

GROUP PROJECTS

Math 106, Section 550, Fall 2009, Professor Mohammad Rammaha

WHAT IS A GROUP PROJECT?

A project is a multi-step homework assignment which, because of its complexity, typically takes several days to complete. During the semester you will be asked to do one such project while working in a small group. Early in the semester your Recitation Instructor will partition your section into groups of 3 or 4 students each. In forming the groups, we pay particular attention to the times each student is available to meet outside of class. You might also find your group helpful in discussing homework problems and studying for exams.

GROUP DYNAMICS

To help get everyone involved and the group functioning smoothly, each person in the group will adopt one of the following roles: the chair, the reporter, the scheduler, and the scribe. The chair acts, as the name suggests, as the chairperson of the group. The primary role of the chair is to try to get everyone involved in the problem-solving process and make sure that each person understands the ideas and arguments being put forward in the group discussion. The reporter's job is to jot down the ideas of the group as they are being discussed. The scheduler has the difficult task of finding times and places where everyone in the group can meet. The duty of the scribe is to write up the final report for the group.

These roles should rotate among the members of the group and no one should feel limited to their specific role. In particular, everyone should help the scribe in his/her job by, at the very least, proofreading the final draft of the report.

THE FINAL REPORT

You should write your report neatly on clean paper that has not been torn out of a spiral notebook. Also, write only on one side of the paper. Make sure the names of all the people in your group along with the group number appear on the first page of your report.

Each person who worked on the project should sign the report beside his/her name on the first page of the final report. Your signature certifies that you have read the final report and that it represents work which you have made contributions to.

Part of your grade will be based on the quality of your written presentation, above and beyond its mathematical content. The paper you turn in should have a mix of equations, formulas and prose to support your conclusions. Use complete sentences, good grammar and correct punctuation. Spelling is also important. The report should be written in such a way that it can be read and understood by anyone who knows the material for this course.

PROJECT GRADING

The total possible points for the project is 50.