MATH UN3952 - Undergraduate Seminars II, Spring 2019
Elementary Applied Topology

General Information
Section leader: Song Yu (song.yu@columbia.edu, 206A Mathematics)
Time and location: Thursdays 7:30 – 9:30pm, 507 Mathematics
Section website: math.columbia.edu/~syu/s19-eat
Course coordinator: Dave Bayer (dbayer@barnard.edu)

Main Reference
Robert Ghrist, Elementary Applied Topology, ed.1.0, Createspace, 2014
This book is available at math.upenn.edu/~ghrist/notes.html. More references will be posted on the seminar website.

Logistics
For our first meeting (1/31), I will give an introductory talk. After that, (most of) the talks will be given by the students. Each week, two students are responsible for the two-hour talk in the format of their choice: each speaking for an hour, taking turns to speak, etc. You are encouraged to collaborate in preparing for your talks and contact me with any questions. You are also encouraged to share any prepared notes with the seminar – I can help post them on the website.
Everyone is expected to serve as the speaker of two different talks for the semester. I will maintain a schedule with two slots available for each week. Please make sure to sign up for two slots (for two different weeks) by the end of the semester. Please contact me beforehand about any absences. If you cannot make a meeting where you are one of the speakers, please let me know at least two weeks before the meeting date so that there is time for rearrangements.

Grading Policy
A core value of the undergraduate seminars is to promote the collaborative learning experience of mathematics for both the speakers and the audience. To this end, your grade will be based on two equally weighted components:
Seminar participation: attend every meeting (except for excused absences); pay good attention to the speakers; support the speakers and the audience by asking questions and giving constructive comments
Seminar leadership: sign up for and commit to two slots; be sufficiently prepared for the two talks that you are giving; assist the audience in learning the materials