

The Math is Everywhere Learning Project

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

A Collaboration of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs

Overview

How has mathematics played a role in your field of study? Have you been surprised to find math used in a history class? Has it cropped up unexpectedly in an English course? Have you noticed a hidden mathematical pattern in a piece of art or music you've admired?

LaGuardia Community College is launching a co-curricular learning opportunity for all students! **The Math is Everywhere Learning Project** is calling for proposals that demonstrate the many places where we find math, that broaden the general view of the subject, and that will help to begin a college-wide dialogue about the increasing importance of math not only in our technological and data driven world but in our everyday lives!

Math is often a challenging subject for many college students, both at LaGuardia and nationwide. Many students do not realize the importance of math in all majors and in our everyday lives. Math is not a field with limited applications in a limited number of majors. In today's world, technology, media, politics, psychology, and environmental and economic policy are dependent on math and quantitative literacy. And it's an equally important tool in fields previously thought "un-mathy," including anthropology, the arts, and history.

To break old but still held assumptions about the role of math, we are asking students and instructors in all areas of study to demonstrate the integral role of mathematics. This competition is designed to tap into the wealth of innovation, creativity, and imagination found in our students. The ultimate aim is to expose all students to the value of quantitative reasoning and, hopefully, to inspire them to embrace an often feared subject.

One major goal of the **Math is Everywhere Learning Project** is to promote interdisciplinary dialogue. All too often math is seen as a subject that exists in a world of its own, isolated from the humanities in particular, and from many other subjects. In reality, math is used everywhere, and students need to better understand how math is the adhesive that holds so many parts together. Given the current enthusiasm for interdisciplinary learning, math tends to get left out of the equation; however it is a subject ripe for inclusion in collaborative, holistic learning. By revealing the many places that math can be found, we will lead those in non-math areas to appreciate its importance; and math majors and instructors will learn how the math they teach is relevant and applicable elsewhere.

Possible Topics

Proposals could focus on one of the following:

1. Numeracy/Quantitative literacy
2. Mathematics in the arts

3. Mathematics in music
4. Mathematics in poetry
5. Math in sports
6. Analytical methods that are akin to math
7. Any surprising use of mathematics in a non-math field
8. Mathematics in the news

Guidelines

- Proposals should be submitted by faculty and student teams (for example, students from clubs can work with faculty mentor(s) to develop proposals).
- Students and faculty from different departments are encouraged to work together (in particular, cross disciplinary collaborations from math oriented fields and non-math oriented fields are highly desirable).
- Proposals should demonstrate one of the college core competencies: Inquiry and Problem Solving, Global Learning, Integrative Learning, and one of the three communication abilities (written, oral and digital).
- Projects can include posters, art, music, cultural artifacts, and narratives.
- Ten proposals will be selected. Completed projects will be showcased on campus as well as shared online for the entire college community.
- The top project will win a prize of \$1000 for the team. The second place team will win a prize of \$750. The third place team will win \$500.

Use the attached submission form to submit. Proposals should include a title page, which should include student team members, faculty mentors, contact information and major of each team member; the goal of the project; a project description of no more than two pages with timelines; the mathematical concept(s) that will be covered; and the skills team members hope to learn or use. The description should also address how the project is aligned with college core competencies.

Timelines

- Proposal submissions are due on Friday, March 23rd, 2018.
- The selected proposals will be announced on Thursday March 29th, 2018.
- The completed projects will be presented to the selection committee on Thursday, May 24th, 2018.
- The college wide showcase of all completed projects (with the announcement of the winners) will take place on Thursday, May 31, 2018.

Contact

For further information, please contact Professor **Shenglan Yuan** at syuan@lagcc.edu.

The project is sponsored by Academic Affairs and Student Affairs.

Please use the following form to submit your proposal

Math is Everywhere Learning Project Proposal Form		
Project Title:		
Team Name:		
Team member 1 (contact person),		
Name:	Email:	Major:
	Expected date of graduation:	
Team member 2		
Name:	Email:	Major:
	Expected date of graduation:	
Team member 3		
Name:	Email:	Major:
	Expected date of graduation:	
Team member 4		
Name:	Email:	Major:
	Expected date of graduation:	
Team member 5		
Name:	Email:	Major:
	Expected date of graduation:	
Additional team member		
Faculty mentor 1		
Name:	Email:	Department:
Faculty mentor 2		
Name:	Email:	Department:

Additional faculty mentor

Synopsis of project (Maximum 100 words). Please include the goal of the project and a brief description:

Project Description (Maximum 2 pages):

- **Please include timelines, mathematical concept(s) that will be covered, and skills team members hope to learn or use. The description should also address how the project is aligned with one of the college core competencies: Inquiry and Problem Solving, Global Learning, Integrative Learning, and one of the Three Communication Abilities (Written, Oral and Digital).**



