

## **Guidelines for DRP mentees**

**Program Description:** The Directed Reading Program (DRP) is an opportunity for Princeton undergraduates to work one-on-one with a graduate student for a semester-long reading project in mathematics.

### **Expectations:**

- Meetings: You are expected to meet with your mentor **at least an hour** each week
- Individual work: you are required to commit **at least 4 hours of work** outside of the meeting each week.
- Presentation: There will be a DRP Symposium at the end of the semester when you'll **give a short (10-15 min) presentation** to the other DRP participants, mentors and organizers

### **Timeline:**

- Application: applications are due **Wednesday February 5th at 11:59pm.**
- Initial pairing: **Monday February 10th.**
- First meeting: The week **February 10th - February 17th.**
- Weekly meetings until the Reading Period at the end of April.
- Presentation: **Friday May 2nd.**

## **Tips for a successful reading project**

### **Your first meeting & choosing a topic**

- Be flexible: you are just starting to explore math, and while there might be a specific topic you've heard of, be open to learning about completely new things. It could be an opportunity to find a topic that you really like!
- Don't be overly ambitious: while very advanced topics are cool, it's important to have good fundamentals. Trust your mentor when they recommend you to learn something more basic even if it's less flashy.

### **During the semester**

- Ask your mentor for specific recommendations, such as chapters or exercises to read
- We suggest you present exercise solutions to your mentor. It helps you see if you actually understand a topic and it gives your math presentation practice
- You should drive at least half of each week's meeting. Prepare to ask questions, present exercises or examples

### **Symposium presentation**

- Ask your mentor for help about deciding the topic of your presentation
- Ask your mentor to give them a practice presentation
- Start preparing early! We suggest at least two to three weeks before the presentation. You can simultaneously read and prepare a presentation!

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

- “I signed up for the DRP but now I am drowning in work, and don’t think I will be able to keep it up :( What should I do?” – **Email your mentor, Igor, and Josh letting them know.** It’s better to decide to give up on the DRP than to ghost your mentor.
- “I have midterms/a presentation/a super busy week?”: It’s okay to miss one week. Inform your mentor **in advance**, and just try to keep a constant pace after your busy week.