

MATH 3040: CLASS ASSIGNMENT (JAN. 31)

Read *The Art of Proof* [TAP], Chapter 1, if you have not done so already. Also, remember that “reading mathematics” is highly *active* and you should be working things out as you go along, ideally line-by-line. This is not a novel! In particular, if you’re not holding a writing instrument in your hand with some paper/pad/board/etc. nearby, you’re probably not *really* reading mathematics!

In response to what you have read, consider the following questions:

- (1) What is an axiom?
- (2) What does it mean that a proposition is deduced from the axioms?
- (3) What is the difference between a fact, a proposition, and an axiom?
- (4) What should you say and what should you omit in a proof? How does this differ depending on your audience?
- (5) What do you think are the goals for this course?
- (6) What concerns do you have about taking this course?

and submit your answers to them online at:

<https://forms.gle/hNxG4i7357DxcUAJ6>

Finally, write out your answer to question (5) on a sheet of paper and turn it in at the beginning of class.