Department of Mathematics
University of Notre Dame

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME | MATHEMATICS

Colloquium

Speaker: Peter Smillie

MPI Leipzig



Will give a lecture entitled

Harmonic maps and universal higher Teichmuller space

Date: Friday, November 20, 2026

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 129 Hayes-Healy Center

Departmental Tea: A tea will precede the event at 3:30 pm in 257 Hayes-Healy Center.

Zoom URL: notredame.zoom.us/j/99784730964?pwd=4ZYRzNOXQBdovMdOMU42EXITRAEaPb.1

Abstract:

When is a map between complete noncompact Riemannian manifolds at bounded distance from a harmonic map? In this talk, I will present recent work with Max Riestenberg giving a general sufficient criterion. The proof uses some elementary geometric ideas, which I will explain. Our motivation is that our criterion lets us generalize the proof of what used to be called the Schoen conjecture to higher rank symmetric spaces. I'll explain why we care so much about this, which connects universal Teichmuller space, higher Teichmuller theory, and non-Abelian Hodge theory.