

FD'00
PM

MA490 Math Seminar (1)

Fall 2000

W 3:00 – 4:00pm HH33/HH20

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. CHOCK Y. WONG

Office: Henry Hall 018 (Phone: 739-4682)

Office Hours: M 11:00–11:55am, W 12:00–12:50pm, MTWRF 2:00–3:00pm.

Course Description: This course is required for every Math major or minor. Reading and discussion of current or advanced mathematics topics. Topics vary semester by semester. Minimum one oral presentation is required for credit.

Prerequisites: Junior standing and by consent of instructor.

Objectives: Objectives of this course are

- (1) to make students aware of important new developments and trends in current mathematics;
- (2) to supplement those key topics which couldn't be covered by standard courses;
- (3) to provide opportunity to do individualized research;
- (4) to train students in oral presentation of mathematics topics.

Course Outline: In the first 10 weeks of the class, the instructor will lecture on selected topics, or lead sessions to discuss important current matters, while students preparing for their presentations. The last few weeks of the course will focus on student presentations.

Topics in lecturing and class discussion will include

- (1) Applied combinatorics — counting methods, generating functions;
- (2) Selected topics from theories using complex numbers;
- (3) Computer algebra — the DERIVE software;
- (4) Mathematics in the Web.

Grading: Will be based on attendance, class participation, and the required oral presentation.