

MA 1600 – Instructions for Final Project

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Grading

The final project offers the opportunity for in-depth study of a topic of interest. The hope, is that much of the course material can be tied into the project. The final project is worth 30% of the grade. The grading will be as follows:

10 points	Progress meeting + Progress report
10 points	Problem Description: How well is the topic/mathematics summarized?
20 points	Results and Discussion
10 points	Coding: Does it work? Well commented?
10 points	Project Completeness
60 points	Total

Format

Report should be typed, 1" margins, 12 point font, double spaced, 15 page limit (not including the list of resources). You do not need to include your code in the written report, but you may choose to include pseudo-code, if it helps to explain the algorithms you used. A list of resources used should be attached as an appendix. Provide web urls as appropriate. The final report and codes should be emailed to me before noon on Wednesday 04/29.

Suggestions:

- When describing the problem or results, try to use vocabulary developed throughout the course, e.g. accuracy, precision, error, sequences, stopping criterion, etc.
- Be sure to address the accuracy and precision of data/results as appropriate.
- Pictures are worth a thousand words, if they are labelled and used appropriately

Timeline

It will likely take at least 32 hours to complete the project. Manage your time wisely!

5 hours	preliminary reading / gathering information
20 hours	coding, debugging, verifying
2 hours	write-up and edit problem description
2 hours	generating figures, tables, graphs
2 hours	write-up discussion
1 hour	proof-read

Important dates:

- Pick your topic by Friday 2/20, 5pm. (email me which topic you will be working on)
- Preliminary report (required) due Friday 04/03 by noon.
- Progress meeting: you must book a meeting with me to discuss your progress, the week of Monday 04/06 – Friday 04/10.
- Optional draft (for feedback) due Friday 04/17 at 5pm (will be returned Monday 04/20 during class)
- Final report + code must be emailed to me by Wednesday 04/29, noon.