



WELCOME TO MAST'S

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Shrine Mountain Trail. Photograph by
Regensburger Photography via [5280.com](https://www.5280.com)

Happy Spring Semester!

Hello Roadrunners! We hope this new semester is full of academic success and new opportunities. As a reminder, the Mathematics and Statistics (MAST) Department's newsletter is used to promote events, provide resources and give insight into the folks and goings-on in MAST. We hope you enjoy! If there are any questions or suggestions please send them to: mathdepartment@msudenver.edu.

Locker Rentals Available

Need a place to store your belongings on campus? We have small lockers available for rent in the **MAST Student Lounge in SI, 1044**.

Interested students must sign a locker agreement and give a \$10 deposit in SI, 1022. The deposit will be returned at the end of the semester.

The MAST Student Lounge is unlocked during business hours (Monday-Thursday, 8:00-4:00).





Upcoming Events



**OUR
FA²M²**

in cooperation with



MAA

MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

ONLINE UNDERGRADUATE RESOURCE FAIR FOR THE ADVANCEMENT AND ALLIANCE OF MARGINALIZED MATHEMATICIANS

For marginalized,* minoritized, underrepresented, and underserved undergraduate mathematicians, it can feel difficult to build your career.

We've been there, and we've got your back.

We host an annual **ONLINE CONFERENCE** with panels, crash courses, talks, and networking opportunities for undergraduate math students, and allyship workshops for faculties mentoring students.

FEB. 7-8 2026 10 AM - 6 PM CST

We compile a **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER** for undergraduate students who would like to seek out more opportunities in math.

All programming is free, online, and organized by current or recent undergraduates. Faculty, graduate students, and any allies are welcome to attend.

Register
here!



Website: ourfa2m2.org
Newsletter: substack.com/@ourfa2m2
Instagram: [ourfa2m2](https://www.instagram.com/ourfa2m2)
Email: ourfa2m2@gmail.com

Subscribe to
the newsletter



*Marginalized groups include but are NOT limited to students of color, LGBTQ+ students, woman students, community college students, first generation college students, international students, immigrants, low-income students, and disabled and chronically ill students.



MSU Denver Math Seminar Presents:

“Fixed Points and Fair Division”

Dr. John Carter

Monday, February 9
2:00 pm
Science building, room 1015

Join Us for Pizza, Soda, and a Good Talk!
Free Books for All Students and Faculty!

Abstract:

Imagine a rental house with three rooms where the rent is \$900 per month. Three people plan to rent the house together, but the rooms are wildly different. What is the fairest way to divide the rent? If you immediately said ‘Obviously \$300 each’ imagine one roommate paying for a glorified closet while the other gets a private bath and a kitchenette. Does it still seem fair? If not is there a mathematical solution? I will share one solution that surprisingly uses the discrete version of the Brower fixed point theorem. I’ll even pass on a link to a program that helps you solve such division problems.

Info about the speaker:

Dr. John Carter was born in Denver, later he joined the faculty at MSU Denver where he is a Professor and, some say, the chair of MAST. He studied Algebraic Topology at the University of Oregon and is always on the lookout for real world applications of topology

2026 MSU Denver Scholarship Fair

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

10:00-2:00

Tivoli, room 320

Click here for  [Sign-up and more info!](#)



Saturday, March 7, 2026

8:30 - 3:30

CU Denver, Auraria campus in the
Student Commons Building

2026 SIAM Conference Keynote Speaker

Dr. Joshua French

University of Colorado Denver

Title

Prefiltered Component-based Greedy (PreCoG) Scan Method

Abstract

The spatial distribution of disease cases can provide valuable insights into disease spread and risk factors. Identifying disease clusters correctly can lead to the discovery of new risk factors and inform interventions that can help control and prevent the spread of disease. In this regard, we propose a novel scan method, the Prefiltered Component-based Greedy (PreCoG) scan method, which efficiently and accurately detects irregularly-shaped clusters using a prefiltered component-based greedy search algorithm. The PreCoG scan method is computationally efficient, flexible in its ability to detect irregularly-shaped clusters, while still being powerful and having high levels of sensitivity and positive predictive value. To demonstrate its efficacy, we compare its performance to many other scan-based methods. Additionally, we have included this method in the *smern* R package to make it easy to apply this method to new data sets. Our proposed PreCoG Scan Method offers a unique and innovative approach to cluster detection that can improve the efficiency and accuracy of disease surveillance systems.



About the Speaker

Professor Joshua French is a statistician and data scientist. He is currently the Director of Data Science at the University of Colorado Denver and an Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences. He is passionate about using statistics and data science to learn from data, developing software to help others learn from data, and training others to do data analysis. His research uses geographically-referenced data to draw conclusions about ecological anomalies, climate extremes, and disease outbreak.



[For more information including registration link, call for presentors, official poster and location directions please click here](#)



Faculty Spotlight

Get to know MAST's Faculty and Adjunct Faculty. Each month we will pick two people and share their answers to a few short questions.

Dr. John Carter is the Department Chair. He was born and raised in Denver. He studied Algebraic Topology at the University of Oregon and is always on the lookout for real world applications of topology. Below are the questions and answers for his feature:

Q: How did your path lead to you teach at MSU Denver?

A: My path to MSU Denver was anything but direct. I first attended MSU Denver in the early 80s, but I left before finishing my degree and spent years working as a carpenter and moving around the country. Even during that time, I always felt a pull back to Denver and to MSU Denver in particular. Eventually, I returned to school, earned my PhD, and found my way back here as a visiting professor. That opportunity grew into a tenured position, and I've been grateful ever since to have come full circle.



Pictured above are Dr. Carter and Dr. Evans, Associate Dean of CACED. Both holding geometrical sculptures created with playing cards.

Q: If you weren't a MAST professor what would other profession would you like to have?

A: I'd be teaching vocational education at a high school. That path was a very real possibility for me. I was genuinely torn between pursuing that work or continuing to earn a PhD. In another version of my life, I'm probably in a shop classroom helping students build things with their hands.

Q: What is your best advice for succeeding in a math course and/or in a college course?

A: Treat every problem as though you own it. Approach it as if no one else in the world has the answer, and it's your job to figure it out. Try ideas that might not work, make mistakes freely, and don't worry about wasting paper. The process and the thinking, the experimenting, the persistence matters far more than the final answer.

Q: What made you fall in love with math?

A: I was lucky to have teachers who constantly pushed me with questions I couldn't immediately answer. Two courses in particular, Modern Geometry and Abstract Algebra with Vesna Kilibarda, changed everything for me. Her energy and enthusiasm were contagious, and it was nearly impossible to sit in her classroom and not fall in love with mathematics.

Q: What campus/university groups, committees, or activities are you part of that you really enjoy?

A: I help organize and run our annual Math Day event. It's an outreach program for high school students, but it brings together our faculty and MSU Denver students as well. Seeing everyone collaborate and get excited about mathematics is one of the highlights of my year.

Q: What do you like to do on your free time (math related or otherwise)?

A: On the math side, I enjoy making small math inspired art sculptures at home, it's a fun way to blend creativity with structure. Outside of math, I've recently taken up cycling and plan to participate in several organized rides this summer.

Faculty Spotlight Cont.



Neldo Estrada is MAST's newest Affiliate Professor. Neldo is also a recent MSU Denver graduate currently in grad school. Please see his Q and A below.

Q: How did your path lead to you teach at MSU Denver?

A: I feel that it is important for me to give back to my community in anyway I can and I believe that teaching is the most effective way for me to achieve that.

Q: If you weren't a MAST professor, what other profession would you like to have?

A: I would have liked working for a toy company. I think I would derive a lot of joy from that line of work.

Q: What is your best advice for succeeding in a math course and/or in a college course?

A: Build your community; we are strongest when we work together to overcome problems.

Q: What made you fall in love with math?

A: There is a man named Cliff Stoll who worked with a large math communicator on YouTube to talk about some really cool math. What I remember from that video is how happy Cliff was to be talking about math and I decided that I wanted to be that happy too.

Q: What campus/university groups, committees, or activities are you part of that you really enjoy?

A: I am not apart of any university groups, committees, or activities.

Q: What do you like to do on your free time (math related or otherwise)?

A: In my free time, I enjoy hanging out with my nephew and playing card games with friends at a cafe downtown.



Join MAST Student Orgs

Our students have formed organizations to continue to explore their love of mathematics and statistics, and to also create a stronger sense of student community. These organizations are always excited to accept new members, and they look forward to hearing from you!

Women in Mathematics at MSU Denver (WiMaM): The purpose of WiMaM is to promote the interest of underrepresented and marginalized groups who wish to pursue mathematics by providing academic and career opportunities, as well as by providing an inclusive and supportive community through which members can grow as mathematicians.



Interested in becoming a member?

[Click here to add yourself to the email list survey!](#)



Statistical Science Club of MSU Denver:

Curious where a degree in math, economics, finance, or statistical science can take you? The Stat Science Club at MSU Denver is open to CCD, MSU Denver, and UCD students who want to explore how statistics connects across disciplines. We provide community, study support, and career exploration opportunities in data-driven fields.

✨ Join us and discover how statistics can open doors to your future! ✨



Meet your advisor!

Kayla Myburgh
Academic Advisor

Email: kmyburgh@msudenver.edu

Phone: 303-605-5890

Office Location: SI, room 1030

[CLICK HERE TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT](#)

Check out the CACED Newsroom!

[CLICK HERE](#)



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www.msudenver.edu/math