Math Olympics, Saint Mary’s Student Leaders

**Instructor:** Dr. Ellen Veomett  
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**Office Hours:** Monday: 3:15-4:15 PM, Tuesday: 4-5PM, Wednesday: 11:30-12:30 PM, Friday: 1:10-2:10PM

**Description of Program:** The Math Olympics program is designed to promote a greater enjoyment and understanding of mathematics among middle school students. It is also designed to help Saint Marys you gain experience in teaching and sharing your love of mathematics with a disadvantaged student body, who tend to be under-represented in the mathematical sciences.

**Articles Used:**

**Learning Outcomes:** In participating in this program, you will:

1. Apply academic methods and/or theories in a way that promotes collaboration and mutual benefit in a community setting
2. Demonstrate critical reflection throughout your experience
3. Express your understanding of the interconnections between your experience and your responsibilities as members of social or professional communities.

**In-Person Activities:** By participating in the Math Olympics Program as a Saint Mary’s Student Leader, you will:

- Attend an introductory meeting, where we will discuss the program, its goals, and the mathematics that you will be teaching the middle school students.
• Go to Saint Martin De Porres (SMDP) on a weekly basis with another student leader and with student volunteers from Saint Mary’s College. There you will “coach” the SMDP students during their afterschool program hours by leading them through mathematical games and activities.

• Attend weekly meetings with the Math Olympics organizer (Dr. Ellen Veomett) and other student leaders, where you will discuss how the middle school students are doing, how you are doing, and how to make next week’s session even better.

Written Activities:

• Each week you will write a journal entry after your coaching session at SMDP. In this journal entry, you will discuss the lesson, how the lesson worked (or didn’t work) for the SMDP students, and your own personal reaction to the session.

• At the end of the program, you will write a short (2-3 page) paper on your participation in the program. This paper will address:
  1. What do you think the SMDP students got out of the program?
  2. What did you get out of the program?
  3. In what way has this program affected your outlook on your responsibilities as a mathematician?