Yuri Bazlov
yuri.bazlov@manchester.ac.uk

Remote delivery of postgraduate-level courses



http://maths-magic.ac.uk/

Yuri Bazlov
yuri.bazlov@manchester.ac.uk

Taught courses for PhD students. Why?

- *The breadth and depth of PhD training* (London Mathematical Society position paper, Nov 2010)
- Recommendations by International Reviews of UK Mathematics
- Discipline needs competent researchers - and teachers!

Yuri Bazlov
yuri.bazlov@manchester.ac.uk

TCC (A Taught Course Centre)

- Several maths departments join forces to provide taught courses for their PhD students
- Broader expertise, distributed workload etc
- 6 TCCs in the UK

MAGIC: who we are

Yuri Bazlov
yuri.bazlov@manchester.ac.uk

Mathematics Access Grid Instruction and Collaboration

Birmingham	Cardiff	Durham	East Anglia	Exeter
Keele	Lancaster	Leeds	Leicester	Liverpool
Loughborough	Manchester	Newcastle	Northumbria	Nottingham
Reading	Sheffield	Southampton	Surrey	Sussex
York	* External			

Yuri Bazlov
yuri.bazlov@manchester.ac.uk

MAGIC: what do we teach

- ~25 hrs/week × 10 weeks/term × 2 terms/year
- 10 and 20 hour courses, pure and applied maths
- "core" and "specialist" courses

Assessment

- * Take-away open-book exam for 2 weeks

Yuri Bazlov
yuri.bazlov@manchester.ac.uk

MAGIC: how it works. Old (=current) model

- Remote teaching: classrooms, video link
- Share one or two desktops

2020/21: change!

- Buildings closed? Students at home?
- Software platform no longer available

Yuri Bazlov
yuri.bazlov@manchester.ac.uk

Changes in response to pandemic

- New platform: from the lecturer's desktop to students' desktops
- Zoom - optimal in features and price
- "Single screen" mode

* for 2020-21 we will offer PhD students outside MAGIC free access to recordings. Details on maths-magic.ac.uk in due course

Yuri Bazlov
yuri.bazlov@manchester.ac.uk

MAGIC: Organisation

- Director: Peter Ashwin (Exeter)
- Academic steering committee (all member depts)
- Programme committee (7 people)
- Management committee (8 people)
- Project manager
- Tech support officer

Yuri Bazlov
yuri.bazlov@manchester.ac.uk

Thoughts

- *"Less is more"*: is MAGIC a *platform* to connect lecturers to students, not being prescriptive?
- ...a way to work together, not work around the restrictions?
- ...even a way to learn from each other?

Thank you.