Syllabus

2794W: Mathematics Writing Seminar
Professor: Emily Gunawan (http://egunawan.github.io)
Office hours: see office hours (https://egunawan.github.io/misc/officehours.html), located at Monteith Bldg, room MONT 402 or the undergraduate open lounge next door (https://www.google.com/maps/place/Henry+Ruthven+Monteith+Bldg,+341+Mansfield+Rd,+Storrs,+CT+06269/@41.8070137,-72.2515513,17z/data=!72.2492286) **Instructor's schedule**: See instructor's regular schedule here (http://egunawan.github.io)
Class location: room MONT321 (https://classrooms.uconn.edu/MONT-321/), see Spring 2019 math course schedule (https://math.uconn.edu/spring-2019-courses/)
Meeting times: MW 5:45 - 6:35
Course website: http://egunawan.github.io/math2794w (http://egunawan.github.io/math2794w)
Course Piazza: piazza.com/uconn/spring2019/2794w/home (https://piazza.com/uconn/spring2019/2794w/home)
Textbook: Readings and assignments will be handed out in class and/or posted online on our class webpage.

Course Overview

Course description: The student will attend Math Club (https://www.math.uconn.edu/math-club/) talks (https://www.math.uconn.edu/math-club/) during the semester, and choose a mathematical topic from one of them to investigate in detail. The student will write a well-revised, comprehensive paper on this topic, including a literature review, description of technical details, and a summary and discussion. The total number of written pages during the semester needs to be at least 15 and the final paper will be 6-10 pages of that total.

Course Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; Math 2110Q (or 2130Q or 2143Q) and one of Math 2210Q or 2410Q or 2420Q or 2144Q

Goals for Math 2794W

After this course we will

(1) have been exposed to a variety of mathematical topics by attending weekly talks.

(2) have a working understanding of the LaTeX typesetting program.

(3) have an increased understanding of and ability to produce technical writing in mathematics.

(4) be able to translate the writing and communication skills developed in this course to a future career in a math-related and/or science-related field.

W Course Grading and Revision Policy

W Course Policy: According to university-wide policies for W courses, an overall passing grade on the writing components (the three writing assignments and the final paper) is required to pass the course. All writing components MUST go through a feedback and revision process.

LaTeX Editing Tool

An easy-to-use and download-free option for online LaTeX editing is Overleaf.com (https://www.overleaf.com).

If you would like to download a LaTeX distribution and front-end/compiler to your laptop, I suggest MacTeX (LaTeX distribution) (https://tug.org/mactex/mactex-download.html) for Macs and MiKTeX(LaTeX distribution) (https://miktex.org/download) and TeXnicCenter (front-end/compiler) (http://www.texniccenter.org) for Windows machines.

Laptops

If you own a laptop, it is highly recommended that you bring your laptop to most class meetings and be willing to let your group members view your screen.

Assessments

Math Tokens

Math Tokens are fake currency which may be spent on late submissions or missed class activities.

Purpose	Token cost
Submit a late assignment within 48 hours of deadline (for any reason)	1 token
Make up a missed class activity within one week (for any reason)	1 token

- You start with 3 tokens.
- You can earn at most half a token during each Math Club talk by doing the following: ask a question to the speaker (during or at the end of the talk) or answer a question (that the speaker asks).

- You will need to let me know that you are submitting a late assignment. Otherwise, I would assume that you skip an assignment on purpose and record a zero.
- In general, no written comments will be provided for late submissions. However, you are welcome to meet with me in my office and go over your work in person.

Wednesday Talks and Talk Comment Forms

You will be required to

1. attend at least four of the first SEVEN talks (Week 2 - Week 8) this semester.
2. attend two additional talks (any of the eleven talks this semester, Week 2 - Week 8 and Week 10 - Week 13)
3. submit a comment form for each talk you attend.

See list of talks (https://www.math.uconn.edu/math-club/).

To receive credit for attending a Wednesday talk, the sign-in sheet (usually next to the free pizza and soda) must be filled out BEFORE the talk starts. Wednesday talk comment forms will be due via Overleaf by noon the Saturday following the Wednesday talk. The topic for the final paper can only be drawn from the topics of the first SEVEN talks of the semester (week 2 - Week 8), meaning it is highly recommended that you attend as many of these talks as possible.

If you attend more talks than required, then the lowest grades will be dropped.

LaTeX Practice Assignments

Early in the semester, there will be LaTeX practice assignments. These assignments are meant to help you learn how to use the LaTeX typesetting program.

Writing Assignments

There will be short writing assignments towards the middle of the semester. Each assignment will have a specific length requirement. These assignments are meant to help you learn how to write a formal mathematics paper (using LaTeX). A required revision and editing process will be incorporated into each assignment.

Peer Reviews

The revision and editing process for the writing assignments and the Final Paper will involve in-class peer reviews. Active participation during these peer reviews is required and is worth part of the final course grade.

See below for more information about the UConn Writing Center.

University Writing Center

All UConn students are invited to visit the University Writing Center for free 45-minute individualized tutorials. You can drop in or make an appointment. The Writing Center staff includes talented and welcoming graduate and undergraduate students from across the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. They work with writers at any stage of the writing process, from exploring ideas to polishing final drafts. Their first priority is guiding each student's revisions, so they frequently provide a sounding board for a writer's ideas, arguments, analytical moves, and uses of evidence. They can also work with you on sentence-level concerns, but please note that they will not proofread for you; instead, they will help you become a better editor of your own work. You should come with a copy of the assignment you are working on, a current draft (or notes if you are not yet at the draft stage), and ideas about what you want out of a session. For hours, locations, and more information, please go to writingcenter.uconn.edu (https://writingcenter.uconn.edu).

Final Paper:

The course will culminate in a 6-to-10 page final paper written on a topic chosen from the first SEVEN Wednesday talks. Substantial outside research is required, as the majority of the paper should be drawn from this outside research. Progress on the final paper will be tracked via deadlines for different phases of the paper preparation. Late submissions of any of these components will result in a reduction of your overall final paper grade. Late submission of the final paper final submission without a valid and verified explanation will result in a reduction of your overall final paper grade. The tentative deadlines for the different components of this paper are as follows.

- Paper Topic Chosen by: Week 7 Saturday by noon (by email)
- Topic Proposal (Outline and Bibliography): Week 11 Monday by 5:45pm (via Overleaf)
- First Submission: Week 13 Monday by 5:45pm (PDF in person and all files in HuskyCT)
- Final Submission: Monday (during Finals week), May 6 by 12:00pm via Overleaf Assignment Submissions: All Wednesday talk comment forms, all LaTeX practice assignments, all writing assignments, and the final paper must be completed in LaTeX. All relevant PDF, TEX, BIB, and image files must be submitted by the deadline.

Grading Scheme

The grading scheme for this course is given below.

30% Final paper
30% Other papers
20% LaTeX practice papers, other homework and in-class activities
10% Wednesday Talk Forms

10%Writing Center Visits and Peer Reviews

Grading Questions

Please let me know ASAP (but within one week) if I've made mistakes in grading your assessments. This should be done during office hours.

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mental wellbeing.

Strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol or drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating, or lack of motivation may affect a student's academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. If you or someone you know expresses such health concerns or experiences a stressful event that can create barriers to learning, UConn services are available to assist you. Learn about confidential health services available on campus at counseling.uconn.edu (http://counseling.uconn.edu) Arjona Building, 4th floor, near Mirror Lake phone 860-486-4705. See also dos.uconn.edu/student-resources/ (http://dos.uconn.edu/student-resources/).

If you see this sentence, please email me a fun picture of huskies.

accommodation services.

Students who think that they may need accommodations because of a short-term or long-term disability are encouraged to meet with me privately early in the semester. Students should also contact the Center for Students with Disabilities as soon as possible to verify their eligibility for reasonable accommodations. For more information, please go to the website accessibility.uconn.edu/students/ (http://accessibility.uconn.edu/students/) or contact CSD at 860-486-2020 or csd@uconn.edu (mailto:csd@uconn.edu)

student conduct code.

UConns Student Conduct Code community.uconn.edu/the-student-code (http://community.uconn.edu/the-student-code) includes both academic integrity and compliance with the policy against discrimination, harassment, and interpersonal violence.

academic integrity.

It is in everyone's best interest to maintain their academic integrity. Any form of academic dishonesty undermines the goals of our course and devalues the learning process. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense at UConn and will result in an academic misconduct report and a failure in Math 2794W. For more information, consult UConns guidelines for academic integrity: community.uconn.edu/the-student-code-appendix-a (http://community.uconn.edu/the-student-code-appendix-a).

- For tips to minimize academic misconduct, see Protecting yourself from being charged with academic dishonesty (http://community.uconn.edu/proactive-%20strategies-for-students-to-minimize-academic-misconduct/).
- Even though you are encouraged to work together on homework, **letting someone else copy your homework solution is cheating**. Supplying help for an in-class assessment is also cheating. Don't do it.

using peers and technology as resources.

Unless stated otherwise, in this particular course (only this class - you should check with your professor for each class), you are free to work with other people and use technology (Desmos (https://www.desmos.com), WolframAlpha (https://www.wolframalpha.com), the internet, etc) on take-home assigments to aid your learning. Whenever you work with another person or the internet on a paper, please credit them in the introduction of your paper.