Aims

To develop further methods of independent study of a mathematical topic and to improve report writing and presentation skills introduced in the related fourth and third year courses.

Syllabus

Directed reading and other research: Students will continue the project begun in the second semester of their fourth year of study.

Give a (15 minute) oral report about the project: This should describe (a) what the project is about and (b) what has been achieved.

Write a dissertation on the topic of the project: The main body of the dissertation should not exceed 5000 words (about 20-30 pages of A4 depending on spacing). The text of the dissertation should be word-processed or typed, but the mathematics can be written in by hand. The dissertation should be treated as a continuation of the dissertation written in the fourth year and the two dissertations should be such that they constitutes a coherent account of the work carried out in the two semesters. Only the dissertation written in this semester will count towards the assessment.

Teaching and Assessment

Contact Hours: variable — including one hour per week with supervisor
Assessment: 100% by class tests or other continuous assessment
0% by end of course 2-hour exam
Resit Type: none
By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- search independently for information in appropriate sources;
- understand what plagiarism is and how to reference material properly;
- piece together a coherent account of a topic from a variety of sources;
- give an oral progress report;
- write a properly structured report, including references.