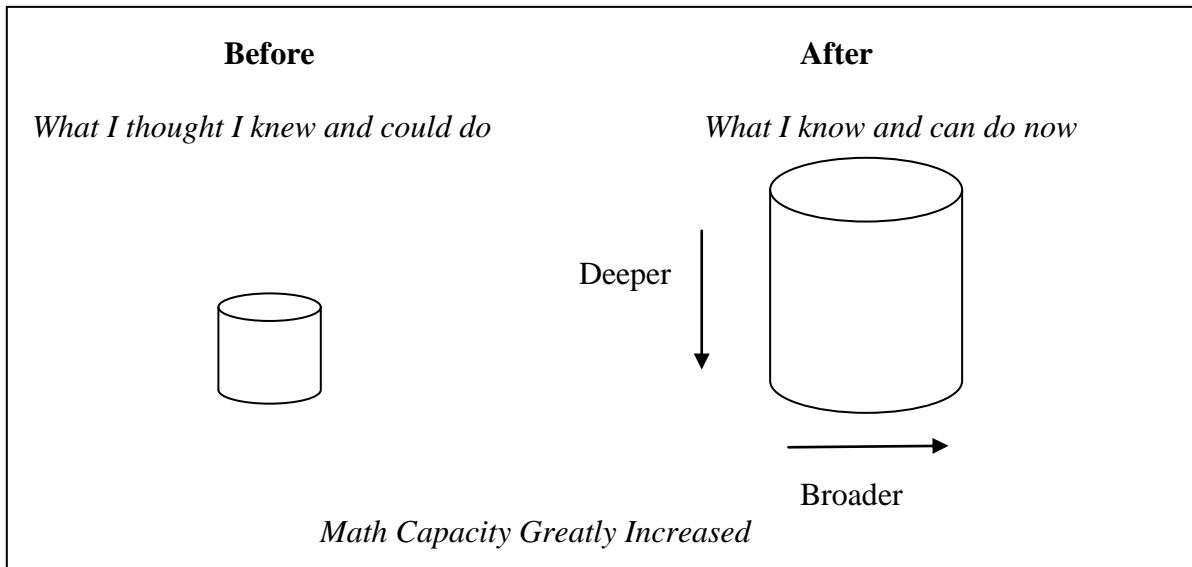
It has met my needs very well. I enrolled to learn about the Singapore Math program, and I now feel ready to support our teachers as they begin to use the materials. The course has exceeded my expectations. I did not anticipate thoroughly enjoying a week of math!

Gave me way more than I expected.

When I enrolled this course, I thought how different can it be, but now I feel a whole different world has been opened for me.

It really met my needs! My expectation, however, was that it would be more like a practical walk through the curriculum teacher's guide. This format was more beneficial however.

2. Has your understanding of elementary math content improved or your disposition towards math changed over the past five days?



Absolutely improved...and I've been humbled. Watching you teach, hearing the explanations has been a gift. Teaching elementary math is a real challenge and I leave here with a better set of tools and a new understanding of sequence.

Yes! Yes! Yes!

My understanding of elementary math content has improved. I feel I will be a better instructor and able to explain "why" questions more so than before.

Yes, definitely. It was something I had negative emotions and even some fear over – but I feel more confident after this week.

I have always had a great respect and understanding of math and numbers, but the value of this course is in the teaching applications. My content knowledge has grown exponentially, and my ability to teach this will be much better.

Yes, knowing that clarity and understanding is the key sticks out in my mind.

Yes! I've done many tricks and rules without knowing why they work. Now that I know why they work I can explain it better to others.

Yes! My understanding of what's important in elementary math has improved. My excitement about mathematical problem solving has dramatically increased.

When I started this course I thought I knew math very well, now I kind of feel like a student. I can't wait to prove to my husband how smart I am!

This is the second “Math for Teachers” class I’ve taken over the past 6 yrs and this one is leaps and bounds better! The math presented here builds confidence, is clear, and even those problems that are challenging are easily understood with minimal explanation.

3. Has your understanding of the Singapore Math curriculum improved as a result of this course?

Absolutely, I am on board and I hope my school will be too.

Yes...The power of this method of instruction is in the usual representations which are made. This is an excellent way to demonstrate math to children.

Yes. I am able to see how it is effective as a curriculum.

Yes! This course forced me to explain my answers and understand ways I would use Singapore Math in my class.

Yes!! I love it!

Greatly! I feel much more comfortable with the emphasis, the pacing, and the central skills and concepts.

Definitely. It (SM) was only a word when I came. Now I have a very good understanding of the program and how it presents math.

Positively, I thought it was a bunch of steps to follow, but I realize it is understanding and being able to explain to a person.

I knew nothing about Singapore Math when I came but I am very excited about using either the whole curriculum or pieces of it. If my school does not adapt Singapore Math I will definitely use aspects of what I have learned within another series.

4. How do you expect this course to impact your own teaching?

I will include many of the strategies for my class as a whole. In particular, I will use this for my concrete learners.

I will definitely be using some of the materials from the course, and teaching model drawing, and trying to do a better job of teaching math with understanding (for ex. the proof of why invert and multiply works.)

I plan on implementing the problem solving strategies immediately in the fall and this will result in higher test scores on our state exam.

More explanation for every step or action I take, while doing math and give the reasoning behind it.

5. What about this course is particularly good and should not be changed?

You're teaching it. I was initially concerned that I could sit for seven hours a day with one professor. The days flew by. Your style and manner work so well. I am going to try to emulate it. Bringing in 7 Hill [local teachers who use SM]

- Elements we cover
- Group work
- Rich as the teacher
- Bringing in 7 Hills teachers
- Having people show their solutions – Rich's reflections on these
- So much time on model drawings

I enjoyed the pace. It was enough time to absorb each concept, as well as, never boring.

This course taught by this instructor, Dr. Richard Bisk, is particularly good. He is better than other presenters who are not math professors.

The materials and the instructor

Enjoyed your sense of humor and examples that attached meaning to a problem.

Positive attitude, great professional learning environment, ability to work in groups and discuss.

Group work was great. It was helpful to see how different people found many ways to solve a problem.

Love the textbook. Class format, as far as working on sets of problems in group and presenting the problems in class were great.

The format was great. It was a perfect mix of explanation and independent/group work.

If you have any additional comments or suggestions, please attach additional pages.

Richy, this has been a great week in math (as good as that can be). I was afraid there would be a Math person teaching, but I feel like you are a teacher – teaching math. Thanks!

Thank you for an insightful, energetic and fun class. I'm starting grad school and this just excited me about it.

Thank you!

Thank you. I feel the week was well spent and I have lots to think about. I actually feel like I learned new strategies for myself.

*Great class and I have very much enjoyed working with you. Good Luck! ☺

Thanks for making this course an eye opener. Now I feel the importance of Math vs memorization.