

Who invented Calculus? Spring 2009

Newton vs. Leibniz



There has been great controversy over the years as to who is the real inventor of Calculus. This controversy may soon come to an end with your help. You and your peers will be assigned one of the 2 claimants and will be responsible for proving the claim of your client. We will use the debate format to decide the winning team.

Day 1

2 minutes for opening arguments for Newton
2 minutes for opening arguments for Leibniz
10 minutes for presentation of claim for Newton
10 minutes for presentation of claim for Leibniz
5 minutes for rebuttal for Newton
5 minutes for rebuttal for Leibniz
10 minutes for point/counterpoint

Day 2

10 minutes for questions by the panel
5 minutes for final claim for Newton
5 minutes for final claim for Leibniz

A panel will decide who is the “Inventor of Calculus.”

Team Responsibilities

- Each team will consist of 7-8 individuals.
- Each individual must be assigned a specific area of responsibility.
- All team members are responsible for research and development of the case.
- Each member of the debate team must present some type of evidence.
- PowerPoint briefing of your case due the day before the debate. (file and printout)
- PowerPoint must include a timeline of the important dates in this debate.
- Strictly adhere to the time limits. Penalties will be assessed for violations.
- Document and verify sources of information.

Timeline

Mar. 17th : Project Introduction
Mar. 18th – 24th : Project research and development
Mar. 24th : PowerPoint brief due to Mr. Duhrkopf
Mar. 25th and 26th : Debate Day!

Grading

50 test pts for the individual grade consisting of:

- Individual performance in your area of responsibility
- Completion of personal and group evaluation sheet

Extra credit may be given for being selected as the “Inventor of Calculus” for the whole group