Regulations for Doctoral Students in Mathematics

A supplement to the regulations in the Graduate School Bulletin of Information

Contents

New Students .................................................................................................................. 2
Course Requirements .................................................................................................... 2
Advisers .......................................................................................................................... 3
Candidacy Examinations ............................................................................................... 4
Thesis ............................................................................................................................. 5
Summary of Requirements for the Ph.D. ...................................................................... 6
Student Status ............................................................................................................... 6
The M.S. Degree .......................................................................................................... 7
Financial Support ........................................................................................................ 7
Teaching Opportunities ............................................................................................... 7
Travel ............................................................................................................................. 8
Director of Graduate Studies ...................................................................................... 8
Grievance Procedure .................................................................................................. 8
Graduate School Regulations ..................................................................................... 9
Basic Course Syllabi ................................................................................................... 10
  Algebra ..................................................................................................................... 10
  Real Analysis ............................................................................................................ 11
  Complex Analysis .................................................................................................... 11
  Geometry/Topology .................................................................................................. 12
  Logic ......................................................................................................................... 13
  Discrete Mathematics ............................................................................................. 13
  Optimization ............................................................................................................ 14
  Basic PDE ............................................................................................................... 14
  Probability ............................................................................................................... 15
New Students

A new graduate student should plan to arrive at Notre Dame well before registration. There are orientation events hosted by the Graduate School, and there may be departmental orientation events as well. Normally classes begin on a Tuesday and graduate orientation begins the Monday of the week before. There is also the chance to be invited to enroll early, and this is determined on a year-by-year basis. Every student will be assigned a first-year adviser. The student should talk with the Director of Graduate Studies (DGS), with the first-year adviser, and with other faculty members, to get acquainted in the department and to decide on appropriate first-year courses.

Course Requirements

In the first year, a student normally registers for four courses per semester. Four basic courses is a common load, but students are permitted and encouraged to “place out” of basic courses if they arrive with an adequate knowledge of the material (the procedure for doing this is described later). A first-year student not taking four basic courses is expected to take topics courses and/or readings courses to bring the course load to four. Occasionally, there is reason for a student to take a different number of courses, but this needs the approval of the adviser and the DGS.

Basic Courses

60210, 60220 Algebra I, II
60330 Basic Geometry and Topology
60350, 60360 Real Analysis I, II
60370, 60380 Complex Analysis I, II
60440 Basic Topology II
60510, 60520 Logic I, II
60610 Discrete Mathematics
60620 Optimization
60650 Basic PDE
60670 Basic Differential Geometry
60850 Probability

Several of these courses are normally offered every year in the Mathematics Department. The basic courses provide essential background for later work. Basic courses all have regular homework and comprehensive examinations. The basic classes offered in the fall do not have prerequisites. For certain two semester sequences, such as Algebra, Real Analysis, Complex Analysis, and Logic, the first is a prerequisite for the second. Both Basic Topology II and Basic Differential Geometry depend on Basic Geometry and Topology. Probability (60850) has a prerequisite of Real Analysis I.

At the end of these regulations is a syllabus for each of the basic courses, together with references covering this material.

Further courses in Mathematics

Other courses serve to introduce an area of mathematics, but they assume some background. Algebraic Geometry (60710) is better taken in the second year, after some basic algebra and/or complex analysis. Probability (60850) has a prerequisite of Real Analysis I. The syllabi for these and other similar courses are given after those for the basic courses.

The other courses in the department are directed readings courses (56xxx and 86xxx), topics courses, and Intermediate Geometry and Topology (70330). These do not have fixed syllabi—the same course number is used for courses covering very different material in different years.
A first-year student may be able to place out of one or more basic courses. To do so, the student must convince the faculty member teaching the basic course that he or she has mastered the material on the syllabus. A student who places out of a basic course substitutes a readings course or a topics course. Thus, by placing out of one or more basic courses, the student may be able to accelerate the process of beginning research.

A first-year student should select basic courses carefully, with the help of the adviser and other faculty members. A student who is undecided about a research area, or is trying to choose among several areas, must choose courses with special care, to keep open all of the options.

To be full-time in the Graduate School, a student must be registered for at least 9 credits. Above, there is a description of the usual schedule for the first year student, and below there is a description of what happens in the second year and after.

The selection of an area of specialization normally occurs by the end of the first year or the beginning of the second year. Students should explore possible areas of research as soon as possible, by taking topics and readings courses, attending departmental colloquia and seminars, and talking with various faculty members.

In the second year, a student normally registers for three courses per semester. These may be a combination of basic and topics courses. A student who has not yet passed the oral candidacy examination may register for a 3-credit readings course with a possible adviser.

After the second year, a student may be full-time by registering for 9 credits of research and dissertation. However, most students should continue to register for interesting or important courses through the full time of study at Notre Dame.

A student's schedule must always have the approval of the adviser, and anything unusual must also be approved by the DGS.

Course requirements are summarized as follows.

1. A student must, by the end of the first year, complete or place out of 6 basic courses, approved by the adviser, to be counted as the written candidacy examination. More below.

2. A student must accumulate at least 36 credits in basic and topics courses, or possibly, directed readings, during the first three years at Notre Dame. There is no transfer of credits. (Fourth and fifth year students should continue to register for topics courses, as appropriate.) The Graduate School requires at least 60 credits for graduation. This includes credits from the research and dissertation course.

3. Maintain an average G.P.A. of at least B (3.0). This is a condition for being in good academic standing.

4. All students are expected to attend departmental colloquia. Students are also expected to participate in seminars related to their mathematical interests.

Advisers

A new student has an initial adviser assigned by the DGS. As soon as feasible, the student should be working with a permanent adviser/thesis director. Sometimes the initial adviser ends up as the thesis director, but often there is a change in adviser. Well before the oral candidacy examination, the student needs an adviser who has agreed at least to supervise the student’s preparation for this examination.
To change advisers, the student needs the consent of the new adviser. In addition, the student should inform the DGS and, as a courtesy, the former adviser.

After passing the oral candidacy examination, a student may wish to change area as well as adviser. There is no problem in doing this so long as the student has taken the appropriate courses and has the consent of the new adviser. The student need not re-take the candidacy examinations.

The student should always feel free to come to the adviser, or the DGS, to talk about various aspects of academic life.

Candidacy Examinations

The candidacy examination has two components: written and oral.

Written Candidacy Examination

In the Mathematics Department, the written work in the basic first-year courses is counted as the written candidacy examination. The typical student passes the written candidacy examination by completing at least 6 basic three-credit courses, each with a grade of $B$ or better (not $B-$. A student who places out of the first semester of a basic two semester course sequence and then takes the second semester with a grade of $B$ or better, will be allowed to count both semesters toward the written exam. Alternatively, a student who places out of a basic course may earn the right to count this course toward the written candidacy examination by taking a final exam in the course and getting a grade of $B$ or better on that exam. The written candidacy requirement must be completed in the first year.

Oral Candidacy Examination

The oral candidacy examination, taken after the written candidacy examinations are completed, focuses on an “advanced” topic. This may be related to a topics course or seminar, or it may come from advanced research texts or articles. In any case, the student should begin working on the advanced topic, with an advisor, well in advance of the examination. The material to be counted as the advanced topic must have the approval of the advisor and the DGS.

The board of examiners for the oral candidacy examination consists of four examiners from the Mathematics Department. The members of the examining board are selected by the DGS (based on suggestions of the student and adviser). Normally, the adviser is one of the examiners.

The topic for the oral candidacy examination should be chosen months before the examination. The syllabus for the oral candidacy examination must be made available to all members of the examining board at the time they agree to serve. All examiners should restrict their questions to the advanced topic or other material on the given syllabus. Thus, the syllabus should provide guidance to the examiners.

The oral candidacy examination begins with a presentation by the student lasting between 30 and 50 minutes (the time should be set by the adviser within this interval). This is followed by questions on material from a syllabus related to the presentation. The examination lasts from one and a half to two hours.

After the completion of the examination, the four examiners vote “pass” or “fail.” A vote of “pass” means that, in the eyes of the particular examiner, the student has passed all parts of the examination. How any examiner voted is not to be made known to the student. The student is considered to have passed the oral candidacy examination only if at least three of the four
examiners vote “pass”. Three “fail” votes is failing. In the case of a split vote, the examination committee will assign the student some additional work, such as writing out some solutions, giving a talk, or retaking the oral exam, and then redo the vote once this work is completed. The requested work must be clearly outlined with a concrete deadline. This second vote must be “passing” or “failing”. If the student fails, the examiners will vote whether to recommend the student for a master’s degree. The student and Graduate School must be informed of the outcome of the examination immediately. In the case of a split vote it is enough to inform the Graduate School that there was a split vote but not how everyone voted, the additional required work, and the timetable for completion and a second vote.

The oral candidacy examination is usually held in early September, late November, late January, and/or April. Students are encouraged to take the examination as early as possible. In general, students must take the oral candidacy examination by the end of January in the second year. In special circumstances, a short delay may be allowed, with the permission of the DGS. Students must pass the oral candidacy examination no later than April of the second year.

In the Mathematics Department, there is no requirement for a “doctoral dissertation proposal.” The material for the advanced topic may include specific research problems and partial results, but in most cases, the candidacy examination comes at a time when the student can only propose to work in a certain area.

The Thesis

Thesis research, under the supervision of the thesis director, normally begins after the successful completion of the candidacy examinations. The thesis director is expected to be concerned with the interest and significance of a thesis topic, with the originality of the research, and with the accuracy and the style of the manuscript. The final draft of the thesis should provide enough background and detail to make for easy reading by a semi-expert in the area, but should also be in a form that can easily be edited and shortened for publication, so that it would be suitable for publication in a good peer-reviewed mathematics journal.

After the thesis director has approved the thesis, it is submitted to three official readers. Normally, these are professors in the Mathematics Department at Notre Dame (Sometimes, however, experts from other universities serve.). The DGS must approve the choices. After all three official readers have approved the thesis, the thesis defense can be scheduled. In approving the thesis, the official readers certify that it is worthy of defense. They may continue to require changes.

Thesis Defense

The thesis defense is an oral examination on the contents of the thesis and its relation to other work in the same area. The board of examiners for the thesis defense normally consists of four examiners, where these are the thesis director and the three official readers. Sometimes, there are two advisors.

The examination begins with a 30-50 minute presentation by the Ph.D. candidate, prepared in consultation with the thesis director (who also sets the length). A round of questions follows this by the examiners. There may be questions about specific points in the thesis, and also about the importance of the research and what further work it suggests. A thesis defense is public, in the sense that people other than the candidate and the members of the board of examiners may be present for the lecture. Such people leave the room prior to the vote and questioning. Voting is as for the oral candidacy examination. As for the oral candidacy examination, the candidate is informed of the outcome immediately.
After a successful defense, the candidate may still need to make minor changes in the thesis. Then the final version of the thesis, signed by the thesis director, is submitted to the Graduate School.

Getting the thesis read and approved, scheduling the thesis defense, making corrections, and having the thesis accepted by the Graduate School is a time-consuming process that requires strict adherence to the timetables set by the Department of Mathematics and the Graduate School. The thesis must be submitted to the readers well before the Graduate School deadline for submission of theses. The latter is roughly two months before the graduation date. August graduation entails special difficulties, since there are fewer faculty members available during the summer to serve as official readers.

There are strict rules about formatting, margins, etc., which must be observed if the thesis is to be accepted by the Graduate School. The Ph.D. candidate should be sure to consult the Graduate School’s Guide for Formatting and Submitting Doctoral Dissertations and Master’s Theses (available on the Graduate School’s website at http://graduateschool.nd.edu/resources-for-current-students/dt/). This document changes from year to year, so it is important to consult the current version and other students who have recently written theses.

**Summary of Official Requirements for the Ph.D. Degree**

1. Courses and credits—appropriate basic courses, 36 credits in basic and topics courses, plus further credits to make a total of 60 credits.

2. Residency—4 consecutive semesters of full-time study (as required by the Graduate School). The term “full-time” means that the student is registered for at least 9 credits, and that the schedule is approved by the adviser.

3. Written and oral candidacy examinations

4. Admission to Degree Candidacy (see the Graduate School *Bulletin of Information*)

5. Thesis carried through the following steps:
   a. approved by the adviser and all three readers
   b. prepared for electronic submission
   c. signed by adviser
   d. accepted by the Graduate School

6. Thesis Defense (this cannot be officially scheduled until steps 1-4 and 5a are completed).

**Student Status**

The Mathematics Department does not admit students who plan to study on a part-time basis.

A student is considered to be full-time if he or she is registered for at least 9 credits and the adviser certifies that the student is working full-time. At first, the work is almost entirely tied to courses. Later, the thesis is the main focus. In some cases, the student may simply register for 9 credits of research and dissertation.

To be in good academic standing, a student must maintain a G.P.A. of at least 3.0 and be on schedule in terms of course work and examinations. In addition, once the student is no longer registered for basic courses, the adviser must indicate that the student is making satisfactory progress. Thus, it is essential for the student to keep the adviser informed about his or her progress. Normally, a student who is not registered for basic courses is registered for research and
dissertation with an adviser, and the adviser indicates that the student is making satisfactory progress by giving a grade of at least B in this course.

A student who does not succeed in passing the first year courses is not permitted to continue in the second year. A student who does not pass the candidacy examinations by the end of the second year is not permitted to continue in the third year. A student who, for two consecutive semesters, fails to maintain good academic standing (as described above) is not permitted to continue further.

A student must fulfill all doctoral requirements, including the dissertation and its defense, within eight years from the time of matriculation. Failure to complete any of the Graduate School or departmental requirements within the prescribed period results in forfeiture of degree eligibility. A student is normally expected to finish within five years.

The M.S. Degree

The graduate program in the Mathematics Department is almost entirely a Ph.D. program. Students are not normally admitted directly to a Master's program. There is a Master of Science in Interdisciplinary Mathematics degree, for students who do not need funding and wish to pursue an interdisciplinary project, or to carry out serious mathematical work while pursuing a Ph.D. in another department. (The requirements for the MSIM are available through the DGS.)

A student who is working toward a Ph.D. in Mathematics may qualify for a Master of Science degree along the way, if he or she has accumulated 30 credit hours, has passed the written candidacy examination, and has either passed the oral candidacy examination or (without passing) exhibited sufficient knowledge to obtain a positive recommendation from the examiners. Having met the requirements, a student must also ask to have his or her name put on the graduation list. The Master of Science degree is not given automatically.

Financial Support

The goal of our financial support is to provide enough income so that our graduate students can focus on mathematics, hopefully earn a Ph.D., and help the department with our teaching needs. Continued financial support requires the student to maintain good academic standing, and to carry out in a conscientious way any teaching (or other) duties associated with the support. The Mathematics Department rarely provides financial support beyond the fifth year. Supported students may do mathematical relevant work, like tutoring or helping with online homework, up to two hours per week, with the permission of the adviser and the DGS. Otherwise, teaching assistants nor fellowship holders are not allowed to take any employment without special approval from their adviser and the DGS, including during the summer semester. Students supported by non-departmental funds might be expected to help with conferences, maintain web sites, online classes, etc. In this case what is required must be made clear prior to the start of the support and approved by the funder, adviser and DGS. Decisions about financial support are made at the end of the spring semester for the next academic year. Students are informed about support at that time.

Teaching Opportunities

For an academic job, teaching experience is vital. First year students have no teaching duties. Most second year students are expected to attend TA orientation, which is held, starting at 9am, on the Thursday before classes in the fall semester. For exceptions see the DGS. Second, and many third year students, are typically assigned to be a Teaching Assistant (TA) in a multi-section course. The opportunity to teach does exist, usually as the instructor of one section of a multi-section introductory course, under the supervision of a senior faculty member, or a summer class.
In order to teach their own class, students must first **successfully** serve as a Teaching Assistant and have satisfactorily lectured in the Mathematics Teaching Seminar (Math 83990). The Mathematics Teaching Seminar runs every spring semester. The Deans and Kinesis-Fernández Richards Family Endowed Fellowships allow the holder to take up to 2 years off from TA or teaching duties, when it makes mathematical sense, with the approval of their adviser and the DGS.

**Travel**

All travel must be approved prior to traveling. Travel to attend conferences and to give seminars is encouraged. Travel approval forms are available on the department web site. These forms must be completed **prior** to travel when going on a research trip, any travel where TA or teaching duties are missed, and any extended personal trip (including summers). If you are the sole instructor for a course or not teaching or TAing, your adviser signature on the travel form is sufficient approval.

Department funds for graduate student travel are limited. All other funding sources should be exhausted before requesting department funds. Most meetings provide some sort of travel support for graduate students. Be sure to ask your adviser for support. Advisers with research funding are normally expected to cover their students’ travel expenses. If you are giving a talk, you should also apply for funds through the GSU (http://gsu.nd.edu/about/cpg/). GSU support also needs to be approved BEFORE your trip (a minimum of 1 month prior to the conference start date). In your request for department funding, be sure to document what external funding is available and what funding you’ve received or have been awarded. If you are asking for department funding, please see the DGS for an additional signature authorizing reimbursement.

**The Director of Graduate Studies**

The DGS has responsibility in the following areas:

1. Overseeing and troubleshooting the Ph.D. program.
2. Coordinating the graduate admissions process including assigning initial advisors.
3. Act as resource for prospective and current graduate students

The department’s Associate Chair makes teaching assignments with the help of the DGS.

The Department Chair and the DGS, in consultation with the adviser, when appropriate, make recommendations for fellowships and stipends.

**Grievance Procedure**

If a mathematics graduate student has a grievance, the procedure is to go first to the DGS, unless the grievance involves the DGS, in which case, the student should approach the Department Chair. The DGS, or the Department Chair, will try to work with the parties involved to reach a solution. If this is not sufficient, the Department Chair will appoint an *ad hoc* committee of faculty members and students (not directly involved) to hear a particular case. If the student feels that this is not enough, then he or she may appeal to the Graduate School. The Graduate School *Policies and Grievance and Appeal Procedures* can be found in the Graduate School *Bulletin of Information* or on their website at http://graduateschool.nd.edu/resources-for-current-students/.
Departmental Appeal of Dismissal

A graduate student who fails to meet the requirements involving coursework and exams may be automatically dismissed from the program. These requirements are:

1. earning the right to count 6 basic courses toward the written candidacy exams in the first year,
2. completing the oral exam by the end of the second year,
3. earning 36 credit hours in basic and topics (or readings) courses within the first three years, with a GPA of at least 3.0.

There are further grounds for dismissal, which are more subjective---failure to make adequate progress in research, failure to work with the adviser toward the thesis document, failure to perform TA duties properly. Before a student is dismissed for these more subjective grounds, he/she will receive a warning letter from the DGS, with specific steps that need to be carried out by a specified time. At the end of this time, the Graduate Studies Committee will determine whether the steps have been carried out. If the decision is negative, then the student is dismissed. There are very limited grounds for appealing dismissal. The student must show that the decision resulted not from his/her failure to meet expectations, but from personal bias or improper procedures. Since the decision to dismiss involves the DGS, an appeal, if any, starts with the Chair, who will appoint an ad hoc committee, if appropriate. A further appeal to the Graduate School is possible, under very limited conditions. See the Graduate School Bulletin of Information.

Graduate School Regulations

There are a number of graduate school regulations and policies that impact the department. For example, everyone is now required to attend the Responsibilities and Ethics in the Conduct of Research workshop and graduate school orientation. Some of these policies and regulations can be found in The Graduate Bulletin of Information (http://graduateschool.nd.edu/resources-for-current-students/).
Syllabi for Basic First-year Courses

Algebra I, II

The examinable material for the graduate algebra candidacy exam is 1 through the first part of 3 below (up to but not including categories), though Algebra I will usually cover more than this. Topics labeled *, and perhaps additional topics not mentioned, may be covered at the discretion of the instructor.

1. Groups
Groups. Cyclic groups, permutation groups symmetric and alternating groups, matrix groups. Subgroups, quotient groups, direct products, homomorphism theorems. Automorphisms, conjugacy. Cosets, Lagrange's theorem. Group actions, G-sets, Sylow theorems, free groups and presentations.

2. Rings

3. Modules

4. Canonical forms of matrices of linear transformations
Jordan, rational and primary rational canonical forms. Invariant factors and elementary divisors.

5. Fields

6. Tensor products
Tensor products, *algebras, *(the tensor, symmetric and exterior algebras)

7. Chain conditions
Artinian and Noetherian rings and modules, Hilbert basis theorem. *Simple and semisimple modules.

8. Commutative algebra

References
T. Hungerford, Algebra, Graduate Texts in Mathematics 73.
N. Jacobson, Basic algebra I, II. S. Lang, Algebra.
Real Analysis I, II

Basic Real Analysis I:

Basic Real Analysis II:
$L^p$ spaces and their duals, distribution functions and weak $L^p$ spaces, inequalities of Holder, Minkowski and Jensen, Riesz-Thorin and Marcinkiewicz interpolation theorems, Radon measures and Riesz representation theorem, the dual of $\mathcal{S}$, Fourier transform in $L^p$, the Schwarz class, convolutions and approximation, Fourier inversion formula and Plancherel theorem, Fourier transform in $L^p$ with $1 \leq p \leq 2$, Hausdorff-Young and Young inequalities, tempered distributions, operations on distributions, convergence and summability of Fourier series and integrals, summability kernels (Dirichlet, Fejer, Poisson and Gauss-Weierstrass), Sobolev spaces;

Optional material (depending on instructor) may include further topics from: harmonic analysis on euclidean spaces, spectral theory, applications to PDE, applications to probability;

Textbooks:
Folland, Real Analysis
Rudin, Real and Complex Analysis
Stein and Shakarchi, Princeton Lectures in Analysis
Wheeden and Zygmund, Measure and Integral

Complex Analysis I, II


References
Ahlfors, Complex Analysis.
Burchel, An Introduction to Classical Complex Analysis I.
Conway, Functions of One Complex Variable.
Complex Analysis I covers approximately Chapters 1-6 of Ahlfors. Complex Analysis II covers the remaining material.

**Basic Geometry and Topology (Fall Semester)**


2. Basic algebraic topology: fundamental group, covering spaces, the van Kampen Theorem, the fundamental group of a surface.

3. Smooth manifolds: tangent bundle and cotangent bundle, vector bundles, constructions with vector bundles (sums, products symmetric and exterior powers), sections of vector bundles, differential forms, the de Rham complex, inverse and implicit function theorems, transversality.

**References**

Munkres, *Topology*.

Hatcher, *Algebraic Topology (Chapter 1)*.

Lee, *Introduction to Smooth Manifolds*.

**Basic Topology II (Spring Semester)**

1. Homology: singular homology, the Eilenberg-Steenrod axioms, homology group of spheres, the degree of a map between spheres, homology calculations via CW complexes, proof of homotopy invariance, proof of excision, universal coefficient and Kunneth Theorem.

2. Cohomology: the cup product, the cohomology ring of projective spaces.

3. Poincaré duality.

**Reference**

Hatcher, *Algebraic Topology*

**Basic Differential Geometry (Spring Semester)**


2. Riemannian geometry: Levi Cevita connection, exponential map, Jacobi fields, arc length variation formulas, fundamental equations for metric immersions and submersions, space forms, Hopf-Rinow, Hadamard-Cartan, Bonnet-Myers (Gauss-Bonnet, Bochner technique).

3. Other geometric structures: (one or more of Kahler manifolds, symplectic manifolds, contact manifolds).

**References**


Grove, *Riemannian geometry: A metric entrance*.
Logic I, II

1. Model Theory
First order predicate logic. Structures and theories. Compactness theorem. Ultraproducts. Löwenheim-Skolem theorems. Saturation and homogeneity. Quantifier elimination: methods, examples, and applications. Types and type spaces. Prime and Saturated models. Countable models and countable categoricity. Henkin constructions should be seen, for example in the omitting types theorem. If time permits, more advanced topics may be included.

References
C. C. Chang and H. J. Keisler, Model Theory.
D. Marker, Model theory, an introduction.
K. Tent and M. Ziegler, A course in model theory.

2. Computability Theory
Turing machines. Primitive recursive functions, partial recursive functions, equivalence of Turing and Kleene definitions. Recursive sets, computably enumerable sets. The Recursion Theorem. Index sets and Rice's Theorem. Strong reducibilities ($m$-reducibility, $1$-reducibility). Relative computability, Turing degrees, jumps, the Kleene-Post Theorem. The arithmetical hierarchy. Computably enumerable degrees, the Friedberg-Muchnik Theorem, the Low Basis Theorem. If time permits, further topics may be included.

References
R. I. Soare, Recursively Enumerable Sets and Degrees.
H. Rogers, Theory of Recursive Functions and Effective Computability.
S. B. Cooper, Computability Theory

3. Set Theory
Axioms of ZFC, Schröder-Bernstein Theorem, ordinals, ordinal arithmetic, proof and definition by recursion. The Von Neumann hierarchy. Cardinals, cardinal arithmetic. Special kinds of cardinals—regular and singular, successor and limit, inaccessible, equivalent versions of the Axiom of Choice, the constructible hierarchy. If time permits, further topics may be included.

References
T. Jech, Set Theory.
K. Kunen, Set Theory.
P. Cohen, Set Theory and the Continuum Hypothesis.

Logic I covers the material on model theory and part of the material on set theory, including ordinal and cardinal arithmetic, and definitions by recursion. Logic II covers the material on computability, plus more set theory.

Discrete Mathematics
This course provides an introduction to the questions of existence, structure and enumeration of discrete mathematical objects. Topics include:
1. Enumeration — basic counting principles (including permutations, combinations, compositions, pigeon-hole principle and inclusion-exclusion), basic counting sequences (such as binomial coefficients, Catalan numbers and Stirling numbers), and recurrence relations and generating functions.

2. Structure and existence — Graphs (including trees, connectivity, Euler trails and Hamilton cycles, matching and coloring), partially ordered sets and lattices, basic Ramsey theory, error detecting and correcting codes, combinatorial designs, and techniques from probability and linear algebra.

Other topics chosen by the instructor may be included if time permits.

The course will be at the level of the following books:

Stasys Jukna, Extremal combinatorics (with applications to computer science)
Peter Cameron, Combinatorics (topics, techniques and algorithms)
J.H. van Lint and R.M. Wilson, A course in Combinatorics

Optimization


References
Barvinok, A Course in Convexity.
R. Webster, Convexity.

Basic PDE

The goal of this course is to teach the basics of Partial Differential Equations (PDE), linear and nonlinear. It begins by providing a list of the most important PDE and systems arising in mathematics and physics and outlines strategies for their “solving.” Then, it focusses on the solving of the four important linear PDE: The transport, the Laplace, the heat, and the wave equations, all in several space dimensions. In addition to deriving solution formulas, it also introduces “energy” methods involving $L^2$-norms, which foreshadow modern theoretical developments for studying PDE. Next, it continues with the solving of nonlinear first-order equations (like the Burgers equation) by using the method of characteristics. Also, it defines weak solutions, introduces several nonlinear concepts and phenomena, and demonstrates the point that nonlinear PDE are much more difficult to solve than linear PDE. The first (and major) part of the course concludes with the presentation of other ways for representing solutions, including the separation of variables, traveling waves and solitons, similarity and scaling, Fourier, Radon and Laplace transform methods, converting nonlinear PDE to linear by using transformations like the Cole-Hopf, asymptotics, power series methods and the Cauchy-Kovalevskaya Theorem. The second part of the course introduces function spaces like Hölder and Sobolev spaces together with their properties including, approximation, extensions, traces, important inequalities, and compactness. These spaces are used for designing appropriate solution spaces for a given PDE problem (initial or boundary value) inside which the solution resides. Proving this may require sophisticated theories that could involve many branches of mathematics as well as physics. Such theories are presented in the later part of the textbook, for which there is no time available in this course. However, this course will prepare the interested student to continue learning more about PDE and their applications to mathematics, the sciences, engineering and economics.
Prerequisites: Basic Analysis I and concurrently enrollment in Basic Analysis II. Some familiarity with Ordinary Differential Equations is desirable but not a prerequisite. Exposure to an undergraduate PDE course is helpful but not required.


References
Fritz John, *Partial Differential Equations*
Felipe Linares and Gustavo Ponce, *Introduction to nonlinear dispersive equations*
Ivan Georgievich Petrovsky, *Lectures on Partial Differential Equations*
Walter Strauss, *Partial Differential Equations: An Introduction*
Michael E. Taylor, *Partial Differential Equations* (3 volumes)

**Probability**

(one semester, graduate level, intermediate or basic, prerequisite: first sem. of Real Analysis)

1. Preliminaries:
Kolmogorov's axioms, examples of probability spaces, independence, random variables, probability distributions, expectation, variance, Kolmogoro's consistency theorem

2. Sums of Independent Random Variables:
basic inequalities and modes of convergence (almost surely, in probability, L^p), Rademacher functions,
more inequalities (Chernoff, Bernstein, Hoeffdng, Bennett, Khinchine, Marcinkiewicz-Zygmund)

3. Laws of Large Numbers:
weak Laws of Large Numbers, uniform integrability, Kolmogorov's inequality, strong Laws of Large Numbers, Levy's Refection principle, Law of the Iterated Logarithm

4. Central Limit Theorem:
Lindeberg-Levy condition, Fourier transform and characteristic functions, weak* convergence of probability measures

5. Discrete Time Martingales:
conditional expectation, submartingales and supermartingales, Doob's inequality, stopping times,
Hunt's theorem, martingale convergence theorem

(Optional - time permitting):
6. Large Deviations
7. Markov processes
7. Continuous Martingales
8. Wiener Measure, applications to PDE
9. Marcinkiewicz-Zygmund and Burkholder inequalities, applications to harmonic analysis
10. Elements of Ergodic Theory
11. Metrics on probability measures, applications to statistics
12. Kantorovich-Wasserstein distance and Optimal Transport

References
D. Stroock, *Probability Theory: an analytic view*
A. Borovkov, *Probability Theory*
S. Varadhan, *Probability Theory/Stochastic Processes*

**Further Introductory Courses**

**Introduction to Algebraic Geometry** (two-semester course sequence).

This is an introduction to algebraic varieties, schemes, coherent sheaves, curves, and surfaces.

**Lie groups and Lie algebras**

This course is an introduction to Lie theory and covers material related to Lie groups, Lie algebras, and their applications. Specific topics will be drawn from Lie groups, the Lie algebra of a Lie group, the exponential map, subgroups, the representation theory of Lie groups and Lie algebras, the structure of Lie algebras, root systems, the Weyl group, enveloping algebras, and infinite dimensional Lie algebras.

**Linear Control**

Introduction to linear system theory. Linear-quadratic control, H-infinity control, introduction to robust control based on matrix cube theorem, linear matrix inequalities and interior-point algorithms.

**References**

A. Ben-Tal and A. Nemirovski, *Lectures on Modern Convex Optimization*.

P. Lancaster and L. Rodman, *Algebraic Riccati Equations*.

S. Boyd et. al. *Linear Matrix Inequalities in System and Control Theory*. 

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