

University of Toronto Mississauga
MAT392H5S: Ideas of Mathematics, winter 2018

Second essay

Due dates.

- Your essay topic is due by Thursday March 1st.
- Be ready to write one paragraph about the topic of your essay as an in-class assignment on Tuesday March 6th.
- Oral presentations will take place in the second half of March.
- Submit a complete draft in good shape on Monday March 12. Prepare 9–12 pages (counting references, not counting diagrams and graphics). Use \LaTeX . Submit three hard copies (of only the PDF, preferably double-sided) in the tutorial, and submit the \LaTeX and PDF files on UTORsubmit.
- Submit the final version on Monday April 2nd. Submit one hard copy (preferably double-sided) in the tutorial, and submit the \LaTeX and PDF files on UTORsubmit.

Topic/partner.

- You can write the essay on your own or with a partner, but not with the same partner as for the first essay. Partners receive the same mark.
- A list of suggested topics is linked from the course website. With your partner, register in one slot on the doodle poll that is linked from the course website.
- Authors with the same topic will coordinate or combine their presentations. At most two essays can be on the same topic.

Bibliography.

- Choose sources that contain enough mathematical content at a reasonably accessible level.
- Use at least two and no more than eight sources that have been published in print – books or articles, no theses.
- At most two of your sources can be Wikipedia pages, of your choice. You may not use other online courses. (Wikipedia can be useful for finding published sources.)
- Exceptions are allowed only with the instructor's permission.
- Record every source; see the examples on the \LaTeX samplefile on the course website. If you use graphics from the web, cite the source in a footnote.

The essay.

- Your audience is your fellow students.
- Use your own voice. Make several iterations of thinking, rewriting in your own words, reorganizing. Stand behind what you write.
- These topics are wide. Try to grasp some of the big picture. Include some important aspects of the topic. Include a helpful example.
- Explain (some of) the mathematics, don't just tell about it. Include some rigorous math content: a bit of logical reasoning; a precise definition/statement/example that is relevant. Also include some informal discussion of background/context/history/importance.
- You will encounter vocabulary that you don't understand. When you do, identify it, and use it cautiously. You must stand behind what you write.
- Your mathematics will be marked according to the following criteria: clarity; correctness; depth; logic.
- Your writing will be marked according to the following criteria: clarity; voice; overall structure; grammar; sources and documentation; typesetting and \LaTeX .