About my time at Northeastern:

Studying math at Northeastern was a great experience for me. The math professors were outstanding educators and very supportive. I also did a coop at Spectral Sciences, Inc. where I spent a lot of time on an applied math project. It was a great experience, but ultimately I decided I wanted to learn more pure mathematics and set my sights on grad school. I took several graduate courses, did a reading course and thesis project (on polynomial invariants of knots and graphs), and also attended some summer workshops. I graduated in May 2015 with a BS in Math.

Recommendations for students applying to graduate school:

A key part of an application is your letters of recommendation. Be sure to interact with professors often. Do a reading course if you can. Try to do an REU or a workshop over the summer. You can also spend some time over the summers self-studying a book (you can ask a professor for recommendations, or look around online). In my opinion, it's not crucial to take a lot of graduate courses, but try to take at least one so that you'll have a good sense of the level of difficulty to expect in graduate school.

More general advice about college:

There are so many wonderful opportunities at Northeastern! Try to take advantage of your time there. Participate in student groups, do a coop, travel abroad (if you can). The city of Boston also has a lot to offer (I think the Boston Symphony Orchestra has a good student discount, if I remember correctly). College is also a good time to learn some basic coding, which will always come in handy.

About my time in grad school:

I'm currently a sixth-year PhD student at the University of Texas at Austin, set to graduate in May 2021, with Jeff Danciger as my advisor. I've had a great experience here. I chose this school because, in addition to a strong topology and geometry program, I was very impressed with the graduate students I met during my visit. We have a supportive and talented community here, two features I definitely recommend keeping an eye out for in your visits. I've had funding to attend conferences in Nice (France); Ann Arbor (Michigan); and Warwick (England), and to give a talk at a workshop in Redmond, Oregon. My research involves topics related to Geometric Group Theory, Riemannian Geometry, and Lie Theory, in particular something called "Anosov representations."