



UNSW Professional Development Short Course for Mathematics Teachers

Seminars



A Brief History of Algebra, Mr. Peter Brown

Synopsis: The algebraic notation we use today is remarkably compact and subtle. Without it, Mathematics is almost impossible. On the other hand, it is relatively recent in its development. How exactly did the ancients 'do the Math' without algebra and how did the symbols and their rules develop? In this talk I will give lots of examples of pre-algebraic mathematics from the Egyptians to the Greeks and through the middle Ages to 'modern' times. The talk is aimed at those teaching Years 7-10 Mathematics although it ought to be of interest to Senior teachers as well.



A Brief History of Calculus, Mr. Milan Pahor

Synopsis: The fundamental questions and concepts of Calculus have a controversial history, extending all the way down to the definition of the derivative itself. What exactly is a tangent? What is the formal definition of a point of inflection? Remarkably there is still a lack of consensus within the mathematical community on many of these central issues. I will examine some of these definitions from both a historical and a modern perspective by comparing the approaches of Newton, Leibnitz, the Higher School Certificate syllabus and the major texts.

Schedule for the Day

9.30 am – 10.30 am	Seminar 1 – A Brief History of Algebra, Mr Peter Brown
10.30 am – 11.00 am	Morning Tea
11.00 am – 12.00 noon	Seminar 2 – A Brief History of Calculus, Mr Milan Pahor

Venue

Robert Webster Building, New South Global Theatre (map reference G14)

Cost

The Professional Development Short Course is \$55.00 per teacher (including GST). This includes 2 lectures and morning tea.

Payment Details

Please make cheques payable to the Faculty of Science, UNSW. Mail to: Science Marketing/Science Student Centre, Room 128 Robert Webster Building, UNSW Sydney NSW 2052

Contact

Should you have any questions regarding this short course, please contact Donna Bailey, Marketing Officer, Faculty of Science Tel: (02) 9385 7307, Fax: (02) 9385 4051, Email: d.bailey@unsw.edu.au

Registration Form:

UNSW Professional Development Short Course for Mathematics Teachers Friday, 27th November 2009

9.30am – 12.00pm

Who Should Attend:

All HSC Mathematics teachers.
Teachers from Years 9 and 10 are also welcome.

Where:

Robert Webster Building, New South Global Theatre (map reference G14) UNSW, Kensington campus

Contact Details:

Full name:

School:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Payment details:

Attendance at the Teacher Professional Development Short Course is **\$55.00/teacher** (includes GST).

Please make cheques payable to the **Faculty of Science, UNSW**.

✉ Mail to: **Science Marketing/ Science Student Centre, Room 128 Robert Webster Building,
UNSW Sydney NSW 2052**

FAX or MAIL the Registration form and payment back to: **Science Marketing, UNSW**

✉ Fax: **(02) 9385 4051**

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