

Student Seminar

Pi Mu Epsilon & GAMECOCK MATH CLUB

Game On!

by Caleb McWhorter, USC Instructor



Students hearing “Mathematics” sadly often invokes memories of austere formulations, draconian rules, and stodgy formulas that do not accurately reflect what ‘real’ Mathematics is like. So, what then does ‘real’ Mathematics look like? Together, we will get a glimpse into the world of mathematical learning/research thinking through the lens of games—specifically combinatorial game theory. You will get a chance to see what mathematical thinking and research is like, hear about some open research problems that you can understand, and, of course, play some games!

Bio: Dr. Caleb McWhorter is an instructor at USC. He received his bachelor’s in Mathematics and Physics at Ithaca College and his Masters and PhD at Syracuse University. He has taught at SUNY Adirondack, Syracuse University, St. Thomas Aquinas College, and now USC. While he enjoys many different areas of Mathematics, Dr. McWhorter’s area of research is number theory/arithmetic geometry. Specifically, he studies elliptic curves. In this very little spare time, he enjoys watching TV and movies – his current ‘seen’ list stands at 2,985. His other hobbies include petting dogs, taking photos of dogs, thinking about dogs, and informing others about how great dogs are.

Tuesday 16th September 2025 at 6:30pm
LeConte 103

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