Presentations

You should plan your presentation to last for 40 minutes, with roughly equal amounts of time spent by each partner. That will leave about 10 minutes for any possible questions from the audience.

It’s easy to present mathematics to an audience, provided you not only know what you are talking about, but are interested in it as well. Then presenting it comes naturally, like telling a story. Luckily, understanding and interest tend to go hand in hand: the better you understand something, the more you get interested in it.

I will grade each person’s contribution to the presentation out of a possible 20 points, split up as follows:

1. Typically the presentation will involve solving problem(s) or proving theorem(s). Solutions or proofs will be graded on whether they are correct, and whether your presentation convinces the audience that they are correct. Your presentation should be accompanied by a write-up of what you did, along with bibliographic references for the sources you used. These aspects of the presentation count for 10 points.

2. The remaining 10 points of your presentation grade are based on how well you communicated what you know to the audience. Did you make frequent eye contact with the audience? It’s okay to use notes at the board, but not to spend most of the presentation copying from your notes onto the board. Did you speak clearly and loudly enough for everyone to hear? Did you write legibly on the board? Did you go through a proof or a computation slowly enough that the audience could follow you? Although it’s obvious to you as an audience member when a speaker is not doing these things, it’s not so easy to remember to do them when you’re doing the speaking. In fact, as you have already noticed, I frequently forget to do them myself; so it’s only fair that I grade you leniently here. Still, unless you’re experienced at classroom presentations you will want to rehearse yours a couple of times beforehand.

Current schedule of presentations

Wednesday, Apr. 9: Erin Byrnes and Matt Glascock
Friday, Apr. 11: Travis Millikin and Tyler Rainey
Monday, Apr. 14: no presentation
Wednesday, Apr. 16: Ethan Browne, Mariya Daifi, and Derek Perkins
Friday, Apr. 18: Gregory Rees and Kieth Thomas
Monday, Apr. 21: Rochelle Lively, Daniela Mello de Almeida, and Carren Welch
Wednesday, Apr. 23: Chris Conrad and Kathryn Roper
Friday, Apr. 25: Diana Davis and Shawndréa Miller
Monday, Apr. 28: Adam Anderson and Stephanie Smith
Wednesday, Apr. 30: Daniel Morris and Megan Vance