

MATH 496 Seminar

Winter, 2006

Meeting time: 2 PM Friday (first 10 weeks); 10 AM, Wednesday, March 15.

Meeting place: KRH 345

Bulletin Description: Includes giving an oral report and writing a scholarly paper on an approved mathematical topic. Prerequisite: MATH 451 or 461. Open to junior/senior mathematics majors only.

Objectives: This course is designed to give you a capstone experience for your academic program. In addition to presenting your own paper, you will attend presentations by other students and faculty.

Course supervisor: Dr. Ken Wiggins, 338 KRH, 527-2088
Office hours: 3 MTu, 2 WTh, 11 F, Other office hours by appointment

Assessment: Grades will be based on participation and on the oral and written presentations of a scholarly paper.

Oral presentation: This presentations will be 25 to 50 minutes in length.

Written papers: Select a topic and a faculty advisor who will approve your project and help you with it. The final papers are often about five pages in length, but there is some variation. Bibliographies should include at least three items, including a book. Papers should be prepared using T_EX, MS Word with the equation editor, or software with similar capabilities. If you cannot complete your paper this quarter, your final paper may be turned in at the end of the first week of classes during spring quarter.

Attendance: Attendance is required, and absences will affect the grade. Three or more absences will result in a failing grade.

Week	Speaker	Topic
1	Anthony Aaby	Tarski's Axioms for Geometry
2	None	Teacher & student(s) meet
3	Ward Soper	The Polar Planimeter
4	Jonathan Duncan	Ultrametrics
5	Jonathan Duncan	Report on autumn quarter research
6	Jim Klein	Geometric Probability
7	Ken Wiggins	Capturing Dirac's Delta
8	Ken Wiggins	Taming Dirac's Delta
9	Tim Tiffin	TBA
10	Thomas Thompson	More Volumes by Slicing
11	Clinton Bartlett	TBA