

Week 2 Talk: library research and handwritten notes

Preparation

1. Pick a couple suggested references under “Week 2” in egunawan.github.io/writing/resources. You can also look for other textbooks or articles from the following:
 - online library resources (such as www-jstor-org.ezproxy.lib.uconn.edu and guides.lib.uconn.edu/math),
 - your own textbooks or online textbooks. The website aimath.org/textbooks/approved-textbooks/ has a list of open-source textbooks available for free.
2. Check out (electronic or physical copies of) several of these references from the UConn library or the internet or borrow my copy from MONT402. If you think UConn library should own a reference, let me know and I will request it.
3. Read the books/articles you have checked out and take notes as you read. The notes should be around **one page**, but you can write up to five pages if you want. Save these pages because you may want to use them for a paper later this semester.
4. If you start reading a section but it is not interesting or you don't understand the content, you may want to switch to a different section of the book or a different reference.

Instructions for submitting *the handwritten notes (at least one page)*:

- At the top of the page, write (1) your name, (2) the title of the assignment, (3) a short description (1–2 sentences) of your notes, and (4) the references you read for your notes.
- Submit your handwritten notes at the beginning of class. Alternative ways to submit:
 - If you prefer to write your notes in \LaTeX , let me know.
 - If you plan to be absent, inform me ahead of time and you can submit the notes early.
 - If you cannot make it to campus, scan your notes to a `.pdf` file using phone scanner apps, for example, [CamScanner](#).

Suggestions for items that can be included in your notes

- motivation, connection to other areas of mathematics or natural/social science, possible answers to “why do we care?”
- precise definitions that are needed to discuss the concepts, applications, theorems, and questions that you want to write about
- examples (start with easy-to-understand examples!)
- proven facts, *e.g.*, the number of ways to choose a five-people committee out of 12 students is $\binom{12}{5}$.
- unsolved problems
- historical facts: when and where questions were introduced/ people started studying them/ theorems were proved
- if the concepts are not from ancient time, discuss the individuals who made significant contributions to this area