

Guidelines for Paper 3: Choose Your Own Adventure

Draft and Draft Cover Letter due: Tuesday, November 14

Peer Review Forms due: Tuesday, November 28 (last class before Thanksgiving break)

Final Version and Final Version Cover Letter due: Tuesday, December 5 (last class of the semester)

TOPIC: Choose Your Own Adventure

For this paper, you will choose a topic from the history of mathematics that interests you and discuss it clearly and thoroughly. Your topic may cover any historical period, but needs to include at least several paragraphs of discussion on mathematicians and mathematical results discovered after the 16th century. A list of ideas appears below, but you are also welcome to choose a topic that is not on the list. (If you do so, I strongly suggest that you consult with me in person or by email before writing your draft.)

POSSIBLE TOPICS:

A mathematical biography of a prominent mathematician.

For example:

- Pierre de Fermat
- Isaac Newton
- Gottfried Leibniz
- Leonhard Euler

For such a paper you may follow the detailed mathematical-biography guidelines given for Paper 2.

The development of a significant area of mathematics.

For example:

- The development of algebra
- The development of geometry
- The development of calculus
- The development of number theory

For such a paper you may use the outline suggested in the guidelines to Paper 1 adapted to your particular topic. This means that you need not include cultural implications, but you should include more mathematical and biographical details in the spirit of Paper 2 guidelines.

Bibliographical sources.

You should use at least **five** bibliographical sources, out of which only one may be an online source. I suggest that three, out of your five sources, should be your two textbooks: *Journey through Genius* and *Math through the Ages*, and the online source *MacTutor History of Mathematics Archives*. Use UCONN's library to find other print sources (e-versions of books are acceptable).

The purpose of this assignment is to help you achieve a deep understanding of the development of significant contemporary areas of mathematics, or of the contributions to these areas by post 16th century, prominent mathematical figures.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

- **The Draft** is due on Tuesday, November 14. Your draft should be a “good faith” draft: a paper that you feel would fulfill the assignment. You must also submit a Draft Cover Letter (see cover letter templates on the next page). When you turn in your draft, you must submit it as follows:
 - **One** copy with the Draft Cover Letter attached (for me).
 - **Three** copies without the Draft Cover Letter attached (for your classmates).Comment: On the week of November 7, you will be given time during group-work to discuss with your group the method of sharing drafts (see Peer Review Guidelines).
- **Peer Review Workshop:** We will workshop these papers on Tuesday, November 28, during class. **You must be present** to comment on your classmates papers and receive their comments on your own. Please consult the Attached Peer Review Guidelines and Form on how to prepare a Peer Review Report on the drafts assigned to you.
- **The final version** of the paper is due in the last class of the semester: Tuesday, December 5. Submit it in a folder with your Draft, your Draft Cover Letter, and your Final Version Cover Letter (Note that the Final Version Cover Letter for Paper 3 is different than the Final Version Cover Letters for Papers 1 and 2).
- **Only the final version of the paper will be graded, but in order to receive credit for your paper you must submit to me the Draft (with the Draft Cover Letter), and The Final Version** of your paper (**with the Final Version Cover Letter**).

Remember that no late submissions are accepted unless there is a serious emergency for which you provide proof. The final version of Paper 3 is considered to be the final exam of this course.

FORMAT

- Length: about 7 pages (1750-2100 words)
- Font: 12-point Times New Roman or similar
- Layout: double-spaced and 1” page margins
- References and citations: Use a scholarly and consistent reference and citation style (preferred citation style: see the style of references in the Bibliography of your textbook B&G. Other acceptable styles: see the links in The Papers section of the course’s webpage.)

Remember that whenever you're quoting or paraphrasing other people's work, you must provide a citation!

Please use the following text as a template for your Draft Cover Letter.

Dear Professor Glaz,

In this draft, I am trying to...

I think that the strongest parts of this draft are...

What I struggled with most was...

My top two priorities for revising are...

I know that I also need to work on...

At this point, I would like to ask you...

Sincerely,

Please use the following text as a template for your Final Version Cover Letter.

Dear Professor Glaz,

In this paper, I am trying to...

In my first draft, I...

Given the feedback I received on that draft, I decided to...because...

I concentrated most of my efforts for this final version on...

I think that the strongest parts of this paper are... I'm especially proud of...

What I struggled with most was...

As you read this paper, please keep...in mind.

Write a few sentences explaining your thoughts on writing. Has your writing changed as a result of this class, and if so, how?

Sincerely,