

MATH 570 Midterm
In class on Thursday, February 16, 2012

Presentation (10-15 min):

Your presentation should be directed at your peers (an intelligent audience with a solid foundation in mathematics/statistics). Your presentation should address the following questions (not necessarily in this order):

- What topic will you be working on?
- What is the context of your topic (historical context and/or real-life application, as appropriate)?
- What specific questions will you focus on in your investigation?
- What methods will you use?
- What is the relevance/significance of these questions?
- Make your own choice of presentation medium. You can use either blackboard or overheads or ppt or pdf presentations, or whatever you feel is appropriate.

Report:

- The purpose of the report is to convince me that your project is interesting, useful and on an appropriate level for a one-term project. Pretend that I am a granting agency, and you need to convince me to give you money.
- Please use a maximum of 3 pages. Page restrictions are quite common in grant proposals, hence I will remove all pages that are over the maximum.
- Include Title, Abstract, Background, Purpose of the Research Project, Methods and Proposed Approach, Scientific Relevance, Time Plan, References.

Grading:

The midterm mark is 30% of the class mark. The presentation and report will have equal weight.

MATH 570

Peer Review Sheet for Blitz Presentations

Respond to the following questions for each presentation by your peers.

1. How interested are you in the topic presented in the project overview?
2. What suggestions can you make to increase your interest in this topic (if your interest is low)? If your interest is high, can you point out specifically what captures your interest?
3. Summarize the speaker's research topic in two or three sentences.
(This helps the speaker determine if his/her intended message came through.)
4. Comment on the presentation style; clarity, writing, style, flow.