

Mathematics and its Rigors

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007 Kemeny Hall, 3:30PM
Tea 3:00PM 300 Kemeny Hall

Abstract

The "rigor that is often seen as the definition of mathematical thinking is a relatively modern concept. This talk will use several incidents that took place in France and England in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries to highlight some of the issues, concerns and forces that underly the understanding of mathematics as a rigorous subject in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

This talk should be accessible to undergraduates.