You have read the eight pages of excerpts from “Overcoming Math Anxiety”, by Sheila Tobias.

You will be divided into groups of students. As a group, discuss the following questions.

1. According to the author, what is “math anxiety”? How does it differ from, say, having the usual difficulties studying history or French?

2. What are the causes of math anxiety? (List as many as you can.)

3. How do considerations of math anxiety fit in with current trends in math education reform (such as the NCTM Standards)?

Assignment for next week:

Read the (seven-page) article, “Solving equations is not solving problems”, by Jerome Spanier. What is your opinion of the “Mathematics Clinic” he describes? How do you think this clinic would be viewed by the various other authors we have read in this class?