Math 2155F
Style guidelines v1.0[1]

The way you are expected to write your assignments and exams in this course may be different from what you have seen in previous math courses. For instance, you are expected to write your solutions in full sentences.

This document presents complete guidelines for preparing your assignments. You are expected to adhere to these guidelines in all work submitted for this course. We also strongly encourage you to use it as a checklist in editing your assignments before submission.

You may want to keep in mind the advice of our colleague, Thomas Hunter:

The textbook proofs are the standard to which we work.

That is, you should try to write all your proofs with the same level of clarity and precision as the ones you find in the textbook.

The guidelines are as follows:

(1) Your solution should be **clean**:
   (a) No signs of rough work (for example, nothing crossed out).
   (b) The solution should be displayed in order on the page (for example, no arrows, no asterisks, no boxes, no frames).
   (c) No steps should be set apart from the main body of text.
   (d) One paragraph should present one main idea (for example, break up paragraphs with many formulas by displaying formulas on separate lines).

(2) Your language should be **precise**:
   (a) Do not omit important details.
   (b) All variables should be defined and/or described.
   (c) State assumptions clearly, and state or cite all results that you are using.
   (d) Do not overuse pronouns (for example, minimize the use of *it*, *these*, *that*, ...).
   (e) Do not use abbreviations (for example, *iff*, *s.th.*, ...).

(3) Your exposition should be **concise**:
   (a) Do not repeat yourself.
   (b) Do not include irrelevant facts or examples.
   (c) Avoid long and complicated sentences.

(4) Your mathematical writing should have the **correct style**:
   (a) Use only full sentences.
   (b) Do not write mathematical symbols outside of formulas (for example, write "for every natural number n, we have $n \geq 0$" instead of "$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ we have $n \geq 0$").
   (c) Display long or important formulas on separate lines.
   (d) Formulas should be presented in context (for example, do not write calculations without explaining what you're calculating and why).
   (e) Do not start a sentence with a formula.

Last, but not least: while it is perfectly acceptable to submit handwritten solutions, we strongly encourage you to type up your solutions using LaTeX. Learning LaTeXwill be particularly useful if you plan on continuing your studies in mathematics, engineering, or the sciences. If you need help learning LaTeX, we will be more than happy to assist you.

[1]See `http://uwo.ca/math/faculty/kapulkin/courses/instructions.pdf` for updates.