## 299 SPRING 2009

## HOMEWORK 9

Turn in your solution to at least two of the problems. Explain your solution in full sentences. Give detailed reasonings. Include diagrams and figures if appropriate.

**Problem 1.** A cube of butter is covered by black pepper on the surface. We cut the cube into two pices with a knife so that a yellow plane polygon now becomes visible. What kind of regular polygons can we make this way?

**Problem 2.** Let  $a_1 \ge a_2 \ge a_3 > 0$  and  $b_1 \ge b_2 \ge b_3 > 0$ . Show that  $a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 + a_3b_3$  is the maximum of the set of all similar expressions.

**Problem 3.** Solve the inequality

$$\frac{|4x-1|}{x^2+x}-1\geq 0.$$

Hint: When is the value of a fraction nonnegative?

1