Instructor: Dr. Dylan Retsek  
Office: 314 Faculty Offices East  
email: dretsek@calpoly.edu  
Web: www.calpoly.edu/~dretsek  
Phone: (805) 756-2072

Course Objective

Our objective this quarter is to fundamentally recast how we think and write mathematically, both for the love of the subject itself and in anticipation of the skills that will be required of us in our mathematical journeys from this moment onward.

Methodology

Our high ambitions will necessitate various vehicles for progress.

1. **Presentation.** Class time will be spent presenting, discussing and working on mathematics.

2. **Portfolio.** Each of us will maintain a portfolio of polished write-ups of every exercise, proposition, lemma, theorem and corollary that we encounter.

3. **Homework.** Weekly homework will be collected on Fridays, read over the weekend and returned with feedback after the weekend.

4. **Examination.** There will be one midterm and a final exam at the end of the quarter.

5. **Query.** Two students will be drawn randomly for a daily query at the beginning of each class.

Ethos

Our guiding belief is that we have reached a defining moment in our mathematical education. Our dedication, courage and stamina will be tested. We will laugh and we will cry. We value quality over quantity and process over results. We are here to become the thinkers and students we have always wanted to be.
Office Hours

Our in-class discussions will likely be the proverbial “tip of the iceberg.” To facilitate sustained mathematical discussion, there will be additional times to meet throughout the week.

- MTR 1:10-2:00 (25-314).
- W 10:10-noon (TBA).
- By appointment.

Exam Dates

1. **Midterm:** Friday, May 3rd in class.

2. **Final Exam:**
   - Math 248-01: Wednesday, June 12th, 7:10-10:00am.
   - Math 248-02: Friday, June 14th, 10:10am-1:00pm.

Grading

Course grades will be calculated as follows:

- Query (5%)
- Portfolio (15%)
- Presentation (15%)
- Homework (15%)
- Midterm Exam (25%)
- Final Exam (25%)

Academic Integrity

It is my opinion that there is hardly any human act more satisfying or important than the sharing of knowledge. I therefore consider the classroom and the university at large to be hallowed ground, well deserving of all the humility and respect that we would afford our other most sacred places.

Please refer to the University’s policy on cheating and plagiarism found in the Campus Administration Manual, Section 684.

In short: be sensible, respectful and mindful of the integrity of the system we are all so lucky to share.