
COURSE INFORMATION
MATH 5301 (Graduate Seminar) 2012-13

Working under the guidance of an approved faculty advisor, graduate students will learn about a specialized area of mathematics through reading research papers and advanced graduate textbooks. As part of this course, the students will write a paper on their topic and will give a presentation (20 minutes long) describing the research conducted. The intention of this course is to provide students with the specialized background required for the Master's Project or Master's Thesis.

Time MW 2:30–4:00
Place Ryan Building 1045
Coordinator Adam Van Tuyl
Office: RB 2015
Text *(as needed)*
Email avantuyl@lakeheadu.ca

Notes on class time. During the first couple of weeks, and periodically throughout the semester, we will meet to discuss some general topics (e.g. how to give a math talk). Although we will not meet every class period, please keep the above times free every week. All presentations will take place during this time slot. You will also need to arrange to meet with your faculty advisor on regular basis. You may want to use this time slot to meet with him or her.

Notes on graduate advisor. Each graduate student will work with a faculty member of the Department of Mathematical Sciences. Students are asked to contact faculty members individually to determine if the faculty member would be willing to act as a graduate supervisor.

Notes on topic. As part of the Graduate Seminar, you will work with your supervisor to pick an area of mathematics to study. This topic will form the basis of your Master's Project (if you take Math 5801) or Master's Thesis (if you take Math 5901). The Graduate Seminar is the course in which you learn the requisite background.

Marking Scheme. Your grade in the course will be decided by your faculty advisor, with some addition input from course coordinator. Grades will be based upon both the written project (70%) and the oral presentation (30%).

Further notes:

- The onus is on the student to arrange meetings with your supervisor. It is recommended that you meet with your supervisor at least once a week.
- You are required to attend all talks given by students in the course. Failure to attend a talk will result in 5 points deducted from your mark.
- All material that is to be handed in should be typed up using \LaTeX , single sided, and stapled.
- \LaTeX templates for both the project and the presentation can be found on the Math 4301 (Honours Seminar) webpage.
- All students will be expected to attend Department Colloquiums, provided they have no other conflict.

Tentative Schedule. We will use the following schedule, which is subject to change. Changes to this schedule will be announced in class or via email.

Sept. 10, 2012	First semester begins
Sept. 10, 2012	Introduction to course and expectations
Sept. 12, 2012	Introduction to L ^A T _E X(I)
Sept. 17, 2012	Introduction to L ^A T _E X(II)
Sept. 19, 2012	Introduction to on-line tools (MathSciNet,arXiv), referencing
Oct. 8, 2012	Thanksgiving (No classes)
Nov. 12, 2012	Introduction to math presentations
Nov. 14, 2012	Introduction to using Beamer in L ^A T _E X
Dec. 3, 2012	First semester ends
Jan. 7, 2013	Second semester begins
Feb. 18-22, 2013	Reading Week (No classes)
Feb. 25-March 1, 2013 April 1, 2013	Easter Monday (no class)
April 2-4, 2013	Final Presentations (schedule to be determined)
April 9, 2013	Final Project Due
April 9, 2013	Second semester ends

Math 4301 vs Math 5301. This course will be run concurrently with Math 4301 (Honours Seminar). Because this is a graduate course, we have given you greater responsibility and independence in putting together your project and presentation. You may wish to follow the schedule for Math 4301 to keep yourself on track; however, you are under no obligation to do so. The course coordinator, Dr. Van Tuyl, will give feedback on your project and/or presentation if you request it.