

SSP Working Seminar: Information Sheet

MATH2917: Working Seminar B

Semester 2, 2019

This is an invitation-only 3cp Special Studies Program unit for a small group of 2nd year students. It is a “working seminar”, with every participant presenting one of the lectures and writing a short essay on the topic of their lecture. The audience is expected to ask questions, engage in discussions, and participate in assessing the lectures and the essays.

Convenor Jacqui Ramagge, jacqui.ramagge@sydney.edu.au

Time and location As diarised by agreement, Jacqui’s office (Rm 522)

Web-page <http://www.maths.usyd.edu.au/u/UG/IM/MATH2917/>

Assessment One 50 minute presentation (assessment 40% by staff, 10% by peers, or 50% by staff if no peers) and an essay of about 12 pages on the same topic, due two weeks after the presentation (assessment 40% by staff, 10% by peers, or 50% by staff if no peers). The timetable of presentations will be agreed in Week 1.

Clarity, accuracy, attention to detail and good writing/presentation style will be the major criteria. The convenor will assist you in preparing your presentation and your essay. In order to pass the unit successfully, you must attend all presentations.

The student who receives the highest presentation mark will be awarded the Rolf Adams Prize No. 3 for 2018 (expected value \$100).

Learning outcomes By completing the working seminar you will

- practise effective oral and written communication of mathematics;
- learn the fundamentals of an area of mathematics not normally in the syllabus of other units of study, and about applications if appropriate.

References on writing and presentation Mary Myerscough’s advice on giving talks and Daniel Daners’ ‘Basic Principles of Mathematical Writing’ are posted on the webpage, along with a list of reference books on mathematical writing and some links to references for the use of LaTeX.