

Spring 2021 DRP Guidelines

1 Choosing a Topic

A good DRP topic is something that is not covered in a typical undergraduate class. A topic should be chosen by the student with guidance from the mentor. Students have an idea of what they are interested in, and mentors have an idea of what might be feasible to learn in a semester.

2 Expectations

This semester the program will continue being virtual. We understand that not everyone has access to a perfect internet connection, so there is some flexibility in how the meetings will happen. If your internet connection supports video calling, your meetings will be hour long Zoom video calls, where you can use a tablet to write, use your phone as a document camera, etc. If your internet does not support video calls, you can do voice calls and supplement these calls with emails and other written communication throughout the week. However, the student must be at a higher level of mathematical experience for these voice calls to be meaningful, and we must be able to find a mentor comfortable with that.

2.1 For students

Students are expected to meet with their mentors once per week for about an hour. Between meetings they should spend 4-5 hours on DRP related work. At the end of the semester they are expected to give a 15-25 minute online talk.

2.2 For mentors

Mentors are expected to meet with their students once per week for about an hour. Mentors should let the organizers know *as soon as possible* about any issues that arise. Such issues might include a student not working or deciding to leave the program. If a student misses two meetings in a row without forewarning, please email the DRPOs at drp@math.utexas.edu.

3 Talks

At the end of the semester, each student will give a 15-25 minute talk about something they learned during the semester. The talk does not need to (indeed they should not) cover everything the student learned. It is okay to pick one thing, such as the proof of some theorem or a worked example.

One of the goals of DRP is for students to get practice communicating mathematics, so the talks are just as important as the math that they learn. Students are encouraged to give practice talks to their mentors.

The talks will be given at a virtual symposium during the evening of Thursday, May 6.

4 Books

Up to \$50 will be reimbursed for the purchase of a book for the student. Mentors should purchase books, and then send the receipts to drp@math.utexas.edu. All reimbursements will be processed at the end of the semester.

5 Questions and Concerns

All questions and concerns should be addressed to drp@math.utexas.edu.