Finite Mathematics Reflection Paper

"Finite Math" is a catch-all title for a collection of topics that are anything but calculus. The purpose of the course is to give a survey of mathematical analysis techniques used in the working world, but you might also say that this course gives valuable experience at organizing information and then analyzing it. In a larger sense, it's also another way we use math to give people experience at analytical thinking.

In this paper, you are going to reflect on ONE topic that we’ve worked on from either Semester 1 or Semester 2. Everything we’ve worked on this year is applicable to real applications. You will be writing a 2 to 3 page paper (double spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman) over the one topic you choose that applies to something you will do in your future or in any career. Your paper must be a minimum of 4 paragraphs where your first paragraph is your intro, your middle paragraphs are the body of information, and your last paragraph is your conclusion.

You need to have cited sources using MLA format of careers that use this skill. You may use Purdue OWL as a guide to help cite sources. You need to have a minimum of three sources and include a works cited page (not part of your 2-3 page paper). If you don’t have enough sources and/or don’t include a works cited, you will automatically be taken down to a 5 on your rubric.

The rubric on the back page will be your guide for how your paper will be graded. There are \_ sections that you will be graded on: Introduction and Thesis Statement, Support and Elaboration, Organization, Conclusion, Sources, Style and Format, Language, and Spelling, Grammar, Usage and Mechanics. This reflection paper is your 4th Midterm that counts in your 4th quarter grade.

This reflection paper is due on **Monday, May 15th, 2017** at the beginning of class.

**Possible Topics**

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| Semester 1  Sets  -Sets, Elements, and Subsets  -Operations on Sets  Matrices  -Matrix Multiplication  -Row-Echelon Form  -Matrix Transformations  Networks  -Traversable Paths -Graph Coloring  -Euler Paths -Vertex-edge  -Optimize networks graphs | Semester 2  Optimization  -Bin-packing  -Linear Optimization  Probability  -Combinatorics  -Multiplication Principle  -Permutations/Combinations  -Expected Values  -Probability Distributions |

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| **Introduction/ Thesis Statement**  The introduction has an interesting beginning/ attention grabber.  The introduction clearly states the thesis statement. | 3  5 | 6  10 | 10  15 |
| **Support and Elaboration**  The writer clearly and thoroughly elaborates on the controlling idea and other general statements with facts, examples, quotations, and other kinds of evidence. | 5 | 10 | 15 |
| **Organization**  The research paper is clearly and logically organized. | 5 | 10 | 15 |
| **Conclusion**  The writer ends the paper by clearly refocusing on the controlling idea.  The paper ends in a satisfying, “feels finished” way. | 3  3 | 6  6 | 10  10 |
| **Sources**  The writer presents accurate information from at least three sources and acknowledges all sources used in the paper. | 5 | 10 | 15 |
| **Style/ Format**  The research paper clearly follows MLA style for documenting sources.  Paper is double-spaced with appropriate margins, heading, pagination, and title; font is 12-Times New Roman in black ink. | 5  5 | 10  10 | 15  15 |
| **Language**  The writer refrains from using personal pronouns in this formal paper. | 5 | 10 | 15 |
| **Spelling, Grammar, Usage, and Mechanic**  The research paper is relatively free of any errors in spelling, grammar, usage, and mechanics. | 5 | 10 | 15 |

Total Points

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