University of Toronto at Scarborough
COURSE OUTLINE
MATC90 – Beginnings of Mathematics

Course homepage:
`http://www.math.toronto.edu/lgoldmak/`
Click on link to `Teaching`, then on the link to `MAT C90`.

Instructor: Leo Goldmakher
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Phone: 416-207-2783
email: `leo.goldmakher@utoronto.ca`
Office hours: Monday 12:00–1:15 & Thursday 4:30–6:00; additional office hours by appointment.

Grader: Pablo Carrasco
email: `pablo@math.toronto.edu`

Lectures: Monday 2:10–5:00, HW 408

Textbook: Howard Eves, *An Introduction to the History of Mathematics*, 6^{th} edition, Brooks/Cole, Thomson Learning, Inc.

Syllabus: The aim is to discuss the mathematics of the ancient Egyptians, Babylonians, ancient Greeks, Chinese, Hindus, Arabs, and Europeans through the 16^{th} century. We may also discuss more modern topics (the rise of calculus, non-Euclidean geometry, etc.) as time permits.

Marking scheme:
Your mark will be calculated based on the following three components:

1. Problem sets – 75%

   There will be five problems sets throughout the semester, each worth 15% of your final course mark. These will be an excuse to play with the methods used by the ancients, as well as conduct occasional historiographic experiments. In the problems, the method used is of primary importance; you *must* show work to receive credit. Calculators are not allowed.

2. Student project – 15%

   Details forthcoming...

3. Participation – 10%

   In every lecture (beyond the first), you will be given a challenging, historically-relevant problem to think about individually for 20 minutes (pen and paper only – no calculators allowed!). Your work will be submitted, and the participation mark will depend solely on submission, *not* on correctness / completeness of the content. Note that you must be present (and conscious) for the entire 20 minutes to receive participation credit.

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Team work and plagiarism:

I encourage you to work together on the problem sets. However, **each student must work out and write up their final solutions individually and independently**. When you write up solutions, please do not copy from notes. Moreover, please write up your problems sets in isolation from other students.

When using ideas which are not your own (either on a problem set or the project), please indicate your source, be it a person, a book, a movie, or a website. You will *not* be penalized for using someone else's work to justify your own ideas, so long as you explicitly attribute the credit. However, plagiarism (i.e. intentionally not attributing the source of an idea) may have serious consequences. See `http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html` for further information.

Problem set policies:

Problem sets are to be handed in within the first five minutes of the lecture on which they are due. If you must be late to a lecture due to circumstances beyond your control, please contact me and (ideally) have another student submit the problem set on your behalf.

The academic regulations of the University are outlined in the Code of Behavior on Academic Matters which can be found at

`http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm`

and, in abridged version, in the UTSc calendar.