TERM PROJECT
Due: April 7, 2016.

Goal: Explore some mathematical ideas that interest you, then share your exploration.

Project topic
There are many possibilities on the suggested topic list and aspects to investigate are

• Learning a new piece of mathematics – perhaps there is a mathematical topic that would interest you to study, such as solving the rubik’s cube using permutations.

• Mathematics in a cultural context or ethnomathematics – the study of the relationship between mathematics and culture. For example, how did various systems of writing numbers evolve and how were calculations performed, what is the mathematical knowledge of a certain indigenous people, or what was the history behind the development of calculus?

• Mathematics in art, film, or literature – how is it portrayed, and how accurate is the mathematics?

What to turn in for your project
Once you and your group have chosen and researched your topic, the end product will be an academic article about 20 pages in length in 12 point font, written in LaTeX. It will consist of

• A title and abstract.
• An introduction motivating your topic.
• Definitions and examples.
• Theorems and proofs you discovered. Perhaps conjectures.
• A bibliography.

Please submit both an electronic copy to steph@math.ubc.ca, and a hard copy.

Project assessment
Your project will be marked out of 30 based on

(a) Mathematical content: you will be marked on how well you understood the mathematics in your project and the accuracy of your mathematical content.

(b) Quality and clarity of presentation.
Project support assessment

There will be deadline-based support for your project throughout the term, which will also contribute to your grade. For each, a single document is required per group.

(a) **Tuesday January 19** *Motivating questions* (5 marks): 1-2 pages containing a tentative title for your group project, a list of group members and at least 6 detailed questions that will be the focus of your investigation.

(b) **Tuesday February 23** *Project draft* (10 marks): This will be a polished draft of your group project. If any holes in proofs remain they are indicated and their filling specified. You will receive substantial constructive feedback in order to perfect your final project submission.

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