Math 210 Section 8 Fall 2001
Mathematics Appreciation

Meetings: TTH 11:45-1:00 in SH 109
Instructor: Guram Bezhanishvili
Office Hours: MW 2:00-3:00, and by appointment
Office: WH 203
Phone: 646-2837
Email: gbezhani@nmsu.edu
Text: Journey Through Genius. The Great Theorems of Mathematics by William Dunham

Objectives: The main objective of Math 210 is to introduce students to some of the main ideas of mathematics in a historical and cultural context. As the ability to appreciate is tied to the ability to do, there will be some emphasis on solving problems in class.

Policies: I will not take attendance. However, students are encouraged to attend every class and show up on time. I expect students to write clear prose in the work they turn in.

Grading: Your course grade will be determined from homework (30%), in class participation (30%), and a term paper (40%).

Throughout the course there will be reading from Journey through Genius and other sources assigned about once a week. For each reading assignment you will be asked to write a synopsis of length approximately one page outlining your thoughts on the material.

Throughout the semester there will be several in-class problem solving assignments related to discussion topics. You are strongly encouraged to work in groups of 3 or 4 students. I will evaluate your group as a whole on these projects. Your work should be written up as coherently and correctly as time allows. Although attendance will not be taken, you will not receive credit for work missed without a legitimate excuse. Furthermore, your participation in classroom activity will be a primary factor in making the course enjoyable and interesting!

You are required to write a term paper at the end of semester. A list of sources will be provided and you should gather information from more than one source. You will be required to submit a one-page proposal for your topic about two weeks in advance. I will try to make helpful suggestions. The paper should be about 8-10 pages typed.
**Disabilities:** If you have or believe you have a disability, you may wish to self-identify. You can do so by providing documentation to the Office for Services for Students with Disabilities, located at Garcia Annex (phone: 646-6840). Appropriate accommodations may then be provided for you. If you have a condition which may affect your ability to exit safely from the premises in an emergency or which may cause an emergency during class, you are encouraged to discuss this in confidence with the instructor and/or the director of Disabled Student Programs. If you have general questions about the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), call 646-3333.