



# Philosophy of Mathematics

Phil 3610

Spring 2014

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*Class Number 3881 Section MW12*

*M, W*

*12:50 – 2:05pm*

*Room: TBA*

## Course Description:

Mathematics is a creative and inquisitive human practice. It is a methodical effort at investigating hypothetical states of things. It requires us to use our abilities for imagination, observation, and generalization. Mathematical investigations are also influenced by their historical and social contexts. The problems that mathematicians study are partly determined by the interests of their societies and cultures.

In this course, then, we will investigate the nature of mathematics as a creative human practice that is historically and socially situated. We will read texts by historical and contemporary philosophers to investigate this view of mathematics.

No advanced knowledge of mathematics is required; only a willingness to think carefully and precisely and to learn.

