

MATH 370



Homework 1

Due Thursday February 6, in class.



Write an essay on **one** of the following two topics:

- (1) My favorite mathematical theorem, result, idea, method.
- (2) My relationship with mathematics.

The required parts of the essay (in the order below):

- 1. The goal of your writing: what is that you want to accomplish and who is the target audience.
- 2. An outline of how the ideas will progress.⁽¹⁾
- 3. The essay.

It should be around two pages The spacing I have in mind is “double spaced”.
[Actually, all of our writing will be double spaced!] ⁽²⁾

The length is not critical. It is important to express something that is interesting to you and therefore has a chance of being interesting to a reader.

So, anything thoughtful will do. Any aspect that has importance for you. It could be on how math or mathematicians influenced your life. It could be on whether it was a good idea to study mathematics (why yes and why no)? If you study math in order to earn salary in future, you could write about how that seems to be working for you, what are your prospects. If you are burning with desire to teach children mathematics then write about that. If you had crisis maybe you want to talk of this. Happiness, beauty, pain, boredom,

Criteria: clear and effective writing.



¹Of course, I do not know whether you had written the outline before or after the essay. If before, it should help with the essay, in after then it will make you conscious of the structure of your write up.

²Of course, plagiarism would be prosecuted. You do not have to be the first person ever who has expressed certain view, idea or a feeling – but it should be in your words, reflecting how you see or feel about the subject.