SYLLABUS

Course: Math 4700

Instructor: Jimmie Lawson
   Department of Mathematics
   Lockett 216

Office Hours: 10:00-11:00 M,T,W,F or by appointment

Text: The History of Mathematics by David Burton

Room and Time: Lockett 111, 1:40-3 TTh

Tests: There will be three 100 point tests given during the semester. There will also be a 200-point comprehensive final. The tests will consist of problems, questions about material read, and discussion questions.

Homework: For homework, you will be expected to keep up with your reading assignments and do assigned homework (from which the problem part of the tests will be drawn). Homework will be checked on Tuesdays, usually by a 15-minute quiz of problems from the homework or occasionally by having students put homework on the board. The homework grade will count approximately 150 points (about 1.5 tests).

Project: You should turn in one project that involves carrying out and writing up some historical investigation, for example, something about the life and accomplishments of some mathematician, the historical origins of some important mathematical theory or concept, etc. One should think along the lines of a 3-6 page paper, although the limits here are not hard and fast. The project will be graded on the basis of 50 points. The write-up should contain at least one proof, and at least one work from the LSU library should be consulted and referenced. The project is due by the first Monday of the final week of classes.

Class Participation: Classroom participation will be based on attendance and lively and intelligent participation in classroom discussions and question-answer periods and will count as bonus of up to 30 points (4%) of your final exam.

Final Grade: It is anticipated that grades will be assigned on the basis of an overall 10-point percentage scale, although some adjustment by scaling or curving may be done, depending on class performance.