

MATH 629-600/700 — History of Mathematics — Syllabus

January 13, 2003

TEXT: *Lectures on the History of Mathematics*, ©2000-03, G. Donald Allen.

Meeting Time: MW 4:10-5:25PM — BLOC 163

Instructor: Dr. Allen

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Office Hours: MW 3-4PM, or by appointment.

Grading:

Homework	=	200pts
Term paper	=	200pts
Position paper	=	100pts
Book Report	=	100pts
Final Exam	=	100pts
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Total	=	700pts

A = 630-700pts

B = 560-629pts

C = 490-559pts

TERM PAPER: The term paper will be assigned, collected and graded. Suggested topics will be given sometime during the first week of classes. Alternatively, you are free to select a topic of your choice but check with me first. Local students: You will also be asked to give a 20 minute class presentation covering your term paper. (Due Date: April 23, 2003) The length of this paper should be about 15-20 pages typed.

POSITION PAPER: In this assignment you will take an advocacy position on a topic to be assigned. The paper should be 5-10 typed pages, and include references. (Due Date: March 19, 2003)

BOOK REPORT: You must identify a book on some aspect of the history of mathematics and report its contents, particularly its mathematical contents. Biographies of contemporary mathematicians are especially encouraged. This book may be topical or a biography but **it may not be a general history**. It should have some scholarly merit, as opposed to popular trade books. (If you have questions about the suitability of some book please see me. Due date: Feb 28, 2003.)

HOMEWORK: Homework will be collected and graded.

FINAL EXAM: The final exam will be given in class.

COURSE URL:

Course homepage: http://www.math.tamu.edu/~don.allen/m629_03a/index.htm

Readings: http://www.math.tamu.edu/~don.allen/masters/hist_frame.htm