MATH 3903: Problem Solving Spring 2018

Meetings: Location TBA, T 2:00 – 3:00

Professor: Karl Mahlburg **Office:** Lockett 320
Office Hour: By appointment **E-mail:** mahlburg@math.lsu.edu
Webpage: www.math.lsu.edu/∼mahlburg/teaching/2018-MATH3903.html
AND Moodle

Website All important course information will be found on the course website. Problem sets are copyrighted, and will **only** be available through LSU's Moodle system. Please check it frequently!

Textbook (*Optional*) Razvan Gelca and Titu Andreescu, *Putnam and Beyond*, 2007.

This is available electronically through LSU's E-Textbooks program: www.lib.lsu.edu/ebooks.

Content We will practice a variety of practical and theoretical techniques for mathematical problem-solving, with a focus on preparing solutions for submission to collegiate mathematics journals. Topics may include all areas of undergraduate mathematics!

Prerequisites You must have completed MATH 1552 (Calculus I) and at least one of MATH 2070 (Mathematical Methods in Engineering), MATH 2085 (Linear Algebra) or MATH 2090 (Differential Equations). Students with an extensive history of participation in mathematics competitions may also register with the Instructor's approval.

Schedule Due to University holidays, this class will **not** be held on Tuesday, Feb. 26 or Tuesday, Mar. 27.

Grading This course is graded on a Pass/Fail basis. In order to pass, you must attend each class session.

The primary goal of this course is to practice solving mathematical problems. In order to pass, you will be required to carefully write and submit a complete solution to a problem that has been published in a mathematics journal. It is acceptable (and quite likely) to work in groups, which may even include Prof. Mahlburg.