

SPEAKER: Marvin D. Tretkoff

TITLE: An introduction to transcendence properties of special functions

ABSTRACT: We shall present a survey, in historical order, of some of the main concepts and results from the theory of transcendental numbers. The lecture will be accessible to all graduate students; no previous knowledge of number theory will be assumed. Concepts and theorems will be stated precisely; however, their proofs will not be presented, or even outlined, because they tend to be very technical. It is hoped that this introduction will enable graduate students to profitably attend the subsequent lectures by Professor Paula Tretkoff.