Dr. Benton Tyler

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Montevallo, AL 35115

Education

2005 Doctor of Philosophy, Mathematics, University of Mississippi

2002 Master of Science, Mathematics, University of Mississippi

2000 Bachelor of Science, Mathematics, Delta State University

Work Experience

University of Montevallo

Positions:

2016-present Professor of Mathematics

2011-2016 Associate Professor of Mathematics

2005-2011 Assistant Professor of Mathematics

Classes Taught: († Denotes a class that was also taught entirely online)

- Intermediate Algebra (Math 131)
- Pre-Calculus Algebra (Math 144) †
- Finite mathematics (Math 147)
- Pre-Calculus Trigonometry (Math 149)
- Pre-Calculus Algebra & Trigonometry (Math 150)
- The Nature of Mathematics (Math 154)
- Introduction to Statistics (Math 157)
- Basic Mathematics for Elementary Teachers I (Math 160)
- Basic Mathematics for Elementary Teachers II (Math 162) †
- Calculus I (Math 170)
- Survey of Mathematics (Math 185)
- Mathematics of Games (Math 202)
- Introduction to the History of Mathematics (Math 205)
- Introduction to Discrete Mathematics (Math 247)
- Introduction to Graph Theory (Math 287)
- Graph Theory (Math 387)
- Special Topics (Math 395)
- Directed Reading in Mathematics (Math 484)
- Senior Seminar (Math 485)
- History and Philosophy of Mathematics (Math 505)
- Special Topics (Math 595)
- Tabletop Role-Playing Games (GSD 295)

- Honors Introduction to the History of Mathematics (Honors 209)
- Exploring Lego (Honors 308)
- Honors Thesis (Honors 490)
- Undergraduate Research (UR 300)
- Undergraduate Research (UR 400)
- Becoming 101 (UM 101)

Committee Work:

- Faculty Senate [2009-2014, 2017-2022]
    - Faculty Senate President [2012-2013]
    - Senate Governance and Operations committee (also served as chair) [2011-2014, 2021-2022]
    - Salary/Finance, Benefits and Resources subcommittee (also served as chair) [2009-2011, 2017-2022]
    - Faculty Overload compensation committee (ad hoc) [2018-2020]
    - Staff Senate Liaison [2019-2020]
- Student Life Advisory Committee [2018-2024]
- Undergraduate Curriculum and Standards Committee [2011-2014]
- Traffic Appeals Committee (also served as chair) [2006-2018]
- Hall of Fame Committee [2014-present]
- Intercollegiate Athletics Committee (currently chair) [2006-present]
    - Sports Expansion subcommittee [2009-2010]
- Access, Opportunity, and Impact Committee [2026-present]
- Technology Advisory Council, alternate member [2009-2010]
- Hiring committee, Vice-President for Business Affairs [2015-2016]
- Hiring committee chair, Director of Athletics [2014]
- Hiring committee co-chair, Game Studies & Design Professor [2011]
- Hiring committees, various Department of Athletics positions (many) [2006-2026]
- Hiring committees, Computer Science Professor (2) [2018-2019, 2020-2021]
- Hiring committees, Mathematics Professor (7) [2005-2008, 2011-2013, 2017-2019]
- Hiring committees, Instructor of Mathematics (3) [2015-2016, 2018, 2021]
- Interdisciplinary Studies major development committee [2010-2011]
- Teacher Education Program (TEP) committees [2006-2016]
- Space Utilization Committee [2012-2013]
- President's Cabinet [2012-2013]
- General Education Review Committee [2012-2015]
- RPM Committee [2015]

Other Service and Activities:

- Mathematics Program Coordinator [2021-present]
- Faculty Athletics Representative [2014-present]
- Faculty Advisor, Montevallo Organization of Gaming (MOG) [2005-present]
- Committee chair of the Faculty Athletics Representatives of the Gulf South Conference [2024-present]

- Member of NASAGA (North American Simulation and Gaming Association) [2024-present]
- Faculty Co-Advisor, University of Montevallo Cosplay Association (UMCA) [2015-2019]
- Assisted in establishing and helping to maintain the Game Studies & Design minor at Montevallo
- Assisted in establishing and funding the Peggy G. Tyler Memorial Scholarship at the University of Montevallo
- Assisted in establishing and funding the Melanie Tyler Owen Memorial Scholarship at Delta State University
- Assisted in developing two proposals for a Computer Science major and minor, the first of which was rejected and the second of which was implemented
- Advised roughly thirty-five mathematics senior seminar capstone projects
- Advised roughly five Undergraduate Research projects and three Honors theses
- Serve as the coordinator for selecting recipients for various mathematics scholarships
- Served as the academic adviser for numerous students
- Served as a consultant for an article on WalletHub entitled *Most Gambling-Addicted States*
- Ran a week-long games summer camp for Birmingham middle school children [2015]
- Served in numerous volunteer activities as a member of the Alabama Garrison of the 501st. These activities include raising money for various charities, as well as volunteering with events at Birmingham Children's Hospital, Pinson public library, Hoover public library, Alabaster public library, and other places.
- Worked at numerous recruiting events during the school year, on weekends, and over the summer for the mathematics program
- Worked with Student Life to run several events for new students, including at the annual 'Back to School Bash' and 'Welcome Back Weekend'
- Worked at numerous events recruiting for the Game Studies and Design minor. These events include Pioneer Con, Play-On-Con, Alabama Phoenix Festival, Kami-Con, Birmingham Game Days, Game-O-Rama, and Dice-Tower Con
- Gave multiple presentations at Pioneer Con (held at Jefferson State Community College)
- Gave several guest talks to various classes at the University of Montevallo
- Won the 12th annual Life Raft Debate
- Participated in the 13th annual Life Raft Debate
- Volunteered as a guest speaker to students at Montevallo High School
- Worked with the Future Falcons and gave lectures to middle school students involved with the program
- Gave a lecture to students from the Jewish Day School of Birmingham
- Worked as a volunteer judge for the Greek Week games
- Served as a judge at the Baptist Student Union's Mr. Motown competition
- Assisted in establishing a mathematics trail for local high school students
- Took University of Montevallo mathematics majors on trips to the University of Mississippi to explore the graduate program in mathematics

Training sessions completed:

- NCAA FAR Institute Training
- Preventing Harassment & Discrimination: Supervisors (Full Course)
- Summer OER Workshop
- Teaching and Learning Institute (Program Level Learning Outcomes/Curriculum Mapping)
- New Quizzes for Canvas
- Basic & Advanced Canvas
- Canvas for online courses
- ProctorU
- Consent & Respect: Sexual Misconduct Training (multiple times)
- Sexual Harassment: Staff-to-Staff (multiple times)
- Active Shooter Response Training (multiple times)
- Developing Digital Course Materials
- What UM Students Want Faculty to Know
- IS&T Digital Security Training (multiple times)

Honors and Awards

- University Scholar Award [2026], University of Montevallo
- Sabbaticals granted [taken Fall 2013 and Fall 2024]
- Green Fund Grant, "Greener Gaming" [$1,200; 2024-2025]
- Course Development Grant for developing and teaching an online section of Math 144 [Summer, 2018]
- Teaching and Learning Grant for developing and teaching an online section of Math 162 [Summer, 2017]
- Faculty Service Award [2014], University of Montevallo
- Resolution of Appreciation from the University of Montevallo Board of Trustees [2013]
- Graduate Teaching Award, University of Mississippi

Publications

- W. Staton and B. Tyler, *On Tiling the n-Dimensional Cube*, Mathematics Magazine, volume 78, number 4, (2005), 305-309.
- W. Staton and B. Tyler, *On the Extremal Question for Odd Girth*, Bulletin of the ICA, volume 47, (2006), 33-36.
- W. Staton and B. Tyler, *On the Erdos Square-Packing Conjecture*, Geombinatorics XVII (2), (2007), 88-94.
- J. Burt, W. Staton, and B. Tyler, *On Visible Tilings*, Geombinatorics XXV (3), (2016), 103-112.
- C. Martin and B. Tyler, *Descent to Munchkin: From Pen-and-Paper to Board and Card*, The Role-Playing Society: Essays on the Cultural Influence of RPGs, McFarland, (2016).
- C. Martin and B. Tyler, *Character Creation: Gamification and Identity*, Teaching Media Quarterly, volume 5, issue 2, (2017), article 5.
- C. Martin and B. Tyler, *Conflict Management 101: University Edition*, OneShot: A Journal of Critical Play and Games, volume 1, (2019).
- M. Doerfler, C. Swain, and B. Tyler, *Enumerating Visible Tilings*, Geombinatorics XXXIV (2), (2024), 65-72.
- C. Martin and B. Tyler, *Roll to Hit: Comparative Mathematical Probability in Tabletop Roleplaying Games*, Analog Game Studies XI (3), (2024).