

MA 330

Course Project Requirements and Comments

ESSAY PROMPT

On the list of Course Project Topics, you will find a number of topics, each consisting of a mathematical development and a significant event in world history. Choose one of these and, using this topic, discuss the ways in which changes in society affect the development of mathematics, and vice-versa.

FIRST VERSION

- (1) The primary purpose of your project should be to articulate a claim and use evidence to support this claim.
- (2) Your first version should be a complete version of your project.
- (3) I expect you to have at least 5 sources other than the texts listed in the course syllabus. At least 3 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.
- (4) 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.
- (5) Remember that this will be a written project of length (without references) equivalent to 10 pages with 1 inch margins, 12 point Times New Roman font, double spaced. You should direct a significant portion of your project toward a general university audience and articulate clearly which sections are aimed toward experts.
- (6) 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.
- (7) 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.