

UTC Mathematics Poster Competition 2011
“Mathematics in Tennessee: Science and Industry”
Wednesday 16 February 2011, 10:00AM – 1:00 PM
Tennessee Room of the University Center
At University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

I. Categories, Teams, and Content

1. Each poster must have a high school or middle school faculty sponsor. For students who are home-schooled, a parent may serve as the sponsor.
2. Each poster must be related to mathematics, and be suitable for public display in the eyes of the contest organizers.
3. There will be three competition categories. Category I: 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Category II: 9th and 10th grades. Category III: 11th and 12th grades.
4. Students may work as a team if they choose. A team should consist of no more than three students, and every team member should be in the same Category.
5. An entry for each team must be submitted at least a week before the competition. (Late submissions may be accepted! Please contact the organizers as soon as possible.)
6. To enter, either go to <http://tinyurl.com/utcposter2011> or compose an email to Matt-Matthews@utc.edu with the subject “UTC Math Poster Competition 2011”. The body of the email must contain the following information:
 - First and last name(s) of entrant(s)
 - School, county, and state
 - Grade (6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12)
 - Contact telephone number

II. Presentation Guidelines

1. Posters will be displayed in the Tennessee Room of the University Center on the UTC campus on Wednesday 16 February 2011 from 10:00AM until 1:00PM. Signs will be posted directing students and observers to the specific location.
2. Posters will be placed on a table, must fit in an area which is four feet wide by 2.5 feet deep, and must be able to stand erect by themselves or when leaned against a wall.
3. A label must be placed on the poster which gives the poster title and authors’ names, grades, school, and sponsor.
4. Credit must be given on the poster for any outside assistance. A list of sources should be included.
5. While physical models and laptops may be a part of the exhibit, they cannot be the only part.
6. All material must be accessible without having to lift or turn pages.

7. All materials should be placed within the assigned display area.
8. The display area will open at 9:00AM on Wednesday 16 February 2011 for poster setup.
9. The poster should be dismantled within one hour after the end of the competition.
10. Although not required, it is suggested that at least one student author be present during the competition in order to answer questions from interested observers.

III. Judging

Judging criteria are based solely on the content of the poster. The authors will not be present during the judging. Judges will consider questions such as:

- Is the poster original and creative? Does it relate to the competition theme?
- Is the presentation appealing? Does it pique the interest of the audience?
- Is the overall design easy to follow, and does it convey the information well?
- Does the poster address the questions it raises?
- Is the mathematical content at a sufficiently high level?
- Is the mathematical content presented clearly and correctly?

Posters should be original in nature. Sample ideas could be:

- An innovative solution to an interesting problem.
- A clever application of a mathematical technique or tool.
- A statistical analysis of an interesting phenomenon.
- An explanation of the connections between mathematics and another discipline (e.g. business, art, archeology, music, auto racing, cattle breeding).
- A new mathematical result.
- An old result presented in a new way, such as a new proof of an old theorem.

IV. Prizes

In each of Categories I, II, and III cash prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams, to be divided equally among the team members.

1st place – \$200

2nd place – \$100

3rd place – \$50

Additional Information:

Ideas for presentations may be found on the web at sites like www.nctm.org, www.maa.org, as well as less obvious sites like www.naturalhistorymag.com and www.smithsonianmagazine.com.

For hints on creating a high-quality poster presentation, and to see some example posters, you may visit sites like:

<http://www.ncsu.edu/project/posters/NewSite/>

<http://www.lib.uct.ac.za/infolit/poster.htm>

<http://www.unomaha.edu/wwwmath/MAM/2002/poster02.html>

As always, you may find that a search of the web via a site like [Google](http://www.google.com) with keywords like “poster

presentations” will return many useful links.