Department of Mathematics and Statistics
University of South Alabama

Department Policies and Procedures for the M. S. Degree Program in Mathematics

This document should be used as a supplement to the information contained in the Graduate Bulletin.

"Upward, not Northward!" – from Flatland, A Romance of Many South0 (thw)15b

student is being tested. Instructor substitutions can be made, for example, in cases where a course instructor is no longer a member of the faculty.

Material for the examination is selected from courses offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics used to fulfill degree requirements of the student's program. The courses over which the student is tested normally consist of

- Real Analysis I and II (MA 535, 536)
- another 2-course sequence selected by the student
- an additional course of the student's choosing

The exam is given in three sections, as described above. The complete exam is usually taken within one week. **Students that have chosen the thesis option only take the first two sections of the exam.**

The Exam Committee determines whether the student has passed each section. A rating of "pass" on all three sections is 9a. (the)-115flt2 o(9a. (th b)-121g5 (ha6e flt)-125_0 1 Tf)-411 (Ai2

Department Colloquia and Seminars

Graduate students are strongly encouraged to attend Department colloquium and seminar talks. Talks and seminars are normally announced in advance via flyers in the Department Office and on the Department's webpage.

Colloquium talks are given by local faculty and visitors from other universities. When a colloquium talk is particularly suited to a graduate audience, the announcement will usually so indicate. It is important to meet visitors and hear about their mathematical work.

The seminars are usually conducted by local faculty. They normally include material from research papers, books, or preliminary versions of the speaker's research.

Graduate Student Symposium

On any Thursday when no department colloquium is scheduled, a **Graduate Student Symposium** should be presented. The graduate students are responsible for recruiting speakers for the Symposium and advertising the talks. One of the graduate assistants serves as chairperson. He/She will coordinate the Symposium with the chair of the Colloquium Committee.

Directed Studies

The Department endeavors to offer graduate courses in a timely manner to fulfill the needs of its students. However, the need occasionally arises for a student to pursue an individual study with a faculty member by enrolling in MA 594 (Directed Studies). Students interested in an individual study should begin by discussing their need with the Graduate Coordinator. The student must find a faculty member who agrees to direct the study. The student then completes the Department form Request for MA 594 which involves a brief outline of what the study will accomplish. Approval is required by the involved faculty member, the Graduate Coordinator and the Department Chair.

Special Topics Courses

Occasionally the need arises to offer a course which is not one of the regular courses described in the Graduate Bulletin. This can be done as a Special Topics course (MA 590). Approval is required at the college level by the Graduate Arts and Sciences Program (GASP) Committee. Faculty proposing such a course should submit appropriate documentation to the Department Graduate Committee two quarters in advance of the proposed offering to allow adequate time for review.

Thesis

Students are strongly encouraged to write a Masters Thesis. They should discuss their pending decision with the Graduate Coordinator. A thesis committee will be appointed after the student selects a major professor to direct the thesis. Prior to enrolling in MA 599 (Thesis), a student must have a research prospectus approved by the thesis committee. A thesis defense is held upon the completion of the thesis. Thesis students are referred to the document Guide for Preparing Theses and Dissertations, available at the Graduate School webpage.

Grades

Graduate students are expected to maintain a GPA of at least 3.0. If your grade point average drops below 3.0, then you will be placed on academic probation. You will have two terms to bring up your average or be dismissed by the Dean of the Graduate School.

Graduate Assistantship Duties

Graduate assistantships are awarded competitively. Graduate assistantships normally include a complete waiver of tuition. The student is responsible for paying the associated registration fees.

Each graduate assistant will be assigned to work 20 hours per week. Any problems with duties should be reported to the Graduate Coordinator for the Department. The information in this section should be used as a supplement to the Graduate Assistant Information which is available on the Graduate School webpagee.

Graduate Faculty

Gayan Abeynanda	Partial Differential Equations, Resonance, Spectral Theory
David Benko	Approximation Theory, Numerical Analysis, Potential Theory
Selvi Beyarslan	Commutative Algebra, Combinatorics, Graph Theory, Computational Algebra
H Frazier Bindele	Nonparametric Statistics, Robust Statistical Methods
Steve Brick	Geometric Group Theory
Audi Byrne	Math Modeling, Biological Mathematics
Scott Carter	Geometric Topology, Knotted Surfaces in 4-space, Quantum Groups
Steven Clontz	Set-Theoretic Topology and Continuum Theory
Mark Colarusso	Lie theory, Algebraic Geometry, Representation Theory, Integrable Systems, Poisson Geometry
Jacob Dasinger	Mathematics Education
Rajarshi Dey	Nonparametric Statistics, Sampling Theory, Statistical Methods, Survival Analysis
Jörg Feldvoss	Lie Theory, Representation Theory
Nemanja Kosovalic	Differential Equations, Non-Linear Analysis, and Biological Mathematics
Drew Lewis	Algebraic geometry
Chris Lin	Differential Geometry, Mathematical Physics
Nutan Mishra	Optimization, Design of Experiments
Madhuri Mulekar	Selection and Ranking Procedures, Sequential Estimation, Testing Procedures, and Statistics Education
Andrei Pavelescu	Group Theory
Elena Pavelescu	Geometric Topology and Spatial Graphs
Cornelius Pillen	Representations of Finite Groups, Algebraic Groups, Lie Algebras
Vasiliy Prokhorov	Approximation Theory
Armin Straub	Number Theory, Special Functions, Combinatorics, Symbolic Computation
Bin Wang	Estimation, Survival Analysis