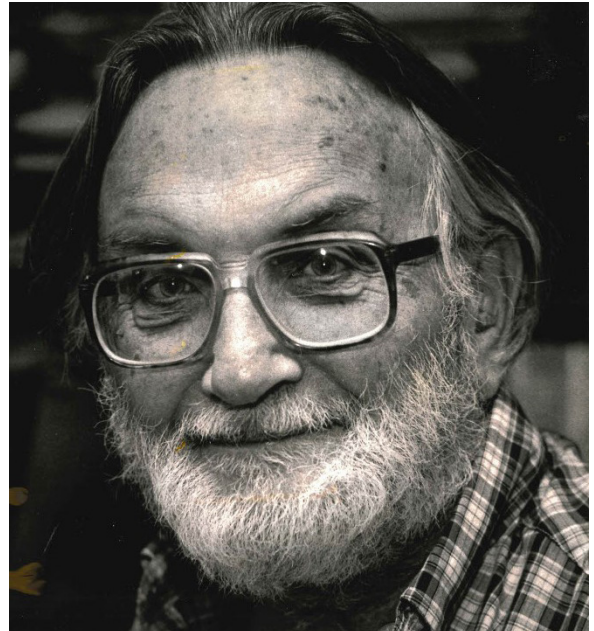


# MAX ZORN

Max Zorn was born in Krefeld Germany and studied under Emil Artin at Hamburg, receiving his PhD in 1930 for work on alternative algebras. He fled Nazi Germany with his wife and young son in 1933 and after a 3-year stint at Yale and 10 years at UCLA, he arrived at Indiana University in 1946. Though he retired in 1971, he continued his study of mathematics up to his death in 1993, coming into the Math Department on a daily basis.

Max's breadth of knowledge and the extent of his interests in mathematics were astonishing. He made contributions to infinite set theory, algebra, topology and analysis. Of course, he is best known for his lemma, a property of chains of set that is equivalent to the Axiom of Choice and the well-ordering principle, but he never viewed this work as his most significant.

Max remained a vital member of the Department throughout the 47 years of his time in Bloomington. Well into his retirement, he was known for his always on-target questions posed at colloquia, along with his one-page newsletter, *The Piccayune Sentinel*, devoted to "cryptic remarks about mathematics and mathematicians," in the words of former chair John Ewing.



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Born: Krefeld, Germany June 6, 1906  
Died: Bloomington, Indiana March 9, 1993  
Years at IU: 1946-1971

See also Zorn's Lemma