

**MATH 155-01, History of Mathematics: Spring 2017**  
**A quick reference guide**

Instructor: Johanna Franklin

E-mail: johanna.n.franklin@hofstra.edu

Office: Roosevelt 315A

Office hours: Mondays 10:00 a.m.–noon, Wednesdays 1:00–3:00 p.m.

Office phone: (516) 463-5739

Website: Blackboard (course site), [http://people.hofstra.edu/Johanna\\_N\\_Franklin/](http://people.hofstra.edu/Johanna_N_Franklin/) (personal site)

**Semi-official course description:** Development of mathematical ideas and symbolism through an exploration of the Hilbert problems.

**Texts:** *The Honors Class: Hilbert's Problems and Their Solvers* by Ben H. Yandell and *A History of Mathematics* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition) by Uta C. Merzbach and Carl B. Boyer. The latter is available free online through the Hofstra library.

**Classroom and time:** Roosevelt Hall 109, TR 12:45–2:10 p.m.

**Grading scheme:**

- Small assignments: 20%
- Paper #1 (3 pages): 10% (5% draft and 5% final version)
- Paper #2 (6 pages): 15% (5% draft and 10% final version)
- Final paper (6 pages): 25% (5% draft, 15% final version, and 5% presentation)
- Midterm (March 28): 15%
- Final exam: 15%

Various small assignments will be due throughout the term and may include proposals for your longer papers, some mathematical problems, and some short essays.

Three papers will be assigned over the course of the term:

- a 3-page paper discussing Hilbert's views on solving mathematical problems,
- a 6-page paper presenting a mathematical problem, its historical context, and its solution, and
- a 6-page research paper on a mathematical topic that interests you (I'll give you a list of suggested topics, but we can discuss other options as well).

The final versions of each paper will be graded on the following general scheme: 40% content, 40% argument, and 20% mechanics.

There will be one midterm and a comprehensive final exam in this class. The final exam is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, May 16 at 1:30 p.m. You must be available to take your final exam at this time unless you have a documented emergency or unless you make alternate arrangements with me by April 24. Note that I will only make these arrangements in the event of extenuating circumstances beyond your control.

**Academic Honesty:** You are expected to follow the Hofstra University Honor Code at all times. Plagiarism is a serious ethical and professional infraction. Hofstra's policy on academic honesty reads: "The academic community assumes that work of any kind [...] is done, entirely and without unauthorized assistance, by and only for the individual(s) whose name(s) it bears." Please refer to the "Procedure for Handling Violations of Academic Honesty by Undergraduate Students at Hofstra University" at [http://www.hofstra.edu/PDF/Senate\\_FPS\\_11.pdf](http://www.hofstra.edu/PDF/Senate_FPS_11.pdf) for details about what constitutes plagiarism and Hofstra's procedures for handling violations. Violations of academic honesty will be reported.

The issue of plagiarism in writing normally doesn't arise in math courses, but it does in this one. I expect you to understand what constitutes plagiarism and avoid it. If you have any questions about whether something constitutes plagiarism, please ask me before your paper is due.

**Accessibility Issues:** If you believe you need accommodations for a disability, please contact Student Access Services (SAS). In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, qualified individuals with disabilities will not be discriminated against in any programs or services available at Hofstra University. Individuals with disabilities are entitled to accommodations designed to facilitate full access to all programs and services. SAS is responsible for coordinating disability-related accommodations and will provide students with documented disabilities accommodation letters as appropriate. Since accommodations may require early planning and are not retroactive, please contact SAS as soon as possible. All students are responsible for providing accommodation letters to each instructor and for discussing with him or her the specific accommodations needed and how they can be best implemented in each course.

For more information on services provided by the university and for submission of documentation, please contact Student Access Services, 107 Student Center, (516) 463-7075.

**Religious observances:** If you have a religious obligation that conflicts with your participation in the course, you are responsible for notifying me far enough in advance for us to discuss your situation and agree on accommodations. Note that all students are responsible for completing all the work for the course. For more information, please see Part II(B) of "Academic Freedom and Civil Liberties of Students at Hofstra University" at [http://www.hofstra.edu/PDF/Faculty/Senate/senate\\_FPS\\_12.pdf](http://www.hofstra.edu/PDF/Faculty/Senate/senate_FPS_12.pdf).

**Notice on campus sexual assault and discriminatory harassment:** University policy and federal laws such as Title IX, Title VI, and the ADA make it clear that sexual violence and harassment based on any protected characteristic are strictly prohibited and are subject to standards of accountability at the University. If you or someone you know has been sexually assaulted or subjected to discriminatory harassment, the University offers multiple resources to support you and has policies and procedures to address these offenses. For more information, contact the University Title IX Coordinator, Jean Peden-Christodolou, at (516) 463-6815, Jean.C.PedenChristodolou@hofstra.edu; the University Equal Rights & Opportunity Officer, Jennifer Mone, at (516) 463-1800, eroo@hofstra.edu; or refer to the applicable University policy at <http://www.hofstra.edu/eoe>.

Confidential resources and support are also available from clinicians in Student Counseling Services at (516) 463-6791, medical professionals at the Health and Wellness Center at (516) 463-6745, and clergy in the Interfaith Center.