

1077-L1-1526 **Erin Smith*** (Erin.Smith@zu.ac.ae). *Survey It! Using Surveys to Answer Student's Questions*. Many students at a Gulf university enroll in a mathematical modeling course that utilizes real life data to provide opportunities for data analysis and interpretation. This course is designed for students of non-science majors with varying mathematical ability and comfort levels. The course uses Excel as a mathematical tool for learning and includes a project students complete individually. One project designed and used in the course allows students to create, conduct, analyze, interpret and present conclusions to a survey using the statistical and graphing skills learned in the course. The goal of this project is to provide a meaningful mathematical experience using Excel as a tool while students gain a greater understanding of the use and applicability of statistics in their daily life. Additionally, students are able to improve their English writing skills as the project requires a submission of a written paper. Projects are evaluated using a rubric. Throughout the project, students exhibit a heightened level of enthusiasm, which is unseen earlier in the course. (Received September 20, 2011)