

The Math/Stats Colloquium Department of Mathematics and Statistics San José State University





sarah-marie belcastro MathILy/Mathematical Staircase, Inc./

Smith College

Topological Graph Theory... and YOU! APR 14, 2021, VIA ZOOM

Abstract: This presentation will introduce the field of topological graph theory. Along the way, YOU will get to work on some elementary problems and present your insights, so that YOU will acquire a sense of how mathematicians approach topological graph theory questions.

Background: No particular background necessary — you don't even need to know what a graph is!

About the speaker: sarah-marie belcastro earned her Ph.D. in mathematics from U. Michigan and her current positions include Director of MathILy, Research Associate at Smith College, and Instructor at the Art of Problem Solving. She wrote the introductory textbook *Discrete Mathematics with Ducks* (2nd ed., 2018), co-edited the volumes *Making Mathematics with Needlework: Ten Papers and Ten Projects* and *Crafting by Concepts: Fiber Arts and Mathematics*, and assisted in editing *Figuring Fibers*. Her primary mathematical research area is topological graph theory, and her many non-pure-mathematics interests include the mathematics of knitting, infectious disease modeling, dance (principally ballet and modern), and changing the world.

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