

Math 679V
JBHT 148

Topics in Topology: Stable Commutator Length
MWF 4:10 – 5:00

Spring 2014
Prof. Matthew Clay

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Phone: 575-5195

Course Website: <http://comp.uark.edu/~mattclay/Teaching>

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 3:00 – 4:00

If you are unable to use any of these times, please make an appointment to see me.

Text: *scl*, by Danny Calegari, Mathematical Society of Japan Memoirs, vol. 20. We will cover most of chapters 1, 2 and selected sections from chapter 4. The book is available online for free at the author's website: <http://math.uchicago.edu/~dannyc/scl/toc.html>. It can also be purchased relatively inexpensively from Amazon (approx. \$30).

Prerequisites: Foundations of Topology (Math 5703) or instructor's consent. We will spend the first two weeks reviewing important material such as classification of surfaces, Euler characteristic and the fundamental group.

Presentations: You will be asked to give two presentations during the course of the semester, a 20 minute presentation in mid-semester and a 50 minutes presentation at the end of the semester. You will have some choice in the topic, but it must be approved by me.

Participation: You are expected to attend class, actively listen and ask questions when necessary.

Course Grade:

- 20 minute Presentation - 20%
- 50 minute Presentation - 20%
- Participation - 60%

Letter grades will be assigned according to:

$A : 100 - 86$; $B : 85 - 71$; $C : 70 - 56$; $D : 55 - 41$; $F : 40 - 0$

Important Dates

Monday, January 13	Classes Start
Monday, January 27	Last day to drop without W
Monday, March 24 – Friday, March 28	Spring Break
Friday, April 28	Last day to drop with W
Thursday, May 1	Last day of classes

See <http://calendars.uark.edu> for the complete academic calendar and final exam schedule.

Academic Honesty Policy: As a core part of its mission, the University of Arkansas provides students with the opportunity to further their educational goals through programs of study and

research in an environment that promotes freedom of inquiry and academic responsibility. Accomplishing this mission is only possible when intellectual honesty and individual integrity prevail. Each University of Arkansas student is required to be familiar with and abide by the University's "Academic Integrity Policy" which may be found at <http://honesty.uark.edu>. Students with questions about how these policies apply to a particular course or assignment should immediately contact their instructor.

Special Accommodation: Students who are registered with the Center for Educational Access must notify the instructor in writing by the end of the first week of class, or within one week of registering with CEA.

Inclement Weather Policy: Class will be held if the University is officially open. Allowances will be made if you are unable to safely reach the campus, but, bravely, class will go on! Do not call the Math office for inclement weather information. Instead, you should call the following telephone number: 575-7000.

Disclaimer: Information on this syllabus is subject to change. Any change will be announced in lecture.