

Curriculum Vitae

Megan Fairchild

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Expected May 2025

Master of Science in Mathematics

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

May 2022

Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas

December 2018

Thesis: Using Knot Theory to Model and Analyze DNA Replication and Recombination.

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics *Cum Laude*

Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas

May 2016

Minor: Computer Science

HONORS & AWARDS

FELLOW: Research Training Groups (RTG)

2023-2024 & 2024-2025

Pasquale Porcelli Graduate Student Academic Excellence Award

2021

Texas State Three Minute Thesis (3MT) People's Choice

2018

"Math in the picture" contest winner

2017 & 2018

Academic Excellence, Department of Mathematics

2017 - 2018

Academic Achievement, Department of Mathematics

2014 - 2016

Dean's List

2012 - 2016

TEACHING

Graduate Instructional Assistant - Louisiana State University

Fall 2020 - current

INSTRUCTOR: Calculus I

LEAD TA: Business Calculus

Lecturer - Texas State University

Fall 2019 - Summer 2020

INSTRUCTOR: Contemporary Mathematics

INSTRUCTOR: Co-Enroll Intermediate and College Algebra

INSTRUCTOR: Co-Enroll Elementary Algebra and Contemporary Mathematics

Graduate Instructional Assistant - Texas State University

Spring 2017 - Fall 2018

INSTRUCTOR: Intermediate Algebra

TA: Calculus II, Pre-Calculus

Undergraduate Instructional Assistant

Fall 2014 & Fall 2015

TA: Pre-Calculus

Paper Grader

Spring 2016

Modern/Abstract Algebra, Introduction to Advanced Mathematics

Private Tutoring/ Math Tutoring Lab at Texas State

Fall 2014 - Fall 2017

Topology, Modern/Abstract Algebra, Differential Equations, Linear Algebra,

Calculus I, II, & III, Pre-Calculus, College Algebra

PUBLICATIONS & PREPRINTS

Submitted for Publication:

NON-ORIENTABLE SURFACES IN KNOT TRACES	2024
<i>Preprint:</i> PDF available upon request	
WHITEHEAD DOUBLES AND NON-ORIENTABLE SURFACES	2024
<i>Preprint:</i> arXiv:2410.13736	
THE NON-ORIENTABLE 4 GENUS OF 11 CROSSING NON-ALTERNATING KNOTS.	2024
<i>to appear in the Journal of Knot Theory and its Ramifications</i>	
<i>Preprint:</i> arXiv:2403.00996	
NON-ORIENTABLE 4 GENUS OF TORUS KNOTS	2024
<i>Preprint:</i> arXiv:2405.04737	

Research Notes & Course Projects:

Brunnian Braids and Their Relation to Homotopy Groups of Spheres.	2022
Using Knot Theory to Model and Analyze DNA Replication and Recombination.	2018
The Betti Numbers of the Data Set of the Work of Bob Ross.	2018
Analyzing Betti Numbers of Range Image Patches.	2018
Analyzing Betti Numbers of the Zodiac Constellations.	2018
The History of the Alexander Horned Sphere.	2017
The History of i , the Imaginary Number.	2017

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

MENTOR FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH:

Led vertically integrated research course	Fall 2022-Current
Topological Data Analysis	
(1, 1)-Knots and Heegaard Floer Homology	
Non-Orientable 4 Genus of Torus Knots	
Braids and Configuration Space	
Oversaw research via directed reading	Spring 2024-current
Seifert Surfaces and the Knot Signature	
Homological Algebra	
3-Manifolds and Heegaard Diagrams	
Introduction to Knot Floer Homology	

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT:

Co-Coordinator of Contemporary Mathematics, Texas State University	Spring 2020
Re-structured syllabus, created course material currently being used	

OFFICER:

Mathematics Student Colloquium Committee	Fall 2022 - current
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ORGANIZER:

Informal Geometry & Topology Seminar, Louisiana State University	Summer 2024-current
Grad Students in 4D, Louisiana State University	Spring 2023-current

MENTAL HEALTH ALLY:

GEAUX Math LSU (new graduate student orientation)	Fall 2021-current
On the list of 'people to talk to' since Fall 2021, panelist for surviving graduate school	
Certified Ally at Texas State University	Fall 2019

WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT:

General Exam Preparation	Summer 2024
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Created a website to help younger graduate students prepare for their general exam

COLLOQUIA, CONFERENCE, & SEMINAR TALKS

Invited Talks:

Joint Mathematics Meetings at Seattle, WA	2025
<i>Non-Orientable Surfaces in Knot Traces</i>	
AMS Sectional Meeting at the University of Kansas	2025
<i>Non-Orientable Surfaces in Knot Traces</i>	
University of Nevada Reno Math Colloquium	2024
<i>The Non-Orientable 4 Genus of 11-Crossing Non-Alternating Knots.</i>	
Texas State University Topology Seminar	2024
<i>Non-Orientable Surfaces Bounded by Knots & the Knot Trace</i>	
AMS Sectional at University at Albany	2024
<i>Non-Orientable Surfaces Bounded by Knots & the Knot Trace</i>	
Topology Students Workshop at Vanderbilt	2024
<i>The Non-Orientable 4 Genus of Knots.</i>	
Topology Conference at University of Georgia	2024
<i>Non-Orientable Surfaces in Knot Traces.</i>	
AMS Sectional at Florida State University	2024
<i>The Non-Orientable 4 Genus of Knots.</i>	
Geometry & Topology Seminar (LSU)	2024
<i>The Non-Orientable 4 Genus of 11-Crossing Non-Alternating Knots.</i>	

Informal Topology Seminar & Other Research Presentations:

Slicing Obstructions from 4-Manifold Theory	2024
Algebraic Knot Concordance Group	2024
The Double Branched Cover and its Relation to Non-Orientable 4 Genus.	2024
The Non-Orientable 4 Genus of Torus Knots.	2024
The Non-Orientable 4 Genus of Knots.	2023
Smooth versus Topological Concordance via Whitehead Doubles.	2023
Brunnian Braids and Their Relation to Homotopy Groups of Spheres.	2022
Legendrian Knots & DGA.	2021
Modeling DNA Replication and Recombination with Knot Theory.	2018
Analyzing Betti Numbers of Range Image Packages.	2018
The History of Imaginary and Complex Numbers.	2017
The History of the Alexander Horned Sphere.	2017
Heroes of Homology.	2017

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

AMS Sectional Meeting at the University of Kansas	March 2025
Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics	January 2025
Joint Mathematics Meetings - Seattle, WA	January 2025
AMS Sectional - University at Albany	October 2024
ICERM Braids Reunion Workshop - Brown University	July 2024
Topology Students Workshop - Vanderbilt University	June 2024
Topology Summer School & Conference - University of Georgia	May 2024
AMS Sectional - Florida State University	March 2024
Texas Geometry and Topology - Rice University	November 2023
SEC Topology - University of Alabama	June 2023

LANGUAGES

Spanish

Intermediate Speaker

Coding: C++, Python, MatLab, HTML, \LaTeX

MEMBERSHIPS

American Mathematical Society

current

Math Club, Texas State University

2012- 2018

Pi Mu Epsilon, Texas State University

2016 - 2018

National Society of Collegiate Scholars

2013 - 2018