

## Department of Mathematics Colloquium

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### *Vanishing characters and large conjugacy classes*

Prof. Mark Lewis  
Kent State University

April 21, 2017  
3:30 - 4:30pm  
DERR 329



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This talk is intended for  
a general audience.

We begin with a survey of the parallels between the theory of characters and the theory of conjugacy classes. We will then focus on the connection between vanishing irreducible characters and large conjugacy classes. We will see that this occurs in two important classes of groups: Frobenius groups and extra-special. Finally, we will discuss some common generalizations of these groups.