Mathematics

The Department of Mathematics offers one master's degree in mathematics and one doctoral degree in mathematics. The areas of study for mathematics include algebra, algebraic geometry, real and complex analysis, differential geometry, and topology. Because it is difficult to make up coherent programs for students entering in the middle of the year, students are ordinarily admitted only in the fall.

When they first arrive, graduate students have the opportunity to share common concerns and to become acquainted. One of the most attractive features of our program is the friendly and supportive atmosphere that develops among our graduate students. Advanced courses in the Washington University Mathematics department can build on the common background shared by all students. As a result, these courses are richer and nearer to the level of PhD work than typical advanced courses.

Students typically complete the PhD program in five years, and those students may expect up to five years of support. Continuation of support each year is dependent upon normal progress toward the degree and the satisfactory performance of duties. A student who comes to Washington University with advanced preparation may finish in less time. On the other hand, some students find that it is advisable for them to take preparatory math courses before attempting the qualifying courses. In special cases, the time schedule may be lengthened accordingly. Each student should plan to develop a close relationship with their thesis advisor so that the advisor may have a realistic idea of the student's progress.

Graduate study in mathematics is not for everyone. Entering students usually find that the time and effort required to succeed goes well beyond anything they encountered as undergraduates. Success requires both ample mathematical ability and the determination to grapple with a subject for many days or weeks until the light of understanding shines through, and the experience can be daunting. Those who continue in their studies are largely those for whom the pleasure of attaining that understanding more than compensates for the required effort. For such persons, the life of a mathematician can be richly rewarding.

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Phone:	314-935-6760
Website:	https://math.wustl.edu/graduate

Faculty

Chair

John Shareshian

Professor PhD, Rutgers University Algebraic and topological combinatorics

Director of Graduate Studies

Gregory Knese

Professor PhD, Washington University Complex function theory; operators; harmonic analysis

Director of Undergraduate Studies

Ari Stern

Professor PhD, California Institute of Technology Geometric numerical analysis; computational mathematics

Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies

Blake Thornton

Teaching Professor PhD, University of Utah Geometric topology

Department Faculty

Roya Beheshti Zavareh

Professor PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Algebraic geometry

Alan Chang

Assistant Professor PhD, University of Chicago Geometric measure theory; harmonic analysis

Quo-Shin Chi

Professor PhD, Stanford University Differential geometry

Lawrence Conlon

Emeriti Professor PhD, Harvard University Differential topology

Aliakbar Daemi

Assistant Professor PhD, Harvard University Gauge theory; low-dimensional topology; symplectic geometry

Laura Escobar Vega

Associate Professor PhD, Cornell University Combinatorics; algebraic geometry

Renato Feres

Professor PhD, California Institute of Technology Differential geometry; dynamical systems

Bulletin 2024-25 Mathematics (07/01/24)

Steven Frankel

Associate Professor PhD, University of Cambridge Geometric topology; dynamics

Ron Freiwald Emeriti Professor PhD, University of Rochester General topology

Andrew Walton Green William Chauvenet Postdoctoral Lecturer PhD, Clemson University Harmonic analysis; partial differential equations

Gary R. Jensen Emeriti Professor PhD, University of California, Berkeley Differential geometry

Silas Johnson

Senior Lecturer PhD, University of Wisconsin–Madison Algebraic number theory; arithmetic statistics

Matt Kerr

Professor PhD, Princeton University Algebraic geometry; Hodge theory

Steven G. Krantz Professor PhD, Princeton University

Several complex variables; geometric analysis

N. Mohan Kumar

Emeriti Professor PhD, Bombay University Algebraic geometry; commutative algebra

Wanlin Li Assistant Professor PhD, University of Wisconsin–Madison Number theory; arithmetic geometry

Henri Martikainen

Associate Professor PhD, University of Helsinki, Finland Harmonic analysis; geometric measure theory

John E. McCarth

Spencer T. Olin Professor of Mathematics PhD, University of California, Berkeley Analysis; operator theory; one and several complex variables

Minh Nguyen

Postdoctoral Lecturer PhD, University of Arkansas Gauge theory; low dimensional topology

🐺 Washington University in St. Louis

Charles Ouyang

Assistant Professor PhD, Rice University (Higher) Teichmuller theory; Riemann surfaces; harmonic maps and minimal surfaces

Martha Precup

Associate Professor PhD, University of Notre Dame Applications of Lie theory to algebraic geometry and the related combinatorics

Donsub Rim Assistant Professor PhD, University of Washington Applied mathematics

Rachel Roberts

Elinor Anheuser Professor of Mathematics PhD, Cornell University Low-dimensional topology

Richard Rochberg

Emeriti Professor PhD, Harvard University Complex analysis; interpolation theory

Angel Roman

Postdoctoral Lecturer PhD, Pennsylvania State University Representation theory; operator algebras

Jesus Sanchez

Postdoctoral Lecturer PhD, Pennsylvania State University Noncommutative index theory; cyclic cohomology; spin Riemannian geometry; high-dimensional gauge theory

Karl Schaefer

Lecturer PhD, University of Chicago Algebraic number theory

Jack Shapiro

Emeriti Professor PhD, City University of New York Algebraic K-theory

Edward Spitznagel

Emeriti Professor PhD, University of Chicago Statistics; statistical computation; application of statistics to medicine

Yanli Song

Associate Professor PhD, Pennsylvania State University Noncommutative geometry; symplectic geometry; representation theory

Xiang Tang

Professor PhD, University of California, Berkeley Symplectic geometry; noncommutative geometry; mathematical physics

Joel Villatoro

Postdoctoral Lecturer PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Differential geometry; Poisson geometry; singular spaces

Brett Wick

Professor PhD, Brown University Complex analysis; harmonic analysis; operator theory; several complex variables

Mladen Victor Wickerhauser

Professor PhD, Yale University Harmonic analysis; wavelets; numerical algorithms for data compression

Edward N. Wilson

Emeriti Professor PhD, Washington University Harmonic analysis; differential geometry

David Wright

Emeriti Professor PhD, Columbia University Affine algebraic geometry; polynomial automorphisms

Jay Yang

Postdoctoral Lecturer PhD, University of Wisconsin–Madison Commutative algebra; algebraic geometry

Degree Requirements

- Mathematics, AM
- · Mathematics, PhD

Courses

Visit online course listings to view semester offerings for L24 Math.

L24 Math 501C Theoretical Physics

The first part of a two-semester course reviewing the mathematical methods essential for the study of physics. Theory of functions of a complex variable, residue theory; review of ordinary differential equations; introduction to partial differential equations; integral transforms. Prerequisite: undergraduate differential equations (Math 217), or permission of instructor. Same as L31 Physics 501 Credit 3 units.

🐺 Washington University in St. Louis

L24 Math 5021 Complex Analysis I

An intensive course in complex analysis at the introductory graduate level. Math 5021 and Math 5022 form the basis for the Ph.D. qualifying exam in complex analysis. Prerequisite: Math 4111, 4171 and 4181, or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 5022 Complex Analysis II

Continuation of Math 5021. Prerequisite, Math 5021 or permission of intstructor.

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 502C Methods of Theoretical Physics II

Continuation of Phys 501. Introduction to function spaces; selfadjoint and unitary operators; eigenvalue problems, partial differential equations, special functions; integral equations; introduction to group theory. Prerequisite: Phys 501, or permission of instructor. Same as L31 Physics 502 Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 5031 Algebra I

An introductory graduate level course on the basic structures and methods of algebra. Detailed survey of group theory including the Sylow theorems and the structure of finitely generated Abelian groups, followed by a study of basic ring theory and the Galois theory of fields. Math 5031 and Math 5032 form the basis for the Ph.D. qualifying exam in algebra. Prerequisite: Math 430 or the equivalent, or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 5032 Algebra II

Continuation of Math 5031. Prerequisite: Math 5031 or permission of instructor. Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 5041 Geometry I

Introductory graduate level course including differential calculus in n-space; differentiable manifolds; vector fields and flows; differential forms and calculus on manifolds; elements of Lie groups and Lie algebras; Frobenius theorem; elements of Riemannian geometry. Math 5041 and Math 5042 (or 5043) form the basis for the Ph.D. qualifying exam in geometry / topology. Prerequisites: Math 4121, 429, and 4181, or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 5042 Geometry II

Continuation of Math 5041. Math 5042 and Math 5043 are offered in alternate spring semesters as a sequel to Math 5041. Prerequisite: Math 5041 or permission of instructor. Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 5045 Geometry/Topology I: Algebraic Topology

An introductory graduate-level course in algebraic topology, including fundamental groups, covering spaces, homology, and cohomology. Prerequisites: undergraduate courses in abstract algebra and point-set topology or permission from the instructor. Replaces 5043. Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 5046 Geometry/Topology II: Differential Topology

An introductory graduate-level course in the topology of smooth manifolds and vector bundles. Prerequisites: Math 5045 (GT I: Algebraic Topology) or permission from the instructor. Replaces 5041.

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 5047 Geometry/Topology III: Differential Geometry

An introductory graduate-level course in the geometry of smooth manifolds and vector bundles. Prerequisites: Math 5046 (Geometry/ Topology II: Differntial Topology) or permission from the instructor. Replaces 5042.

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 5051 Measure Theory and Functional Analysis I

Introductory graduate level course including the theory of integration in Euclidean and abstract spaces, and an introduction to the basic ideas of functional analysis. Math 5051 and Math 5052 form the basis for the Ph.D. qualifying exam in real analysis. Prerequisites: Math 4111, 4171, and 4181, or permission of the instructor. Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 5052 Measure Theory and Functional Analysis II

Continuation of Math 5051. Prerequisite: Math 5051 or permission of instructor.

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 510 Introduction to Fourier Series and Integrals

The basic theory of Fourier series and Fourier integrals including different types of convergence. Applications to certain differential equations. Prerequisites: Math 4111 or permission of instructor. Same as L24 Math 410 Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: NSM

L24 Math 5101 Introduction to Analysis

The real number system and the least upper bound property; metric spaces (completeness, compactness, and connectedness); continuous functions (in Rⁿ; on compact spaces; on connected spaces); C(X) (pointwise and uniform convergence; Weierstrass approximation theorem); differentiation (mean value theorem; Taylor's theorem); the contraction mapping theorem; the inverse and implicit function theorems. Prerequisite: Math 310 or permission of instructor. Same as L24 Math 4111

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: NSM Arch: NSM Art: NSM

L24 Math 5102 Introduction to Lebesgue Integration

Riemann integration; measurable functions; measures; Lebesgue measure; the Lebesgue integral; integrable functions; L^p spaces; modes of convergence; decomposition of measures; product measures. Prerequisite: Math 4111 or permission of the instructor. Same as L24 Math 4121

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: NSM Arch: NSM Art: NSM

L24 Math 515 Theory of Partial Differential Equations I

A rigorous mathematical study of topics in partial differential equations. Prerequisites: Math 5051 and Math 5052 or equivalent. Some knowledge of complex analysis will also be useful. No prior knowledge of partial differential equations is required. Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 516 Theory of Partial Differential Equations II Credit 3 units.



L24 Math 5160 Complex Variables

Analytic functions, elementary functions and their properties, line integrals, the Cauchy integral formula, power series, residues, poles, conformal mapping and applications. Prereq: Math 310 and (Math 318 or Math 4111), or permission of instructor. Same as L24 Math 416 Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: NSM Art: NSM

L24 Math 517 Hilbert Spaces I

Credit 3 units

L24 Math 518 Hilbert Spaces II

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 519 Harmonic Analysis I

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 520 Harmonic Analysis II

Credit 3 units

L24 Math 5201 Topology I

An introduction to the most important ideas of topology. Course includes necessary ideas from set theory, topological spaces, subspaces, products and quotients, compactness and connectedness. Some time is also devoted to the particular case of metric spaces (including topics such as separability, completeness, completions, the Baire Caregory Theorem, and equivalents of compactness in metric spaces). Prerequisite: Math 4111 or permission of instructor. Same as L24 Math 4171

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: NSM Art: NSM

L24 Math 5202 Topology II

A continuation of Math 4171 featuring more advanced topics in topology. The content may with each offering. Prerequisite: Math 4171, or permission of instructor. Same as L24 Math 4181 Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: NSM Arch: NSM Art: NSM

L24 Math 521 Topics in Complex Variables I

Credit 3 units

L24 Math 522 Topics in Complex Variables II

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 523 Topics in Analysis

Analytic Combinatiorics Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 523C Information Theory

Discrete source and channel model, definition of information rate and channel capacity, coding theorems for sources and channels, encoding and decoding of data for transmission over noisy channels. Corequisite: ESE 520 Same as E35 ESE 523

Credit 3 units. EN: BME T, TU

L24 Math 527 Functional Analysis I

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 528 Topics in Functional Analysis II

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 5301 Linear Algebra

This course is an introduction to the linear algebra of finite-dimensional vector spaces. It includes systems of equations, matrices, determinants, inner product spaces, and spectral theory. Prerequisite: Math 310 or permission of instructor. Math 309 is not an explicit prerequisite, but students should already be familiar with such basic topics from matrix theory as matrix operations, linear systems, row reduction, and Gaussian elimination. (Material on these topics in early chapters of the text will be covered very quickly.) Same as L24 Math 429

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: NSM Art: NSM

L24 Math 5302 Modern Algebra

Introduction to groups, rings, and fields. Includes permutation groups, group and ring homomorphisms, field extensions, connections with linear algebra. Prerequisite: Math 310, Math 429 or permission of the instructor. Same as L24 Math 430 Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: NSM Arch: NSM Art: NSM

L24 Math 535 Topics in Combinatorics

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 537 Topics in Algebra I

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 538 Topics in Algebra II

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 539 Topics in Algebraic Geometry

Selected topics in algebraic geometry. Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 5392 Topics in Algebraic Geometry II

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 541 Topics in Applied Mathematics

Topic and prerequisites vary with each offering of the course. Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 543 Geometry and Manifold Theory I

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 544 Topics in Geometry and Manifold Theory II Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 545 Topics in Riemannian Geometry I Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 546 Topics in Riemannian Geometry II Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 547 Topics in Geometry

An introduction to Geometric Group Theory, concentrating on the theory of hyperbolic groups and group boundaries. Credit 3 units.

Washington University in St. Louis

L24 Math 550 Topics in Number Theory: Analytic Number Theory

The course will develop analytic methods for problems which occur in algebraic number theory and algebraic geometry. We will consider Riemann zeta function, Dirichlet L-functions, multiple zeta functions, multiple DirichetL-functions (according to Manin), polylogarithms, reciprocity laws on curves and surfaces and multiple Dedekind zeta functions. Prerequisite: Permission of Instructor Credit 3 units

L24 Math 5501 Numerical Applied Mathematics

Computer arithmetic, error propagation, condition number and stability; mathematical modeling, approximation and convergence; roots of functions; calculus of finite differences; implicit and explicit methods for initial value and boundary value problems; numerical integration; numerical solution of linear systems, matrix equations, and eigensystems; Fourier transforms; optimization. Various software packages may be introduced and used. Prerequisites: Math 217 or 312, Math 309, Math 310 and CSE 131 (or other computer background with permission of the instructor). Same as L24 Math 449

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: NSM Arch: NSM Art: NSM

L24 Math 5502 Topics in Applied Mathematics

Topic may vary with each offering of the course. Prerequisite: CSE 131 and, Math 449, or permission of the instructor. Same as L24 Math 450 Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: NSM Arch: NSM Art: NSM

L24 Math 5560 Topics in Financial Mathematics

An introduction to the principles and methods of financial mathematics, with a focus on discrete-time stochastic models. Topics include no-arbitrage pricing of financial derivatives, risk-neutral probability measures, the Cox-Ross-Rubenstein and Black-Scholes-Merton options pricing models, and implied volatility. Prerequisites: Math 233, Math 3200, Math 310 or permission of instructor. Same as L24 Math 456

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: NSM Arch: NSM Art: NSM

L24 Math 560 Topics in Topology

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 563 Topics in Lie Groups and Algebras I Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 564 Topics in Lie Groups and Algebras II Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 565 Algebraic Topology I Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 566 Algebraic Topology II

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 567 Several Complex Variables I Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 568 Several Complex Variables II Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 569 Topics in Homological Algebra

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 571 Topics in Combinatorics: Spectral Graph Theory Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 572 Topics in Set Theory and Logic

Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 581 Introduction to Computational Analysis Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 583 Higher Methods of Computational Analysis Credit 3 units.

L24 Math 590 Research

Credit variable, maximum 3 units.

L24 Math 595 Seminar

Credit variable, maximum 3 units.

L24 Math 596 Seminar

Credit variable, maximum 3 units.

L24 Math 597 Teaching Seminar

Principles and practice in the teaching of mathematics at the college and university level. Prerequisite: graduate standing, or permission of instructor. Credit 1 unit.

L24 Math 598 Mathematical Professional Development

This course includes topics on professional development and responsible conduct of research. Prerequisites: none. Credit 1 unit.

L24 Math 883 Master's Continuing Student Status