

## **MA 314: Geometry of Surfaces**

### **Essay for the Geometric Viewpoint Blog**

To do: Write an essay aimed at an audience having no more than a bachelor's degree in math. Essays of sufficient quality will be posted to the blog and made public.

Qualities of a good essay: A clear and consistent choice of audience. Engaging prose that a rhythm propelling the reader forward. Clear exposition of a particular geometric topic, written in a personable, but professional, manner. Appropriate choices of notation, images, videos, and proofs. Citation of sources and information on how to find out more about the topic.

Additional Requirements: Any media you upload must be tagged with the title of your post and must, in a comment, include a link to the original source (or your name, if it is original to you)

Deadlines:

- Friday, April 4: List of sources & outline of essay
- Friday, April 11: Draft of essay for sharing with classmates
- Friday, April 25: Draft of essay for preliminary comments from professor
- Friday, May 2: Final draft of essay posted to blog (but not made public)

Helpful Resources: Mathematical notation should be written using LaTeX. For information on how to combine LaTeX and Wordpress see:  
<http://en.support.wordpress.com/latex/>

For more details, see the “Technical Remarks” section of:  
<http://terrytao.wordpress.com/about/>

In particular, there is a link to a LaTeX to Wordpress converter, which you may like to use if you are already comfortable with LaTeX.

For a guide on how to use LaTeX, look at “The Not-So-Short Introduction to LaTeX”:  
<http://tobi.oetiker.ch/lshort/lshort.pdf>

A tool I find particularly useful for figuring out the LaTeX command for certain symbols is DeTexify:  
<http://detexify.kirelabs.org/classify.html>

For help with creating figures, talk to your professor.