



MATH 485-01, Senior Seminar I, Fall 2008

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Syllabus

Senior Seminar I

Fall 2008

Instructor: Associate Professor Eric Gottlieb
Contact data: 317 Ohlendorf
Office hours: 2-3:30 MW, 2-3 (R)F. Unannounced visits are welcome, time permitting.
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843-3723 (email is better)

In junior seminar, you attended presentations by last year's seniors and by other speakers. This should have given you a sense of what a talk about mathematics should be like. In addition, you selected a topic to explore during your senior year and, over the summer, began to read and think about that topic. Senior seminar in mathematics is intended to build on this work by providing you with a sense of what it means to be a practicing research mathematician.

Mathematical work can be pure, applied, or interdisciplinary. Successful mathematicians in all of these categories must absorb previously established information, formulate conjectures or models, iteratively refine their thinking, prove new results, and communicate them to the broader mathematical world. These activities require intellectual independence, strong written and verbal communication skills, and participation in the mathematical community through conferences and other interactions with their professional organizations. Senior seminar will help you to develop these characteristics.

In senior seminar, you will build on your work in junior seminar by making progress on your chosen topic, by presenting your work in oral and written form, and by attending talks by your peers, professors, and others.

Your Final Grade will be determined using the attached grading scheme.