MAT 579 Functional Analysis II Announcement

Professor: John Quigg

Office: WXLR 728

Classes: Tuesday and Thursday 10:30–11:45 in COOR 184

Semester: Spring 2020

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Description: This is the second half of a year-long sequence in functional analysis, which is the study of vector spaces equipped with a compatible topology, and continuous linear maps between them. This second semester is focused on spectral theory, culminating in the Spectral Theorem for normal operators on Hilbert space, one of the pinnacles of modern analysis. It has been apparent for quite a while that the natural context for the development of spectral theory is $C^*$-algebras, and the build-up to that occupies almost half of the course. The highlight along the way is the Gelfand transform, which is a vast generalization of the Fourier transform.

Prerequisites: MAT 578 or instructor approval. Beyond the basics of functional analysis, including Banach spaces, locally convex spaces, and weak topologies, it would help to have some familiarity with a tiny bit of (abstract) algebra and complex analysis, and a bit more topology.

In any case, I encourage anyone interested in the course to contact me at quigg@asu.edu or WXLR 728.

Textbook: There is no required text — instead, I will post my own notes. But suggested references include:


Grading: The grade will be based on weekly homework, a midterm exam, and a final exam.