Recent years have seen a number of applications of (usually fairly elementary) algebraic topology to various other disciplines. In this course, I hope to discuss some applications to economics (game theory, general equilibrium, social choice), computer science (analysis of algorithms, distributed computing), dynamical systems (rigorous computer bounds on entropy), robotics (topological complexity, configuration spaces of graphs, and coverage problems for sensor networks) and analysis of large data sets (factor analysis, persistent homology and related ideas).

People who come to the course will be expected to lecture on papers of common interest (the flip side of its elementary nature. There are links to some of these on my web page.

The first meeting will be Tuesday October 10.