

Curriculum Vitae

JANA COMSTOCK

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Education:

2008 Ph.D. (expected) University of California, San Diego, Mathematics (advisor: Peter Teichner).
2004 M. A. University of California, San Diego.
1999 B. A. Williams College.

Employment and Teaching:

2007-present Instructor, University of California Berkeley.
Planned and delivered lectures, coordinated Graduate Student Instructors, wrote and administered midterms and finals, designed curves and assigned grades.

2001-2007 Instructor, Center for Talented Youth.
Taught Math Reasoning, Math Sequence, and Math and Music. Designed and administered seven hours' worth of daily lesson plans, tests, quizzes, and activities, organized field trips, wrote student evaluations and facilitated parental awareness of students' progress.

2004-2007 GSI (teaching assistant), University of California Berkeley.
Assisted instruction of Linear algebra and Single variable calculus. Explained difficult and/or important concepts and answered students questions during weekly discussion sections, held office hours and review sessions before exams, administered and graded quizzes and exams, recorded HW, quiz, and exam grades.

2001-2004 Teaching Assistant, University of California San Diego.
Assisted instruction of Linear Algebra, Knot Theory, Single variable calculus. Executed duties similar to those for GSI position at UC Berkeley.

2000-2001 Instructor, Groton School.
Taught Algebra I, Algebra II, and Intro to Calculus/ Intro to Statistics. Designed and administered lesson plans, tests, and quizzes, wrote student evaluations, graded all work, and interfaced with parents.

2000 Instructor, Miss Porter's School (Summer Challenge).
Taught two sessions of Animal, Vegetable, or Mineral? Designed a week of classes, coordinated a week of student projects with other teachers.

1999-2000 Instructor, Miss Porter's School.
Taught Algebra I and Geometry.

1997-1999 Teaching Assistant, Center for Talented Youth.
Assisted instruction of Math Sequence and Game Theory courses.

Academic Honors:

1999 Honors Thesis, Williams College: Sedimentology and tectonics of the Mazatzal Group, Arizona.

Research Interests:

Algebraic/Geometric Topology

Publications and Preprints:

1. Comstock, Jana. A finite presentation for knotted trivalent graphs. In preparation.
- 2002 2. Cox, R., Martin, M.W., Comstock, J.C., Dickerson, L.S., Ekstrom, I.L and Sammons, J.H. Sedimentology, stratigraphy and geochronology of the Proterozoic Mazatzal Group, central Arizona. Geological Society of America Bulletin, v. 114, pp. 1535-1549.
- 2000 3. Cox, R., Atkinson, R.K., Bear, B.R., Brandriss, M.E., Chokel, C.B., Comstock, J.C., Gutmann, E.D., Interest, L.B., Schildgen, T.F., Teplitzky, S.J., Willis, M.P. Changes in a fringing reef complex over a thirty-year period: coral loss and lagoon infilling at Mary Creek, St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands.

Talks:

- 2008 Feb 11 Oakland Math Circle: An introduction to knot theory.
- 2007 Dec 5 UC Berkeley Topology student seminar: A finite presentation for knotted trivalent graph diagrams.
- 2004 Nov 14 UCSD Advancement to Candidacy: Whitney towers and gropes.
- 2004 Sept 29 UC Berkeley Topology student seminar: A survey of Whitehead torsion.
- 2004 May 20 UCSD Quantum topology in dimension four seminar: Rasmussen's knot invariant.

Courses Taught

1999-2007 Precalculus, Geometry, Algebra I, Algebra II, Introduction to Calculus/Statistics, Math and Music, Individually Paced Math Sequence, Math Reasoning.

Other Activities:

1. Fall 2006-present, Berkeley University Students' Cooperative Association, member executive committee.
2. Fall 2006, Wilderness First Responder certification.
3. Spring 2006, UC Berkeley, Reader for Introduction to Algebraic Topology.
4. Summer 2004, 2005, CTY, Mathematics Coordinator.
5. Jan-March 2006, Oakland unified school district: volunteer instructor in Mentoring Program at Lafayette Elementary.