

Math 490. Mathematics Problem Solving Seminar.

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Time and Location: TBA

FIRST MEETING

Tuesday, August 30, 2011, at noon in HB 423

This is a seminar in mathematical problem solving. It is aimed at undergraduate students who enjoy solving mathematical problems, and want to practice and strengthen both their creative mathematical skills, and also their skills of presenting formal mathematical proofs.

One of the goals of this seminar is to help interested students prepare for the **William Lowell Putnam Undergraduate Mathematics Competition**, which is an annual national mathematics competition held every December.

Any full-time undergraduate who does not yet have a college degree is eligible to participate in the exam. (However, you are free to participate in the seminar without taking the exam, and vice versa.)

The seminar carries one point of credit. Students may audit the seminar with permission of the instructor.

All students taking the seminar are expected to:

- Attend regularly.
- Work on some of the assigned problems.
- Take their turn presenting a problem solution in class.
- Take part in the William Lowell Putnam Undergraduate Mathematics Competition scheduled on **December 1, 2011**, Saturday.

The students who are less active in finding their own solutions of the proposed problems will be asked to present solutions supplied by the instructor.