

MATHEMATICAL SURVIVAL SKILLS
FALL 2009

Everything you ever wanted to know about graduate school in math, but were afraid to ask. This one-credit fall semester course is required of all first-year graduate students.

Meets: Fridays from 2:00-3:15 in LCB 323 (tea afterwards!)

First Meeting: Friday, September 4 2009

Instructor: Aaron Bertram (Chair's office or JWB 302)

Assistant: Joyce Lin (LCB 207)

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Webpage: www.math.utah.edu/~bertram/Survival

Topics:

- How to set up your homepage.
- LaTeX practice.
- What to expect: qualifying exams, choosing an advisor, etc.
- How to prepare a talk

Assignments:

- Build your webpage.
- Deliver a LaTeX'ed proof of an important theorem.
- Read Krantz's book (see below).
- Read an award-winning paper (listed on the course webpage).
- Deliver a presentation of the chosen paper.

Texts:

Required:

- A Mathematician's Survival Guide, by Steven Krantz.

Recommended:

- Leslie Lamport, LATEX: A Document Preparation System
- Nicholas Higham, Handbook of Writing
for the Mathematical Sciences