

Guidelines for Math 103 project, fall 2008

1. This assignment is a group project. You will work with a group of three or four people. (The maximum group size is four.) The project is due on Friday, November 14, 2008.
2. Your assignment is to solve the problems outlined here, and write up your solutions in a paper. All group members must sign the final report (one report for the whole group). When you sign, you are certifying that you made a fair and honest contribution to the group and that you understand the solution. I expect to be told of anyone trying to get a free ride. All group members will receive the same grade.
3. Note that correct grammar, spelling, readability, and mathematical content all count. Your graphs and diagrams should be neat, accurate, and appropriately labeled. Start with an introductory paragraph, organize your report in a sensible way, walk your reader through what you are doing, and end with a conclusion. You should not simply number your answers 1, 2, 3, ...; you are writing a report, so the exposition of your ideas should flow smoothly from the beginning to the end. Use transition sentences where appropriate. Your report should make sense to someone seeing it for the first time, without reference to the project handout. Have fun with it!
4. Part of the point of a group project like this is to work together as a team. This includes dealing with the logistical problems of finding time in your schedules, determining the division of labor, and dealing with personality differences. I hope you can resolve any problems yourselves, but if you have problems that you cannot resolve, please see me. Also, if you have a member who is not contributing, the group has a right to ask that person to leave the group. However, please keep me informed of any changes in your group membership.
5. I'll be happy to meet with your group to discuss your approach, subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) All of your group members must be present at the meeting, and
 - (b) You must come to the meeting having given serious thought to the problem.Be prepared to explain your ideas and to ask specific questions. I'll also be happy to meet with your group to review a draft of your report and make comments and suggestions.
6. Remember the quality expectations for submitted work in the course information and policy sheet. These are especially important for the project. Typing the project is recommended, though not required.
 - Be academically honest. You are welcome to work with other students in the class, but never put your name on work that is not yours or work you do not understand. Include a list of the people (if any) with whom you worked on the assignment; provide a list of sources other than the textbook (if any) that you used to do the assignment; and state clearly that you are copying or mimicking an example from the book in order to do the assignment (if appropriate).
 - Explain, as clearly as you can, how you arrived at your answer. Use full sentences and make sure your ideas flow smoothly from the beginning to the end.
 - Put your name (first and last, written legibly) in the top right-hand corner of every page you turn in. Do not include your student ID number or your Social Security number.
 - Take pride in your work. Write cleanly, neatly, and legibly on full sheets of paper with no fringe. If you make a mistake, do not scribble it out, but erase it cleanly. This probably means you should use a pencil.
 - Leave enough blank space on each page for me to write comments.
 - Use only one side of each sheet of paper, especially if you write in ink.
 - If you turn in more than one sheet of paper, staple or bind the pages together.