HISTORY OF MATH: TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

JON MCCAMMOND

Week 1: (Euler, d'Alembert, Lagrange, Monge, Laplace, Legendre)

1. Mathematics up to Euler (quick overview and the importance of Euler)

2. The French revolution and the ecole normal superior system

Week 2: (Fourier, Germain, Gauss, Poisson, Poncelet, Cauchy)

1. Projective and non-euclidean geometry

2. Complex analysis

Week 3: (Abel, Jacobi, Dirichelet, Hamilton, Liouville, Grassmann)

1. Solving the quintic

2. Quaternions and the Ausdehnungslehre

Week 4: (Kummer, Galois, Sylvester, Weierstrauss, Chebyshev, Cayley)

1. The Berlin school: the insistence on rigor and the rise of the seminar

2. Statistics, probability and the rise of the nation-state

Week 5: (Hermite, Kronecker, Riemann, Smith, Dedekind, Lie)

- 1. Ideal numbers and Fermat's last theorem
- 2. The unity of 19th century mathematics: elliptic integrals, Riemann surfaces, and hypergeometric functions

Week 6: (Cantor, Mittag-Leffler, Klein, Kovalevskaya, Poincaré, Hilbert)

1. Göttingen at its peak

2. The Chicago world's fair and the development of American mathematics

3. ICMs and international research conference

Week 7: (E.L. Moore, Hadamard, Hausdorff, Cartan, Borel, Takagi)

1. Foundations and the rise of topology

2. Lie groups and Lie algebras

Week 8: (Hardy, Veblen, Brouwer, Noether, R.L. Moore, Lefschetz)

1. Bourbaki and the rise of abstraction

2. Mathematics during and after the world wars (mathematics under the Nazis, Einstein et al. and the institute for advanced studies)

Week 9: (Birkhoff, Weyl, Pólya, Ramanujan, Courant, Alexander)

1. Algebraic geometry and its quest for firm foundations

2. Noncommutative geometry and the eventual reunion with physics

Week 10: (Banach, Wiener, Aleksandrov, Zariski, Kolmogorov, von Neumann)

- 1. Mathematics during and after the cold war (Smale, Russian school, the migrations in the 90s)
- 2. Technology and mathematics (TeX, email, pdfs, etc)

Date: October 8, 2012.