

WRITING ASSIGNMENT #1: Due Tuesday, 09/08.

WRITING: Submit first draft as described below.

The introductory Chapter 1 of *Women Becoming Mathematicians* describes background information for the exploration of women in mathematics in the United States following World War II. Identify what you believe to be **two significant themes** that will be further explored by the author in the subsequent chapters. Your paper should be written with the following guidelines in mind.

a) State clearly in your own words what these two themes will be. When doing this writing, ask yourself whether a reader would understand from your description what you intend to convey. Be prepared to rewrite your description if it needs to be improved for clarity. You can make your first paragraph a clear statement of these themes.

b) In terms of organizing your writing, you should discuss each theme in a separate paragraph. Each paragraph should then present the reasons why you believe that the author will be developing this theme in the subsequent chapters. In stating your reasons, you should use facts, statistics, interpretations, and opinions of the author from the reading, but expressed in your own words. If you use quotations from the reading to justify your position, use them sparingly. You may also bring into the discussion any personal experiences that you have had that you feel may be relevant to these themes. You may also bring in information that you have read elsewhere that you wish to cite. But if you do so, then describe such information clearly and thoroughly since the reader may not be familiar with this information.

c) The completed paper should be one to two pages long with three or four paragraphs. The exact length is less important than having a paper that is clear and justifies your positions based on the reading.