COURSE DETAIL

HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
Country Japan
Host Institution Waseda University
Program(s) Waseda University
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) History
UCEAP Course Number 121
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS
UCEAP Transcript Title HISTORY OF MATH
UCEAP Quarter Units 3.00
UCEAP Semester Units 2.00

Course Description

This course explores the origins of various types of deductive argumentation by working through the arguments of proofs in a historical context. The course looks at the sources of different approaches to mathematical demonstrations in many diverse cultures and periods. It focuses on the continuous tradition that began in Greece; was adopted by Arabic and Hebrew scholars and was further cultivated in the Latin west. Finally, the course confronts contemporary challenges to the idea of proof such as the delicate relationship between rigor and intelligibility and the possibility of computer-generated proofs.

Although this is not a mathematics course, enrollees should have some familiarity with mathematics and mathematical ideas. The texts demand careful attention to reasoning but they do not require advanced mathematical training. Although it is important to understand mathematical arguments, one must pay attention to the historical and philosophical aspects of the text. The class will work on several proofs on the board at each class meeting.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
MI314

Host Institution Course Title
HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.wsl.waseda.jp/syllabus/JAA104.php?pKey=210MI31400512023210MI3140021...

Host Institution Campus
Waseda University

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department SILS - Information Science
Course Last Reviewed 2023-2024

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