1017-53-3 **Ailana M. Fraser***, University of British Columbia. *Analytic methods in studying curvature and topology.*

A central theme in Riemannian geometry is understanding the relationships between the curvature and the topology of a Riemannian manifold. We will discuss applications of geometric variational methods and in particular minimal surfaces, and give a survey of results on manifolds with positive isotropic curvature. (Received April 07, 2005)