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Fall 9-1-2021

### M 300.01: Undergraduate Mathematics Seminar

Nikolaus Vonessen

*University of Montana, Missoula*, [nikolaus.vonessen@umontana.edu](mailto:nikolaus.vonessen@umontana.edu)

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#### Recommended Citation

Vonessen, Nikolaus, "M 300.01: Undergraduate Mathematics Seminar" (2021). *University of Montana Course Syllabi*. 12397.

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# Syllabus for M 300: Undergraduate Mathematics Seminar (Fall 2021)

## Course Description

The Undergraduate Mathematics Seminar is a discussion seminar focused on topics and issues of interest to students in the Mathematical Sciences. The weekly seminar series aims to give students an opportunity to explore various areas of mathematics that might not otherwise be encountered in traditional course work. In addition, the lecture seminars provide students with a broader background in their discipline and acquaint them with a variety of professors, alumni and other professionals.

**Prerequisite:** Calculus I (M 171 or 181)

## Instructor Information

Instructor: Nikolaus Vonessen

Office: Math 207

Email: [nikolaus.vonessen@mso.umt.edu](mailto:nikolaus.vonessen@mso.umt.edu)

Phone: (406) 243-6222

Office hours: (Find me on the [Math Department's People page.](#))

## COVID-19 Issues

- **Mask use is required within the classroom.**
- **If you feel sick and/or are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms**, please don't come to class and contact the Curry Health Center at (406) 243-4330.
- Seminar meetings missed because you are required to isolate or quarantine will count as excused absences.
- **UM recommends students get the COVID-19 vaccine.** Please direct your questions or concerns about vaccines to Curry Health Center.
- Class attendance and seating will be recorded to support contact tracing efforts.
- Drinking liquids and eating food is discouraged within the classroom.

## Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, a student will be able to:

1. Describe several mathematical topics that were covered in presentations during the semester.
2. Find information on careers, conferences, undergraduate research experiences, graduate programs and/or other opportunities of interest to undergraduate math majors.

## Grading

Credit/No Credit (CR/NCR), based mainly on attendance

## Attendance Policy

You are expected to attend and participate in the weekly meetings; a maximum of **one unexcused absence** and **two excused absences** are permitted. As soon as you know you will miss a meeting, contact me to see if I can excuse you, or if there is some other way to make up for the missed meeting.

- You can track your attendance record on Moodle.
- If you miss more than three meetings for acceptable reasons (e.g., verified illness or family emergency), I may be able to give you the grade of Incomplete (I). The incomplete can be made up during the following calendar year by attending the missing number of seminar meetings. If the incomplete is not made up, it will revert to the grade NCR.

## Other Expectations

- You are expected to participate in any activities of the seminar, and to complete occasional assignments (like reading a mathematical article for discussion at a subsequent meeting).
- As a matter of basic courtesy, you are expected to **arrive on time** for the talks, and **not to use smartphones** (or other electronic devices) during the talks.

## Some Important Dates

Date	Event
Monday, September 20 (5 pm)	Last day to drop without a W on the transcript
Monday, November 1 (5 pm)	Last day to drop without a petition (and without a WP or WF on the transcript)
Wednesday, November 24	No seminar meeting because of Thanksgiving Break
Friday, December 10 (5 pm)	Last day of classes, and last day for petitions to drop

## Classroom and Course-related Behavior

University policy requires that all of us in the classroom treat each other with respect, and refrain from behavior that will disrupt the educational process. Please refrain from using any electronics during class that are not directly related to what we are doing. If you would prefer to be called by a **different name, or gender pronoun**, than listed on the course roster, please let me know.

## Disability Modifications

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equity (ODE). If you anticipate or experience barriers based on disability, please contact the ODE at: (406) 243-2243, [ode@umontana.edu](mailto:ode@umontana.edu), or visit [www.umt.edu/disability](http://www.umt.edu/disability) for more information. Retroactive accommodation requests will not be honored, so please, do not delay. As your instructor, I will work with you and the ODE to implement an effective accommodation, and you are welcome to contact me privately if you wish.

## Academic Honesty

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.

## Student Conduct Code

All students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#). You can find it in the “A to Z” index on the UM home page. In particular, discrimination and harassment are not tolerated at the University of Montana. If you feel that you have been subjected to discriminatory or harassing behavior, please contact the [Office of Equal Opportunity and Title IX](#) at 243-5710 or read [UM’s Policy on Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Stalking, and Retaliation](#) for help in addressing the situation. You can also report the discrimination or harassment to me or to another faculty member or advisor you trust.