

MATH 4181 – 010 – Seminar in Mathematics – Spring 2022

Contact Information:

- Instructor: Jesse Taylor
- Office: MCS 219E
- Email: jesse.taylor@angelo.edu
- Our Classroom: MCS 210
- Meeting Times: 12:00-12:50 Monday
- Office Hours:
 - Monday: 10:00-11:00am
 - Tuesday: 12:00-1:00pm, 2:00-2:30pm
 - Wednesday: 1:00-4:00pm
 - Thursday: 2:00-2:30pm
 - Friday: 10:00-11:00am, 12:00-1:00pm
 - If the above times do not work please email me to set up another time to meet; virtual office hours are available by request.

Required Textbook

There is no required textbook for this class.

Course Description

Student presentations and discussions on selected topics in mathematics to encourage an exchange among math majors and math faculty members.

Grading

Your grade in this class will be determined based on the following grading rubric.

- Attendance and participation: 50%
- Presentation: 30%
- Response essay: 15%
- Abstract submission: 5%

Each of these categories is addressed in more detail below. Your final letter grade in this class will be determined based on a ten-point grading scale.

Attendance and Participation

You are required to attend all class meetings. 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 ask a substantive question at least twice during the semester. Failure to ask these questions will result in a penalty of up to 20% for each omitted question (up to 40%).

Presentations

You are expected to give one presentation between 15 and 25 minutes long during the course of the semester. You will be assigned a faculty mentor and a presentation date during the first week of class. You are expected to communicate with your mentor by February 1 and have a topic chosen by February 8. Your presentation must be given live and in-person. No pre-recorded presentations will be allowed. An abstract for your talk is due by class time during the week before your talk (more on abstracts below).

Note that your grade will be adversely affected if you are outside of the time window (15-25 minutes). Please practice your talk out loud before giving it in front of the class.

Response

You will be assigned a talk to which you will respond during the first week of class. The response must be typed and free of typographical and mathematical errors. It should describe the major content of the presentation and your response to it, and be between 500-1000 words.

Bonus: You will receive a 3% bonus for a response written using LaTeX. A free online compiler for LaTeX can be found at overleaf.com (it does not require any downloads). Register with your Angelo State University email address to take advantage of their free student accounts.

Abstract

An abstract is a brief description of a talk or paper. You are required to submit an abstract for your talk one week before your presentation. We will discuss abstracts further in class. Failure to submit your abstract on time will result in a 2.5% penalty per day on your final grade (up to 5%).

Technology

Unless you have special accommodations documented with the Student Life office, no cell phones, tablets, laptops, games, or other electronic devices may be used at any time during class or during any test.

Notes

- If the university is unexpectedly closed for a scheduled class time, whatever was scheduled for that day and/or whatever was due that day will be scheduled and/or due on the next scheduled class day.
- All electronic correspondence will be sent to your ASU email account unless other arrangements are made.
- Good luck. I want you to succeed in this course. If at any point during the semester you feel as if you do not understand the material, please come talk with me as soon as possible. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

- All items and dates in this syllabus are subject to change as the semester progresses. Students will be notified in class of any changes, and the changes will not be updated within this syllabus.

Mathematics 4181 – Seminar in Mathematics

Student Learning Outcomes

1. **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.
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **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.

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](#)ⁱ
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)ⁱⁱ

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 of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university's [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).ⁱⁱⁱ

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](#).^{iv} 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](#)^v for more information.

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](#)^{vi} 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](#)^{vii}

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](#).^{viii}

Information About COVID-19

Please refer to ASU's [COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) Updates](#)^{ix} 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.

ⁱ <https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.angelo.edu/live/files/27603-student-handbook-2020-21#page=96>

^{iv} <https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/>

^v <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures>

^{vi} <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of>

^{vii} <https://www.angelo.edu/incident-form>

^{viii} <https://www.angelo.edu/title-ix>

^{ix} <https://www.angelo.edu/covid-19/>