

Math 130: Contemporary Mathematics Class Project Stage 1

In your project group, schedule a meeting with me by **Friday 2/2** to propose your research topic and report on your early progress. Expect the meeting to take between 30 and 60 minutes.

Your group should meet once a week to work on your project before your meeting with me. Do the work together as a group as much as possible – keep the delegation of tasks to individual group members to a minimum. You’re also welcome to meet with me before your scheduled meeting, and/or work with the course tutor.

In our meeting, I will work with your group to help refine your ideas and make sure your project is progressing in a good direction.

Bring a **written summary** of your group’s ideas and progress, written by your whole group, to turn in. This summary should contain:

- Ideas, notes, and progress towards your solution to your selected puzzle from the *Math Puzzles Handout*.
- Ideas for a variation or variations of the original puzzle invented by your group. Your variation should be substantially different from the original puzzle, and have easier and harder versions that could be solved separately. Your group might have a final version of the problem you’re happy with, or you might need to spend time in the meeting figuring out the final version with me.
- Ideas, notes, and progress towards solutions of your variation(s), with your group’s ideas about which variations were interesting or too easy or too hard to solve.

I will grade the work you bring to the meeting using the following rubric:

Effort: Time and energy spent working on the project, solving problems, brainstorming, working through examples, and looking for patterns	/10
Insight: Creativity, good questions asked, good ideas generated, interesting observations and progress made	/10
Clarity of explanation: Time and energy spent thinking about how best to communicate and organize your ideas; well-written summary of your progress	/10
Teamwork: All members of your group are contributing to the project, everyone’s ideas are listened to and incorporated	/5
Total	/35