

MA 330

Course Project Requirements and Comments

FIRST VERSION

- (1) Your first version should be a complete version of your project.
- (2) I expect you to have at least 7 sources other than the texts listed in the course syllabus. At least 5 of these sources must be non-website sources, e.g. articles in journals, books, etc. While you may use the web to access these non-website sources, e.g. www.JSTOR.org, the sources should not be web-published content.
- (3) I expect you to explain the mathematics you are discussing. This might be done by giving proofs if they are short and/or understandable, or this might also be done by including excellent examples. When in doubt, use *Journey Through Genius* and *Crest of the Peacock* as models for various techniques for discussing mathematics.
- (4) Remember that this will be a written project of length (without references) equivalent to 15 pages with 1 inch margins, 12 point Times New Roman font, double spaced. The main requirement is that your project must involve a “great idea” of mathematics and provide a well-supported argument justifying this choice of topic. You should direct a significant portion of your project toward a general university audience and articulate clearly which sections are aimed toward experts. *Journey Through Genius* and *Crest of the Peacock* are good models for this type of exposition.
- (5) You need to properly document all of your sources, using an established citation method: MLA, APA, the bibliography and/or BibTeX packages used by LaTeX, etc. You are not required to use a specific citation method, but you should choose one specific method and use it consistently through your paper.
- (6) Plagiarism is a violation of the University Senate Rules discussed in the syllabus, and will be dealt with according to University Policy (i.e. you will get an E in the class if you plagiarize someone else’s work). When in doubt, cite your source!

FINAL VERSION

In addition to the requirements above:

- (1) Your final version will be a *deep revision* of the first version of your course project. In other words, this will be more than conducting minor revisions such as correcting typos or adding one small example.
- (2) As you revise, you should explore additional references and incorporate them into the work, restructure the project to better tell your story, delete and totally rewrite passages that are ineffective, etc.