

# Graduate Seminar Guidelines

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The purpose of the graduate seminar is to improve the presentation skills of graduate students. Graduate students are expected to attend regularly the graduate seminars in the terms in which they give a talk. Because of the demand for seminars with more substantial content, students can form pairs so that the first talk can be introductory, containing definitions and elementary concepts, and the second can contain more substantial mathematics. At the end of each talk, voluntary critique(s) may be given by members of the audience. At the end of each year, prizes will be awarded to students with the best talks, attendance, etc. The following are the degree requirements:

- PhD Students who did their MSc here: one 20-min talk and one 50-min talk (job talk). The Associate Head (Graduate Studies) together with the supervisor decide when a student is ready for the job talk.
- PhD Students who did their MSc elsewhere: three 20-min talks and one 50-min job talk. The Associate Head (Graduate Studies) together with the supervisor decide when a student is ready for the job talk.
- MSc Students: one 20-min talk per term; at most four talks. Students who have completed the teaching training workshop get one seminar reduction.

Here are some tips to keep in mind for the electronic presentation

- Project your voice so that a person sitting on the last row can hear you
- Keep eye contact with the audience as much as possible. Do not simply read from the slides
- Do not cram too many things into one slide
- Point form is often preferable to complete sentences
- Use boldface/colour sparingly to highlight important keywords
- The talks should be understandable to anyone with an undergraduate degree in mathematics. They should not be overly technical. Students are discouraged from giving all their talks based on their thesis. The American Mathematical Monthly, Mathematics Magazine, etc. contain many articles which are suitable for seminar talks.