

Math 591 - Topology Seminar

Course: Math 591 (Section 001), Topology Seminar.

Confirmed or very likely speakers (in alphabetical order): Daniel Davis, Maciej Niebrzydowski, Vic Schneider, Roger Waggoner, Thelma West. It is possible that there will be other speakers.

Time: Mondays at 3 p.m.

Location: MDD 214.

Organizer: Dr. Daniel Davis, MDD 402, dgdavis@louisiana.edu, 482-5943.

Grade information: One hour credit; possible grades are S or U (satisfactory or unsatisfactory; the “letter grade” scale will not be used). The only requirement is that regular attendance is required. Thus, you are not required to give a talk - there is no pressure in this regard!

Homepage for the seminar: www.ucs.louisiana.edu/~dxd0799/topologyseminar.html.

Seminar description: One 50 minute talk will be given each week by a member of the Topology group or a guest speaker (e.g., a professor from another university visiting a member of the Topology group or a student speaker). Examples of “talk types”: (a) an exposition of an advanced topic that the speaker is interested in, presented in a way that is accessible to a good portion of the audience - the speaker need not be an expert on the topic (thus, knowledge of all proofs and relevant definitions is not necessary); (b) research-level talks to aid the speaker and challenge and motivate the audience to make progress in their own research (sample skeleton: 10 minutes of exposition aimed at graduate students; 30 minute presentation aimed at faculty (in the Topology group); and 10 minutes of technical proof to aid the speaker and “wow” the audience); (c) presentations by graduate students.

Examples of planned or likely topics for talks (in alphabetical order; as indicated by discussion with the above (potential) speakers): algebraic geometry and extraordinary cohomology theories, algebraic knot theory, continuum theory, elliptic curves in homotopy theory, homotopy fixed points, Nielsen fixed-point theory, (profinite) topological rings, quandle/rack homology, span theory, topological groups. This list is not exhaustive.

Note to students: As mentioned above, you are not required to give a talk. However, if you would like to give a talk about a topic in topology, then that is certainly welcome.