

History of Mathematics

Finally, one last paper to round out your writing seminar! This 5-7 page research paper is designed to let you explore the history of a one topic that impinges on our work this term:

- A History of Calculus
- The (Mathematical) Legacy of the Greeks
- A History of Algebra and/or Topology
- A History of Some Theorems in Number Theory: Fermat's Last Theorem, the Twin Prime Conjecture, the Goldbach Conjecture
- Women in Mathematics Pre 1950
- Women in Mathematics since 1950
- A History of some of the Famous Numbers of Mathematics: 0, the golden ratio, e , Π , $\sqrt{2}$

There will be a limit of 3 people per person per topic, so on Monday of Week 8, you will submit to me your ordered list of choices, and I will attempt to optimize the assignment of topics.

In addition to all the other links to writing resources we've used this term, a useful resource for writing a research paper can be found at

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/common_writing_assignments/research_papers/index.html

This paper is due **Friday of Week 10**, but note that presentations (10-15 minutes each) on this paper will begin on **Friday of Week 9**.

Guidelines for Papers

By now you know that 23 lines of text in 12pt Calibri font constitutes one page, and papers should be double spaced.

For this paper, be sure to have at least 4 relevant sources (not including a dictionary, encyclopedia, or any of our textbooks), at least three of which should be scholarly (ie, books from our library, or peer-reviewed sources), and at least two of which are cited. Wikipedia should NOT be used as a source, nor should .com websites. Note that not everything that appears in your bibliography must be cited directly in your paper; that's okay. Often a source provides important context for your understanding and subsequent ideas, but is not directly linked to the finished work; it should be still acknowledged.

Be conscious to avoid plagiarism. Check out

<https://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/QuotingSources.html>

to find some helpful information on what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid plagiarizing.

