

Overview of the Process

This chapter is designed to help you formulate and carry out a culminating project. The presentation of your project and its results may constitute a significant portion of your final assessment in this course. You will be required to integrate the skills and knowledge you have learned throughout the course to investigate a problem which is significant to you personally and also mathematically.

The smaller projects you may have completed throughout this course were designed to introduce you to the concepts you will need for the culminating project, and to give you practice in these skills. You may have already prepared a list of questions, examples, or ideas from this text that could be the basis for your culminating project. You may even consider expanding one of the smaller projects into your culminating project.

This chapter will provide a framework for developing your culminating project and its presentation. It will provide techniques, organizational ideas, suggestions, and timelines to make your culminating project a successful and rewarding experience.

As you work through your project, you may need to refine or even redefine your task. This may be due to limited or insufficient data for your original problem. You may also need to refine or redefine your task if your original problem is too large or has too much data to analyze. Even after you have implemented your plan, it may be necessary to refine or redefine your task based on the conclusions of your original study.

