

Marshall University

Course Title/Number	Math 589 / Graduate Mathematics Seminar
Semester/Year	Fall 2014
Days/Time	Monday 4:00pm-4:50pm
Location	SH 509
Instructor	Dr. Carl Mummert
Office	SH 742E
Phone	696-6156
E-Mail	mummertc@marshall.edu
Office/Hours	Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday 9:00am-11:00am
University Policies	By enrolling in this course, you agree to the University Policies listed below. Please read the full text of each policy by going to www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs and clicking on "Marshall University Policies." Or, you can access the policies directly by going to http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies University Policies: Academic Dishonesty, Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates, Computing Services Acceptable Use, Inclement Weather, Dead Week, Students with Disabilities, Academic Forgiveness, Academic Probation and Suspension, Academic Rights and Responsibilities of Students, Affirmative Action, Sexual Harassment

Course Description: From Catalog

A seminar on topics relevant to graduate students in mathematics, including college-level teaching, conducting research, professional ethics, and mathematics careers. This course does not satisfy any degree requirements, but is required for mathematics graduate assistants. CR/NC; 1 credit hour.

The table below shows the following relationships: How each student learning outcomes will be practiced and assessed in the course.

Course Student Learning Outcomes	How students will practice each outcome in this Course	How student achievement of each outcome will be assessed in this Course
Students will produce written reflections on their experience in graduate school and, as applicable, experiences with college-level teaching and mathematics research.	Class discussion	Personal statement
Students will produce documents using LaTeX publishing software.	Class discussion	LaTeX exam
Students will examine case studies related to teaching, research, and ethics; produce written summaries of their opinions; and discuss these opinions with the class.	Class discussion	Personal statement
Students will observe a freshman-level class and produce a written reflection.	Class discussion	Course observation assignment

Required Texts, Additional Reading, and Other Materials

1. *How to Teach Mathematics* by Steven Krantz. American Mathematical Society.
- 2.
- 3.

Course Requirements / Due Dates

1. October 1 - LaTeX exam due
2. October 13 - Personal statement due
3. November 3 - Course observation due
4. Class attendance
5. Research seminar attendance

Grading Policy

Students who complete all class requirements receive credit for the class.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory without an excused absence.

Course Schedule

- August 21 - Graduate Student Orientation (Thursday)
- August 25 - Getting started.
- September 1 - Labor day holiday -- no class.
- September 8 - Study skills and time management.
- September 15 - Writing and grading exams.
- September 22 - Exceptional students. Case study
- September 29 - To be determined.
- October 6 - Overview of mathematics research.
- October 13 - Applying to PhD Programs.
- October 20 - Teaching with technology.
- October 27 - Professional ethics. Case study.
- November 3 - To be determined.
- November 10 - To be determined.
- November 17 - End of semester checklist.
- December 1 - End of semester wrap up.

Math 589: Graduate Mathematics Seminar

Marshall University Department of Mathematics

Fall 2014

Note from the instructor

Since Spring 2014, this course is now titled “Graduate Mathematics Seminar”. As always, this course discusses college-level teaching, but the focus has expanded to include other topics relevant to mathematics graduate students. Please remember this course is a work in progress. The central goal is to support you in all aspects of your academic life at Marshall – taking classes, teaching, conducting research, and moving towards your career.

One focus of Math 589 this fall will be time management and study skills. Time management is a common issue both in graduate school and in academic jobs. Study skills are vital to succeeding in graduate school. As the instructor, I am not here to judge how you spend your or to require you to study in any particular way. The goal is to give you a chance to reflect on your own practices.

Course information

Instructor Dr. Carl Mummert. My office is Smith Hall 742E. My email address is mummertc@marshall.edu, and my office phone number is (304) 696-6156. My cell phone number is available on MU Online, for urgent matters only. I prefer to communicate by email.

Office hours I have an open door policy – you are welcome to stop in any time. My scheduled office hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9:00am to 11:00am.

Class meetings Monday at 4:00pm in Smith Hall 509. There are two irregular class meetings. The first meeting is Thursday, August 21. The second meeting is Tuesday, September 2. After those two meetings, the remainder will follow the usual schedule.

Catalog description A seminar on topics relevant to graduate students in mathematics, including college-level teaching, conducting research, professional ethics, and mathematics careers. This course does not satisfy any degree requirements, but is required for mathematics graduate assistants. CR/NC; 1 credit hour.

Course objectives

1. Students will produce written reflections on their experience in graduate school and, as applicable, experiences with college-level teaching and mathematics research.
2. Students will produce documents using LaTeX publishing software.
3. Students will examine case studies related to teaching, research, and ethics; produce written summaries of their opinions; and discuss these opinions with the class.
4. Students will observe a freshman-level class and produce a written reflection.

Assessment and grading The course is graded on a CR/NC system (credit or no credit). To receive credit, students must complete all required activities assigned during the semester. These include class attendance, an observation of a freshman-level class taught by a faculty member, and attendance at research seminars.

Assignments The following assignments are due during the Fall 2014. All assignments that you submit will be uploaded on MU Online.

- **Course observation.** You will observe a freshman-level class taught by another instructor, and then write a short reflection on it. I will provide full details.
- **Personal Statement.** You will prepare a personal statement and upload it on MU Online. I will provide full details.
- **Research seminars.** The department will host several research seminars during the semester. Attending these is a requirement of Math 589.
- **Class attendance.** Attendance in the weekly Math 589 class meetings is required.

Students with disabilities Students with documented learning disabilities or documented physical disabilities should contact me immediately, so that the proper arrangements can be made.

Equal opportunity This course will follow Marshall University policy on affirmative action, which gives all students equal opportunity without regard to race, color, sex, religion, age, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation.

Other policies All policies in the student handbook apply to this course, even if they are not explicitly listed here. Please consult the handbook for additional information on university-wide course policies.

Course schedule

Additional events, particularly research seminars, will be announced during the semester.

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Updated: August 16, 2014