

MATH 1002 (Math for Liberal Arts II), Winter 2009

1. **Instructor** Dr. Dorette Pronk
Chase Building 302
E-mail: pronk@mathstat.dal.ca
Office phone: 494-3732
2. **Course Hours** MWF 10:35 - 11:25 AM, in Dunn 302
3. **Office Hours** MF 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM, W 1:30 - 2:30 PM, or open door. You are also welcome to make appointments with me, or ask questions by e-mail.
4. **Course Website** www.mathstat.dal.ca/pronk/1002
5. **Text** *The Heart of Mathematics. An Invitation to Effective Thinking.* 2nd Edition, by Edward M. Burger and Michael Starbird. Publisher: Key College Publishing, 2005 (for Canada: Wiley Publishing).
6. **Goal of this Class** This course will give you an introduction into various aspects of mathematics and mathematical thinking.
7. **Topics Covered** I am planning to cover the following chapters from the book: Chapter 2 (on numbers and the role they play in nature, and society), Chapter 3 (on the notion of infinity), Chapter 4 (on geometry, its beauty, and how it may affect us in unexpected ways), Chapter 6 (on chaos and fractals, and all their fascinating properties), and Chapter 7 (on the pitfalls of random surveys, and some interesting ways of gathering data).

If there is another topic that you had hoped I would cover that is not listed above, please contact me. This schedule has not been set in stone.
8. **Grading Scheme**
 - Assignments and Essays: 20%
 - Group Project: 10%
 - Midterm: 20%
 - Final Exam: 50%
9. **Assignments** The assignments of each week are due on Monday of the next week in class or by Tuesday 10 AM in the Chase Building, office 302.

10. **Group Projects** In the second half of the semester you will be asked to work in groups of 2 or 3 students on a project where you will have the opportunity to explore some aspect of mathematics for yourself. I will be handing out a list of potential projects by the end of January. They will range from historical research (such as “the role of women in mathematics” or “the mathematical discoveries of the Babylonians/Greeks/Chinese”) to some current applications of mathematics. If there is a particular topic that you would be interested in investigating, you are welcome to submit a proposal.

You will be required to submit a written report on your project, and give a presentation in class with a poster. The presentations will be during the last two weeks of classes.

11. **Grade Conversion**

92-100	<i>A</i> ⁺	85-92	<i>A</i>	80-85	<i>A</i> ⁻
75-80	<i>B</i> ⁺	70-75	<i>B</i>	65-70	<i>B</i> ⁻
62-65	<i>C</i> ⁺	58-62	<i>C</i>	55-58	<i>C</i> ⁻
50-55	<i>D</i>	≤ 50	<i>F</i>		

12. **Disabilities** Students with permanent or temporary disabilities who would like to discuss classroom or exam accommodations are asked to come and see me as soon as possible.
13. **Academic Honesty** The university policy states that all cases of academic misconduct must be handled through official channels. I have no latitude in this matter. I do encourage people to work in groups, but I must insist that each student write up their own homework. If you use other sources such as books or internet websites, you need to give proper references. Please read the paragraphs on academic honesty on page 21-26 in the Calendar.