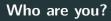
Welcome to Math 202!

Prof. Tony Mendes

Cal Poly San Luis Obispo



Why did you become a mathematics major?

What ideas do you have about your future career?

Mathematics is not calculations! We

Explain why things are true (proofs!)

Engage in abstract and creative problem solving

 Know the mathematical foundations of adjacent subjects (Econ, Phys, CS, Stats, Engineering,...)

Key courses:

- Linear Algebra (Math 206/306/406)
- Real Analysis (Math 412/413/414)
- Abstract Algebra (Math 481/482/483)

Many other offerings...

- Differential Equations (MATH 242/344/416/418)
- Combinatorics/Graph Theory/Discrete (MATH 335/336/435)
- Geometry/Topology (MATH 404/440/442/443)
- Numerical Analysis/Optimization (MATH 451/452/453)

The major is more than coursework!

- Research/senior projects with faculty
- Competitions
- Clubs (both in/outside math department)
- Mathematics tutoring/workshop/grading jobs
- Math lounge/community/networking

Math Major Pros

Math Major Pros

- Superior logic, reasoning, and analytical abilities
- Varied career options, especially with a minor
- Interesting and intellectually challenging
- High demand for K-12 teachers, CSET waiver

Math Major Cons

Math Major Cons

- General purpose major, not trained for anything specific
- Need to sell your abilities to earn entry level positions
- Not what some expect (abstract, proof writing)
- PhD/academic career path is extremely challenging

Cal Poly Math Major Pros

Cal Poly Math Major Pros

- Wide variety of courses/research opportunities
- Small class sizes/major with large, excellent faculty
- 4+1 program/graduate school preparation
- Department level scholarships
- Tutoring/grading/workshop job opportunities

Cal Poly Math Major Cons

Cal Poly Math Major Cons

- Course planning can be confusing
- Some facilities are dated/not optimal
- Cal Poly/SLO can be expensive, esp. for out of state
- Not many local mathematics career opportunities

What is Math 202?

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- Guest speakers will come (please talk to them!)
- Write resume and visit the job fair (sign up soon!)
- Create a valid graduation plan

What is Math 202?

Course information is on Canvas and

https://anthonymendes.github.io/202.html