

MTH 4390, 4590 - Senior Seminar

Project Guidelines

Fall 2009

Final Project: The final project is not intended to be original research. The format of the project is open. It may be a historical study or a computer project. Your grade will reflect your ability to synthesize material from a number of resources with proper citations. Do not simply copy from a single article or book.

- The paper is due on the last day of fall classes, December 4, 2009.
- The paper should be 6–10 pages, double spaced, word processed with 11 or 12 pt font size, and with references cited appropriately. If applicable, include computer code, output, diagrams, pictures, etc.
- It is suggested that you use the APA writing format for the paper. Search on-line for the APA style sheet for more information. Some of these guidelines are listed below.

<http://www.apastyle.org>

<http://webster.comnet/apa/>

<http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/DocAPA.html>

The following gives reference formats for electronic references such as ftp, gopher, html.

<http://www.umuc.edu/library/guides/apa.shtml>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

<http://www.writetrack.net/aiaa/documents/ReferenceFormat.pdf>

Most scientific and technical writing is done using the format established by the American Psychological Association (APA), rather than the MLA or other writing formats.

General Guidelines

1. Typing
 - a) All APA manuscripts must be typed.
 - b) Type on one side only on 8 1/2 x 11 " paper.
 - c) Double space.
 - d) Direct quotes are single spaced and indented 5 spaces on each side.
 - e) Paragraphs are indented 5 spaces.
2. Headings
 - a) The first heading level is centered.
 - b) The second level is flush left and underlined.
 - c) The third level is indented and underlined.

Example:

Centered Level 1 Heading

Flush Left and Underlined Level 2 Heading

Indented and Underlined Level 3 Heading

3. Writing Voice

Use the third person passive voice. The use of “I” or “we” is not appropriate. Example: “The experiment was performed using ...” instead of “I performed the experiment using...”

Manuscript sections

1. Title page with title, name of author, class and date.
2. Abstract - A 50-150 word concise description of the problem statement, the method of solution, main results and implications or applications of the results.
3. Introduction
 - a) Problem statement - Describe the problem, state why the problem or research question is significant. Describe the objectives of the research. Define any unusual or technical terms.
 - b) Literature review - Give a brief overview and review of the research that has been done to date on the problem.
4. Method, Procedures and/or Description of Mathematical Model - Discuss the theory and the derivation of the model, the meaning of the terms in the equation, implementation of computer codes, experimental procedures, etc., as applicable to your problem.
5. Discussion - Describe the method of solution and discuss the results.
6. Conclusions
7. Appendices - Include copies of computer code, sample computations, etc.
8. References - Check on-line for guidelines (See other side).