

You are cordially invited to attend the  
MSU Mathematics Education Colloquium

**Dr. Nathalie Sinclair**

Thursday, March 20, 2025

1:00pm—2:30pm

Wells Hall, Room B243 or Zoom

[https://msu.zoom.us/  
j/92039756507](https://msu.zoom.us/j/92039756507)

Passcode: PRIME



**“The Colonial Legacy of European Mathematics in the Americas”**

**Abstract:**

In this talk I will report on an on-going archival project at the Palafoxiana Library (with Elizabeth de Freitas, Armando Solares Rojas and Carlos Hugo Zayas) in Puebla, Mexico, the oldest public library in the Americas. The goal is to study the mathematical knowledge that was brought to the New World by the colonisers, the way it was selected, translated and transformed by local, criollo mathematicians, and how this can help us understand early formations of the mathematics curriculum in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**Bio:**

Nathalie Sinclair is Distinguished University Professor at Simon Fraser University, which is on unceded Coast Salish Territories (Lhukw'lhukw'áytén). Her most recently funded research project is *The Colonial Legacy of European mathematics in the Americas* (with Elizabeth de Freitas). She is co-editor of the forthcoming book *Learning Futures and Futures of Learning; Speculative Pedagogies for a Pluriverse Education amidst Extinction Challenges* (with Petra Mikulan). Her research in mathematics education involves both the design and study of new tools (her gestural software for mathematics learning (*TouchCounts* and *TouchTimes*, with Nicholas Jackiw) is used around the world, with over 500,000 downloads) as well as the philosophical and historical study of the aesthetics of mathematical practice.

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