

**MATH 2168: HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS  
SPRING 2013**

**General Information.**

Instructor: Bart Snapp  
Email: [snapp.14@osu.edu](mailto:snapp.14@osu.edu)  
Office: 220 Math Building (614) 292-9414  
Office Hours: Email me to make an appointment.  
Class Webpage: <http://www.math.osu.edu/~snapp/2168/>  
Deadline to Drop: Friday, February 1st  
Friday, March 22th (W)



Textbook: Berlinghoff, W.P. & Gouvêa, F.Q. (2004). *Math through the Ages: A Gentle History for Teachers and Others (Expanded Edition)*, Oxtan House Publishers, Mathematical Assn. of America.

**Greetings.** Welcome to the final course in OSU's mathematics sequence for future middle school mathematics teachers! This is a capstone course that revisits the topics of the previous five mathematics courses in the program for Middle School Mathematics Teachers, but this time from the perspective of the history of mathematics. It is our hope that the materials you use in this sequence will become important resources in mathematics for you throughout your professional life.

**Grading.** Your grades will be based on the following:

- 5% for quizzes.
- 15% for the class project/presentation.
- 40% for homework.
- 40% for exams.

100%–93%	A	89%–87%	B+	79%–77%	C+	69%–67%	D+
92%–90%	A–	86%–83%	B	76%–73%	C	66%–60%	D
		82%–80%	B–	72%–70%	C–	59%–0%	E

You can check your grades at anytime using *Carmen*. Check out:

<http://carmen.osu.edu/>

As grades are posted, you have exactly **2 weeks** from the posting date to notify me concerning any errors or irregularities in *Carmen*.

**Quizzes.** There will be two types of quizzes, announced and unannounced. Announced quizzes will generally be given on the first day of the week. The questions on the quizzes will be based on the required reading assignments. Unannounced quizzes will be held at Bart Snapp's discretion.

**Homework.** The previous week's homework is due on the first day of the next week.

**Class project.** Each student will do one class project that will count for 15% of the final grade.

**Exams/Final.** The first exam is scheduled for Monday, February 25th. The second exam is scheduled for Monday, April 1st.

- The final is on the last day of class Monday, April 22nd.

**Students with Disabilities.** Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone (614) 292-3307 and VRS (614) 429-1334; webpage: <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu>

**Academic Misconduct Statement.** It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term academic misconduct includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee. For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct: [http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource\\_csc.asp](http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp)

**Tentative Course Overview.** We will attempt to follow the order of the first 60 pages of the text:

Week 1: Read pages 1–14.

- Sketch 1. Keeping Count: #2.
- Sketch 4. Broken Numbers: #4.
- Sketch 7. Measuring the Circle: #1.

Week 2: Read pages 14–24.

- Sketch 9. Linear Thinking: #1.
- Sketch 12. A Cheerful Fact: 4a–4d.
- Sketch 14. On Beauty Bare: Euclids Plane Geometry #1.

Week 3: Read pages 24–28.

- Sketch 15. In Perfect Shape: 7 (just the cube).
- Sketch 3. Nothing Becomes a Number: #4.
- Sketch 5. Something Less Than Nothing? #3.

Week 4: Read pages 28–32.

- Sketch 18. Half is Better: #2.
- Sketch 10. A Square and Things: #3.
- Sketch 11. Intrigue in Renaissance Italy: #4.

Week 5: Read pages 32–37.

- Sketch 17. Impossible, Imaginary, Useful: #1.
- Sketch 19. Strange New Worlds: #2, 3.

Week 6: Read pages 37–42

- Sketch 16. Shapes by the Numbers: #1, 2.

Sketch 20. In the Eye of the Beholder: #2.

Week 7: Study for Exam 1.

Week 8: Read pages 42–47.

Sketch 21. Whats in a Game? TBA.

Sketch 6. By Tens and Tenths: #2.

Sketch 13. A Marvelous Proof: #1.

Week 9: Read pages 47–53.

Sketch 25. Beyond Counting: TBA.

Sketch 22. Making Sense of Data: TBA.

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Week 10: Read pages 53–60.

Sketch 23. Machines that Think? #3a–3b.

Sketch 24. The Arithmetic of Reason: #2.

Week 11: No more reading! Study for Exam 2.

Week 12: Student Presentations.

Week 13: Student Presentations.

Week 14: Student Presentations.