

All motives can be explained under the letter L.

—P. D. James

# THE TRIVIAL NOTIONS SEMINAR

## *L*-functions and all that

a talk by

**Grant Barkley**

### ABSTRACT

I'll tell you why every function with either "L" or "zeta" in its name is actually meromorphic and has a functional equation. The proofs will be handwavey at best and for the most part will be downright wrong. The name Langlands will come up. Maybe we'll prove Fermat's Last Theorem. Actual number theorists are welcome to come and point out when I lie.

**Friday, February 3, 2022**

**at 11.50am**

**Science Center, Room 507**