

Department of Mathematics Campus Correspondence

October 26, 2005

From: Len Richardson

To: Graduate Students in Mathematics

Re: Spring Comprehensive Exams: Sign up by November 10!

The purpose of this note is to let you know that the **spring semester Comprehensive Exams** are scheduled as shown below. Please *note that this is an atypical schedule* intended to compensate for the late ending of the fall semester due to hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Spring classes begin on Tuesday, January 18.

Core-I Analysis	Friday, January 13, 1:30 PM - 4 PM	285 Lockett
Core-I Topology	Saturday, January 14, 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM	285 Lockett
Core-I Algebra	Monday, January 16, 1:30 PM - 4 PM	285 Lockett
Core-II Exams (all)	Saturday, January 21, 12:30 PM - 4:00 PM	285 Lockett

Students who have taken or are enrolled in Core-I courses must sign up for all the corresponding Core-I Exams not yet passed at the intended level (MS or PhD). PhD students who have not yet completed PhD Qualifying but who have taken at least 3 of the Core-II courses must sign up also for a choice of any one of the six Core-II exams. (If no one signs up for a particular Core-II exam, then that exam will not be offered! So please make your choice of Core-II exams carefully.) If there is any doubt, please see me as soon as possible! Everyone needs to complete the Exams at the intended level by January of the second year of study here. If there are special circumstances justifying a delay in your case, you need to discuss them with me. If you have already begun taking Comprehensive Exams, you will probably have received instructions from the Graduate Committee as to what you need to take in January. Of course, you may choose to take any exams earlier than required, without risk. Please discuss your situation with me if you are not sure what you should do.

As most of you probably realize, passing all 3 Core-I Exams at the PhD Level plus one Core-II Exam results in a \$700 increase in the nine month standard Graduate Assistant stipend, and also raises your priority for available summer teaching.

To sign up, please check the appropriate line(s) below and leave the bottom part of this note in my letter box or give it to me in person. The Syllabi and Test Banks of sample problems can be downloaded from the department's Web Site at **Graduate Exams**. You will find also pdf files of recent Comprehensive Exams at this website, as well as a description of the policies governing the composition of the Core-1 Exams.

The Department encourages you to form study groups. (Please Note: It is a good idea for Study Groups to consult with appropriate faculty members if a problem seems mystifying!) If you wish to have your name released on request to other students who are planning to take the exams and who wish to form a study group, please check the appropriate line *on the next page, which you should detach and return to me!* Please *keep the first page* as a schedule reminder!

I am signing up for the <u>January</u> tests checked below:
Core-I Analysis
Core-I Topology
Core-I Algebra
One Core-II Subject, checked below:
Math 7210
Math 7312
Math 7320
Math 7400
Math 7512
Math 7550
Initial here if you would like your name released to other students planning a study group.
Name:

This form must be turned in by <u>November 10</u> (unless you have already completed the Comprehensive Exams at the intended level)!