MATH 4181
Seminar in Mathematics

Instructor: Dr. Simon Pfeil
Email: simon.pfeil@angelo.edu
Phone: 325-486-5436
Office: MCS 219C

Office Hours: (online only, via the below Blackboard Collaborate link)
https://us.bbcollab.com/guest/dfffcb65d8aa4d61948b14d5037dd244

Monday, 12:00pm – 2:00pm
Tuesday, 9:00am – 11:00am and 1:00pm – 2:00pm
Wednesday, 1:00pm – 2:00pm
Thursday, 9:00am – 11:00am and 1:00pm – 2:00pm
Friday, 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Course Information

Course Description
Presentations and discussions on selected topics to encourage an exchange among mathematics majors and faculty members.

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses
None.

Prerequisite Skills
Independent research and writing critical summaries.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- The students will demonstrate factual knowledge. Students will interpret and use the vocabulary, symbols, and basic concepts modeled for them in a variety of mathematical presentations.
• The students will demonstrate an understanding of fundamental principles of mathematics and mathematical presentations. Students will reflect on and discuss the mathematical ideas developed in the presentations, as well as the presentation techniques themselves.

• **The students will apply the course material.** Students will use the concepts and techniques learned in this class to deepen their understanding and appreciation of mathematics, and also to develop and improve their ability to research and deliver effective mathematical presentations.

• **The students will develop specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by mathematicians.** Students will interpret and use the vocabulary, symbols, and basic concepts modeled for them in a variety of mathematical presentations.

**Course Delivery**

This is a face-to-face course with online components that students are expected to access in Blackboard.

**Required Texts and Materials**

None.

**Technology Requirements**

You must have access to computing facilities that will allow you to create a presentation with digital slides.

**Communication**

Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

**Written communication via email:** All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

**Virtual communication:** Office hours and/or advising may be done via Blackboard Collaborate.

**Grading**

**Evaluation and Grades**

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percent of Total Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Response</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading System**

Course grades will depend on completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes. You will receive a grade of F if you do not give a presentation or if you fail to give a response.

This course uses the following grading scale:
- A = 90.00-100 points
- B = 80.00-89.99 points
- C = 70.00-79.99 points
- D = 60.00-69.99 points
- F = 0-59.99 points (Grades are not rounded up)

**Assignment and Activity Descriptions**

**Presentation (30%)**: You will be assigned a mentor and a presentation date the first week of class. You are expected to communicate with the mentor by September 1 and have a topic by September 8. The presentation must be presented live and in person. No pre-recorded presentations will be allowed. An abstract for your talk is due the Friday before your talk.

The presentation must be between 15 and 25 minutes long.

**Attendance and Participation (50%)**: You are required to attend all. You may miss up to one class for any reason without penalty. Every missed class after the first will reduce your final grade by 5% (up to 50%). The participation portion of this category is related to taking part in the talks. You must, at least twice during the semester, ask a substantive question. Failure to do either will result in a penalty of up to 20%.

**Response (20%)**: You will be assigned a talk to which you will respond during the first week of class. The response must be written using LaTeX. A free online compiler for LaTeX can be found at overleaf.com. Register with your Angelo State University email address to take advantage of their free student accounts.
General Policies Related to This Course

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject to disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website.

The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dr. Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112
Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Miller, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:
Online: Incident Reporting Form
Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
Phone: 325-942-2022
Email: michelle.miller@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit the Title IX website.

Information About COVID-19
Please refer to ASU’s COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Updates web page for current information about campus guidelines and safety standards as they relate to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Modifications to the Syllabus
This syllabus, including grade evaluation and course schedule, is subject to modification on potentially short notice based on developing circumstances.

Course Schedule
  Week 1: Introduction and Syllabus
  Week 2: Faculty Presentation
  Week 3: Faculty Presentation
  Week 4: Faculty Presentation
  Week 5: Student Presentations
  Week 6: Student Presentations
  Week 7: Student Presentations
  Week 8: Student Presentations
  Week 9: Student Presentations
  Week 10: Student Presentations
  Week 11: Student Presentations
  Week 12: Student Presentations
  Week 13: Student Presentations
  Week 14: Thanksgiving Break
  Week 15: Student Presentations
1. https://blackboard.angelo.edu/
3. https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/
5. https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/
6. https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures
9. https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of
10. https://www.angelo.edu/incident-form
11. https://www.angelo.edu/title-ix
12. https://www.angelo.edu/covid-19/