

Team Projects
Topics and Team Member Names due March 1
Final Approval will be given by March 8

The final project should be done in teams of 2 or 3 people. If you have a larger team, I will probably have greater expectations for your final project. (Projects with 2 people have 10 minutes of presentation time, Projects with 3 people have 12 minutes of presentation time.) If you must, or if you have a specific interest not shared by many other students, you can work in a pair or (less preferably) individually. Look at the syllabus and course website for supplemental information on these projects.

In addition to the occasional suggestions I have given and will give during the course of the semester, below are possible ideas for projects to get your creative juices flowing. You do NOT need to do one of these projects. I hope most of you will find something else that may better meet the mutual interests of your team.

Suggestions

- A. Create a presentation depicting individuals who have historically been marginalized in the recognition of their contributions to mathematics throughout history (such as women and people of color). Include both biographical information (maybe with pictures) and some brief examples of their mathematical contributions. The presentation might include brief bios and pictures of each person, and the paper might include more detailed information about each person as well as the overall process of completing this project.
- B. Find videos or animations on the web that illustrate and/or visualize some mathematical concept that is related to (but not identical) to a concept we do in the class (aperiodic tilings, symmetries, fractals, etc). Your example should take advantage of the visual medium you are using.
- C. Find examples of the way that mathematics impinges upon “real life.” Your presentation could be about the ways that mathematics impacts discussions in politics and public policy, or examples of how mathematics education is politicized in various communities and eras. The paper would discuss the process you went about in completing the project and making your specific choices as well as more detailed discussions of these applications or occurrences of mathematics in “the real world.”
- D. Find and read a copy of *Flatland* by Edwin Abbott or the movie adaptation titled *Flatland the Movie* (2007). Create your own visual report of this book or produce multiple reviews of the film from different perspectives that discusses the way it looks at the idea of dimension. The paper would have a more detailed discussion of the book and the ideas it brings forth about dimension.
- E. Something else of your own choosing and design!

Recommendations

You should begin by thinking about possible project ideas and pulling a group together. There is a list of everyone in the class on Moodle. For those who are having difficulty finding a group to work with, feel free to let me know and I can help you find others to work with. I will split the class into two parts and let you know whether your group “poster presentation” will take place on **April 27** or **April 29**. Absence from either of these sessions will affect your personal project grade. Everyone will participate in an evaluation of the “visual” part of each group’s project.

All the papers accompanying the projects will be due on **Monday April 29**. For some projects that are more visually oriented, I would think that a 4-5 page double-spaced paper (under 1000 words) could suffice. For those projects where written work might be more central and where the visual is really a supplement to this, longer papers might be required. Appropriate citations and a bibliography must be included as needed.

You will be asked to evaluate your own contribution to the group effort as well as other group members’ contributions after completion of the project (see attached model of this evaluation). This “self-evaluation” will be part of your personal final project grade. If you have any questions or issues about this final project, please raise them in class or via email, or individually with me.

Project Topic Form
Due: Friday, March 1

Group Members:

Proposed Topic or Possible Topics:

Write a sentence or two on what you hope to do with this topic and how you might expect to “display” this topic in the “oral presentation.”

Any questions or issues you want me to help you all out with at this time?