"I was thrown out of N.Y.U. my freshman year for cheating on my metaphysics final, you know. I looked within the soul of the boy sitting next to me. When I was thrown out, my mother, who was an emotionally high-strung woman, locked herself in the bathroom and took an overdose of Mah-Jongg tiles."

— Woody Allen on the deadliness of rectangular tiles (from Annie Hall).

The Trivial Notions Seminar
Proudly Announces

Tiling polygons by similar polygons

A talk by
Omar Antolín Camarena

Abstract

What can be said about two polygons P and Q if P can be tiled by polygons similar to Q? As a warm up exercise, try proving that if a rectangle P can be tiled by squares, then the ratio of the sides of P is rational. We'll talk about that case and about tiling a square by similar rectangles or similar triangles, in which case algebraic numbers whose Galois conjugates satisfy some positivity condition will pop up.

Thursday September 22$^{\text{st}}$, at 11:30 am
Science Center 309