



**Department: Mathematical,
Information and Computer Sciences**

**Class: MTH3052 History of
Mathematics**

Number of Units: 2

**Class Time/Location: TR 10:00-10:50
AM Rohr Science 295**

**Final Exam: Thursday, May 8, 2025,
10:30 AM – 1:00 PM**

Spring 2025

Instructor: Maria Zack, Ph.D.

Phone: 619.849.2458

Email: mzack@pointloma.edu

Office hours:

In Person or Google Meet. [Use this link](#) [Links to an external site.](#) to book an appointment.

These are the times that I work to hold open for appointments. If none of them work you can email me to see if we can find another time. You can come to my office or join via Google meetings. My office is RS246.

Monday 1:00-2:00 PM

Tuesday 8:30-10:00 AM and 1:00-2:00 PM

Wednesday 1:45-2:45 PM

Thursday 8:30-10:00 AM

Friday 2:00-3:00 PM

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Department Mission

The Mathematical, Information, and Computer Sciences department at Point Loma Nazarene University is committed to maintaining a curriculum that provides its students with the tools to be productive, the passion to continue learning, and Christian perspectives to provide a basis for making sound value judgments.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

MTH 3052 - History of Mathematics (2)

Development of mathematics from pre-Greek to recent times. Perspectives and contributions of persons from diverse cultural, ethnic, and gender groups. Impact of culture on mathematical progress.

Prerequisite(s): MTH 1044 with a grade of C- or higher or MTH 1064 with a grade of C- or higher.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will be able to demonstrate facility with analytical and algebraic concepts
- Students will be able to write proofs.
- Students will be able to apply their mathematical knowledge and critical thinking to solve problems. (CC: CT)
- Students will be able to speak about their work with precision, clarity and organization. (CC: OC)
- Students will be able to write about their work with precision, clarity and organization. (CC: WC)
- Students will be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively and responsibly use and cite information for the task at hand. (CC: IL)
- Students will collaborate effectively in teams.

Learning outcome assessed in this class: Students will collaborate effectively in teams.

The signature assignment for assessment: Team peer assessment from mid-term project teams

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

Journey through Genius by William Dunham

COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 2 unit class delivered over fifteen weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request. (Based on 37.5 hours of student engagement per credit hour.)

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Graded Components

- **Homework:** Homework will be assigned daily and will be due at the start of class the Thursday of the following week. But do your homework every day or you will end up struggling.
- **Mid-Term Project:** This project will focus on the period of 200-1400 AD. You will be asked to choose a particular mathematical topic to research and present. This project will be done in groups and your presentations will be approximately 10-15 minutes and will be given in class on the day listed in the schedule.
- **Timeline:** Students will be required to create a “mathematical” timeline based on reading in the text and the mid-term presentations. Each mathematical event/person should be recorded with a date and a one to two sentence summary of the event (e.g. “The Elements was published”). This timeline should also include at least five major events from general history for each century. If you stay on top of this and do it weekly, it should be no problem.
- **Final Project and Presentation:** You will be given a list of books of mathematical biographies and popular writing on mathematics. You will need to select one book, read it, write a paper on it and give a 7-10 minute presentation during the time of the final. The final is Thursday, May 8, 2025, 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM.
- **Final Exam Policy:** Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.
- **Late work will not be accepted** without prior consent or a well-documented emergency. Up to a maximum of one homework assignment will be accepted up to 3 days late provided that consent is received from the professor before it is due. Homework assignments that are submitted late without prior consent will be recorded with a score of zero. If more than half of the homework assignments are submitted on time, then the lowest homework score will be dropped from the calculations of the homework grade.

Grading Distribution	Percent
Homework	40
Mid-Term Project	30
Final Project Paper and Presentation	20
Historical Timeline	20
Total	100

Grading Scale

Grades are based on the number of points accumulated throughout the course with the following exception. Approximate minimal percentages required to obtain a given grade are:

Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentages					
	A	B	C	D	F
+		87.5- 90	77.5-80	67.5-70	
	92.5 -100	82.5-87.5	72.5-77.5	62.5 -67.5	0-60
-	90-92.5	80-82.5	70-72.5	60-62.5	

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

CLASS ENROLLMENT

It is the student's responsibility to maintain his/her class schedule. Should the need arise to drop this course (personal emergencies, poor performance, etc.), the student has the responsibility to follow through (provided the drop date meets the stated calendar deadline established by the university), not the instructor. Simply ceasing to attend this course or failing to follow through to arrange for a change of registration (drop/add) may easily result in a grade of F on the official transcript.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) POLICY

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please talk to the professor.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMODATIONS POLICY

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. The EAC makes accommodations available to professors at the student's request.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular

course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any special accommodations.

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

Additional PLNU policies and practices that apply to this course can be found at the following link: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/18i1pUoY0iCfB8w7JKxVvACQW309X-JRB/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=116164865489739533893&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Thu Jan 23, 2025	Assignment Week 1 Homework	due by 10am
Thu Jan 30, 2025	Assignment Week 2 Homework	due by 10am
Tue Feb 4, 2025	Assignment Mid-Term Assignment: Project Preparation	due by 10am
Thu Feb 6, 2025	Assignment Week 3 Homework	due by 10am
Thu Feb 13, 2025	Assignment Week 4 Homework	due by 10am
Thu Feb 20, 2025	Assignment Week 5 Homework	due by 10am
Thu Feb 27, 2025	Assignment Week 6 Homework	due by 10am
Thu Mar 6, 2025	Assignment Week 7 Homework	due by 10am
Tue Mar 11, 2025	Page Final Paper Instructions	to do: 10am

Date	Details	Due
Tue Mar 18, 2025	Assignment Mid-Term Project Check-In	due by 10am
Thu Mar 20, 2025	Assignment Mid-Term Project	due by 10am
	Assignment Week 8 Homework	due by 10am
Thu Mar 27, 2025	Assignment Week 10 Homework	due by 10am
Thu Apr 3, 2025	Assignment Final Project Check-In on Zoom	due by 10am
	Assignment Week 11 Homework	due by 10am
Thu Apr 10, 2025	Assignment Week 12 Homework	due by 10am
Thu Apr 24, 2025	Assignment Week 13 Homework	due by 10am
	Assignment Week 14 Homework	due by 10am
Thu May 1, 2025	Assignment Timeline	due by 10am
	Assignment Week 15 Homework	due by 10am
Thu May 8, 2025	Assignment Final Book Report Project	due by 10:30am
	Assignment Final Project Presentation	due by 10:30am
	Assignment Week 16 Homework	due by 10:30am