



CRMSE Colloquium Announcement

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Why is learning mathematics important? Is it? In what ways?

Friday, May 15, 2015
1:00-2:00 pm
6475 Alvarado Road, Room 128

RSVP: <https://crmse.wufoo.com/forms/crmse-colloquia/> or
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Abstract: I have spent the 2013/14 academic year on a sabbatical hosted by the Department of Anthropology, at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland. In this session I will share some of my experiences interacting with anthropologists from many parts of the world, as well as thoughts about mathematics and mathematics learning that originated in that context. During that year I began to incorporate approaches to philosophy of mathematics and mathematics education that foreground the circulation of affects and emotional undercurrents in the grasping of new ideas and the having of insights. These approaches are instrumental for my upcoming contribution to a book entitled "What are Mathematical Concepts?" (forthcoming) and a presentation in a session with the same title at the Deleuze Studies Meeting in Stockholm (June 2015). I plan to organize the conversation by critically exploring common arguments addressing the question "Why is learning mathematics important?", and to (try to) make the case for ways of answering it that tend to be marginal, if considered at all.

