

Math 130 Independent Project Assignment

In this project, you will

1. Prepare an approximately 4–6 page (depending on the amount of math vs. text) expository written text, on a topic of your choice. Think of this as writing a section in a textbook. I expect there to be mathematical content at the level of our class, but you have the freedom to choose whether it will be more discussion, history, or survey, in the style of definition–theorem–proof, or somewhere in between.
2. Give an 8–minute presentation to the class, summarising some aspect of your work.

On or before March 19 (right before the break), you must submit a short (maximum 1/2–page, typed) proposal outlining your project and suggested bibliography. What will you read? What will your written text cover? Are you aiming to prove a theorem? I also encourage you to discuss your idea informally with me before this deadline. I will give you some topic suggestions, but also encourage you to come up with your own.

On or before April 16, you must have a written draft of your paper finished, as well as a rough presentation prepared. You will spend the class period constructively critiquing each other's presentation in small groups. The final written project is due on the last day of class, April 30.

Summary of Schedule:

- March 19: Project proposal due.
- April 16: Practice presentations and written draft due in class.
- April 21, 23, 28, 30: In-class presentations.
- April 30: Final draft due.

Grading Scheme:

As indicated on the class syllabus, this project is worth 25% of your final grade: the written component is 15%, and the presentation is 10%. *Failure to submit the proposal, draft, and/or written project on the due date will accrue you –1% (out of the 25%) per day.*