

Mathematicians after Archimedes

Archimedes was certainly a mathematical genius, and following in his footsteps would certainly have been challenging. Our subject now is these mathematicians, living in changing times. It is relatively fitting to the story of mathematics that Archimedes was killed by the Romans, as the Roman takeover of much of the Greek world changed the way that people thought about and did mathematics for many years.

Included with the readings are some names of mathematicians whose contributions we will discuss at least briefly in class and in our readings. By the end of our time on this chapter, you should be able to say a few words about what each person did.

Readings

First reading: **Eratosthenes, Apollonius, and Heron:** Dunham, Chapter 5, pages 113 - 121

Second reading: **Ptolemy:** Journey Through Mathematics

- Read Chapter 1, from the last paragraph on page 8 through page 11.

Third reading (short video): **Hypatia:** The Language of the Universe: Mathematics in Ancient Times

- Watch Section 15: End Times of Greek Mathematics

Fourth reading: **Diophantus:** Diophantus

Questions

Question 1 According to the epitaph riddle, how old was Diophantus when he died? 84
given

Question 2 How is Hypatia primarily remembered today?

Multiple Choice:

- (a) As a mathematician.
- (b) As a teacher.
- (c) As a Christian.
- (d) As a martyr. ✓

Author(s):
 See Journey Through Mathematics at <https://library.ohio-state.edu/record=b7080441-S7>
 See The Language of the Universe: Mathematics in Ancient Times at <http://library.ohio-state.edu/record=b7179127-S7>
 See Diophantus at http://www.storyofmathematics.com/hellenistic_diophantus.html