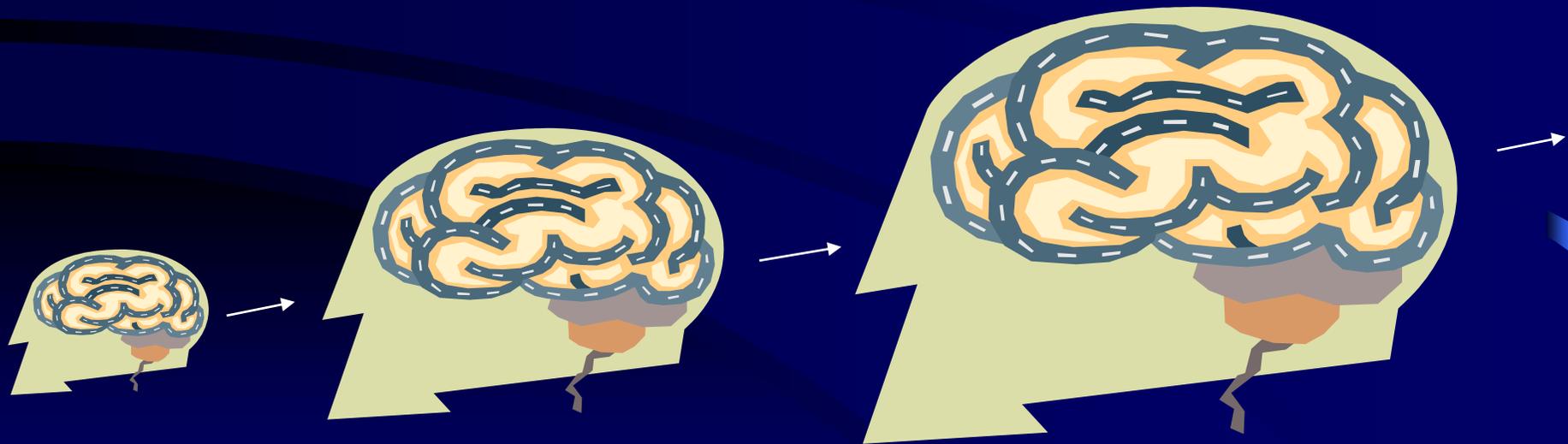
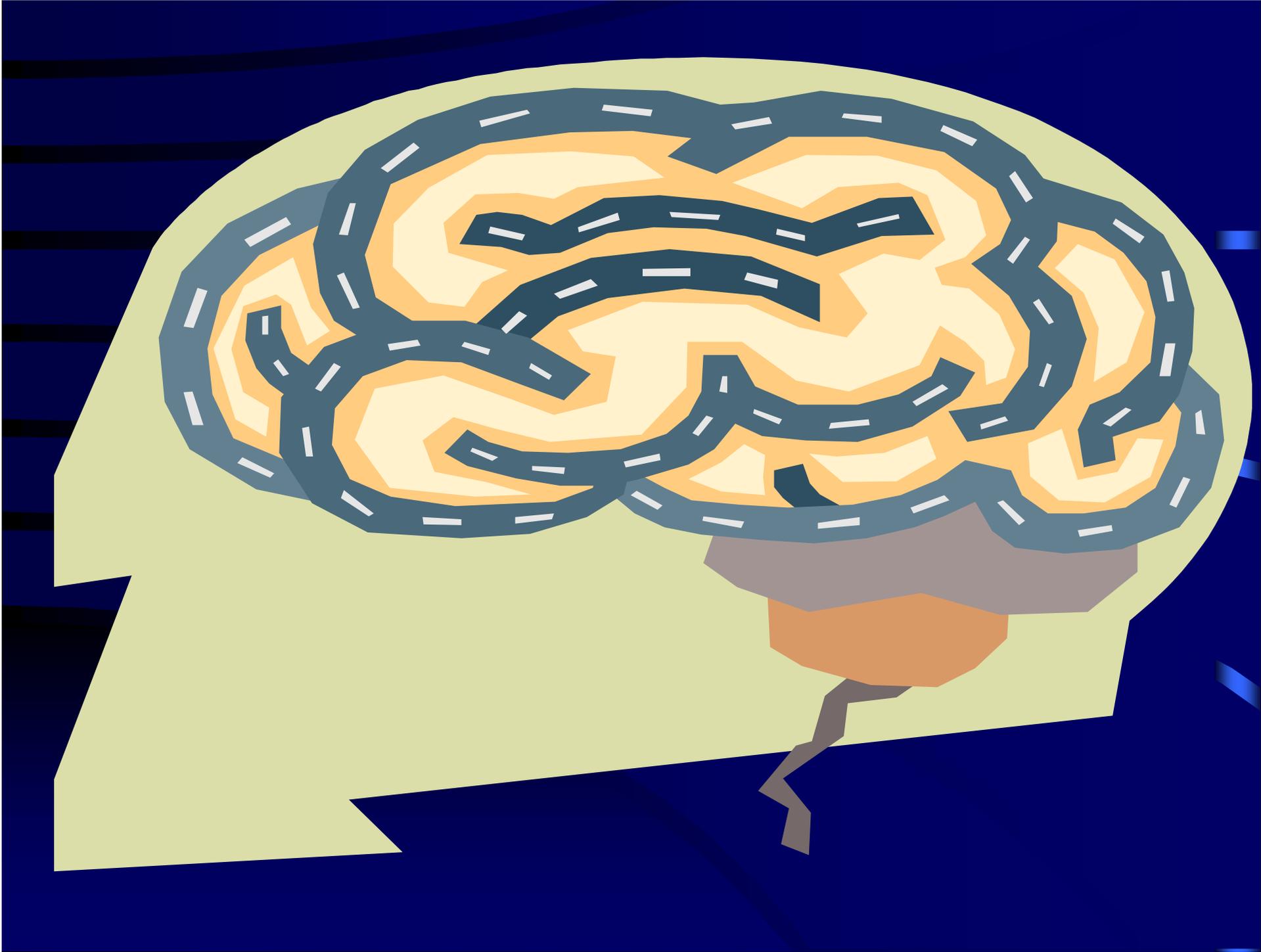


Theory of Knowledge

What is it?

Theory of Knowledge is a course
designed to make your brain
grow faster.





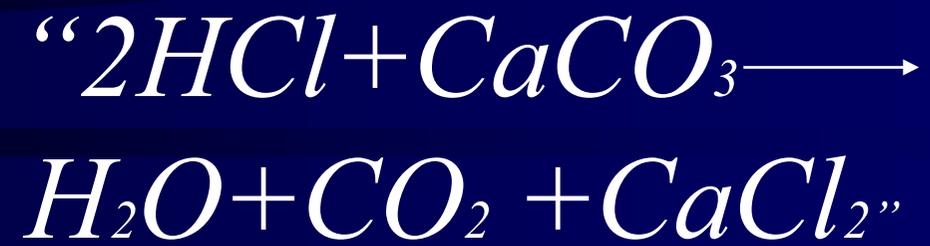
The course is designed to make you
think critically about the things you say
you know. Like....

- *“Skateboarding is cooler than knitting.”*



“The world is round.”





*“Tension in the Balkan states caused
World War I to begin in 1914.”*



OK... So anything we say we know, we can learn to think critically about.

“Think critically” in this case,
means to examine carefully, and
judge thoughtfully.



Here are some of the key words
we need to know and use.

- Knowers
- Ways of Knowing
- Areas of Knowledge
- Knowledge Issues

What is a knower?

- You are a knower.

What sort of knower are you?

I'm a 36 Year Old Knower.



I'm a teacher-knower



I'm a New Zealand knower.



I'm a red-haired knower.



Also....

- I'm a guy.
- I am the oldest in my family.
- I live in the 21st century.
- I have a Bachelor of Arts degree, with a Major in English and a Minor in History.
- I live in Japan.
- I have traveled in Asia and in Europe.

I know.....

How to start a fire.	I am hungry.	Yasu is bored.	How to dance.	How to speak Japanese.	$E=MC^2$.
How to take photographs.	The sky is blue.	The sun will rise tomorrow.	The world is round.	I will go to heaven when I die.	That telling lies is wrong.
How my friend Mr. Hamer feels when people tease him.	$8 + 7 = 14$	That my cat back home in New Zealand, Mr. Smudge is alive and well.	That my mother loves me.	Tigers have stripes, while leopards have spots.	What life is like in England.

To what extent do my unique characteristics as a knower affect, limit or enhance my “knowledge” as described above ?

Ways of Knowing

I can know things through my perceptions:

- The Five Senses.....



Seeing



Tasting



Hearing



Touching



Smelling

And of course....

The Sixth Sense.....



“I see dead people.....”

A second way of knowing is
reason.

Jim never tells lies.

Jim told Fred that Jim hadn't taken
Fred's umbrella.

So.....

Someone else must have taken Fred's
umbrella.

A third way of knowing is language.



Nigel

How old are you?

I am 25 years
old



Malcom

By using language, Nigel now knows how old Malcom is.

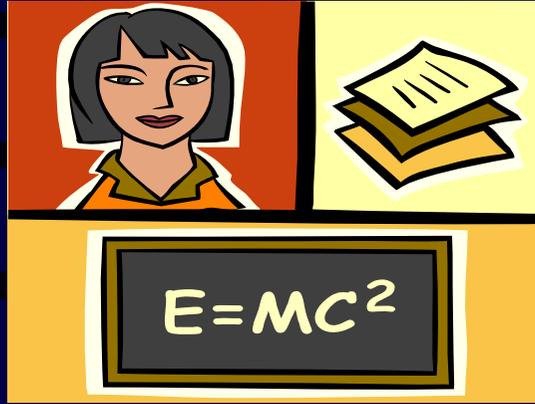
A fourth way of knowing is
emotion.

“I’m going to eat soon. I know it’s
going to be good.”

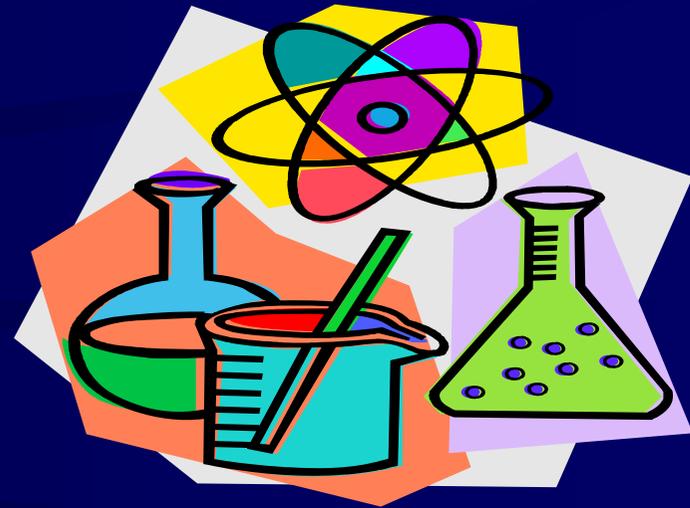


I feel joy.

Areas of Knowledge

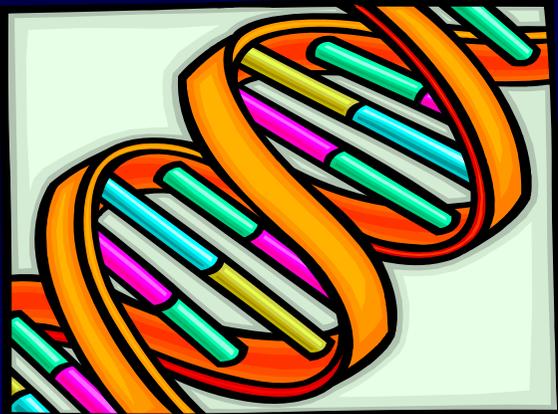


Physics



Chemistry

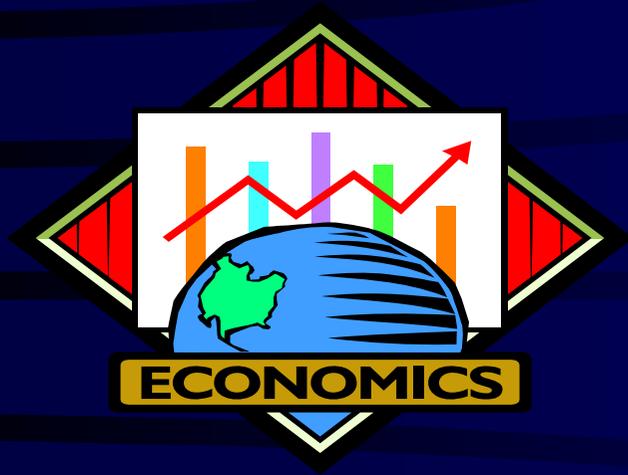
Natural Sciences



Biology



Paleontology



Psychology

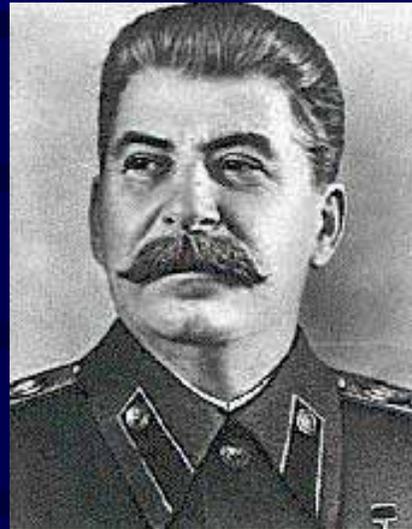
Human Sciences



Anthropology



Political Science

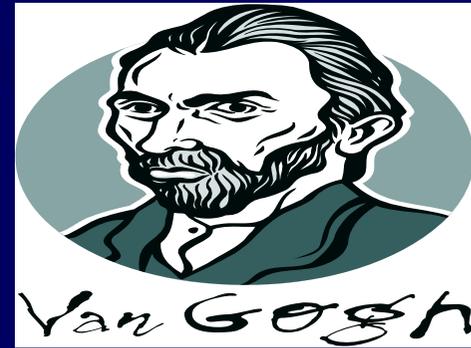
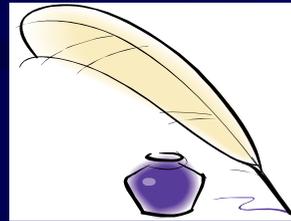


History





The Arts



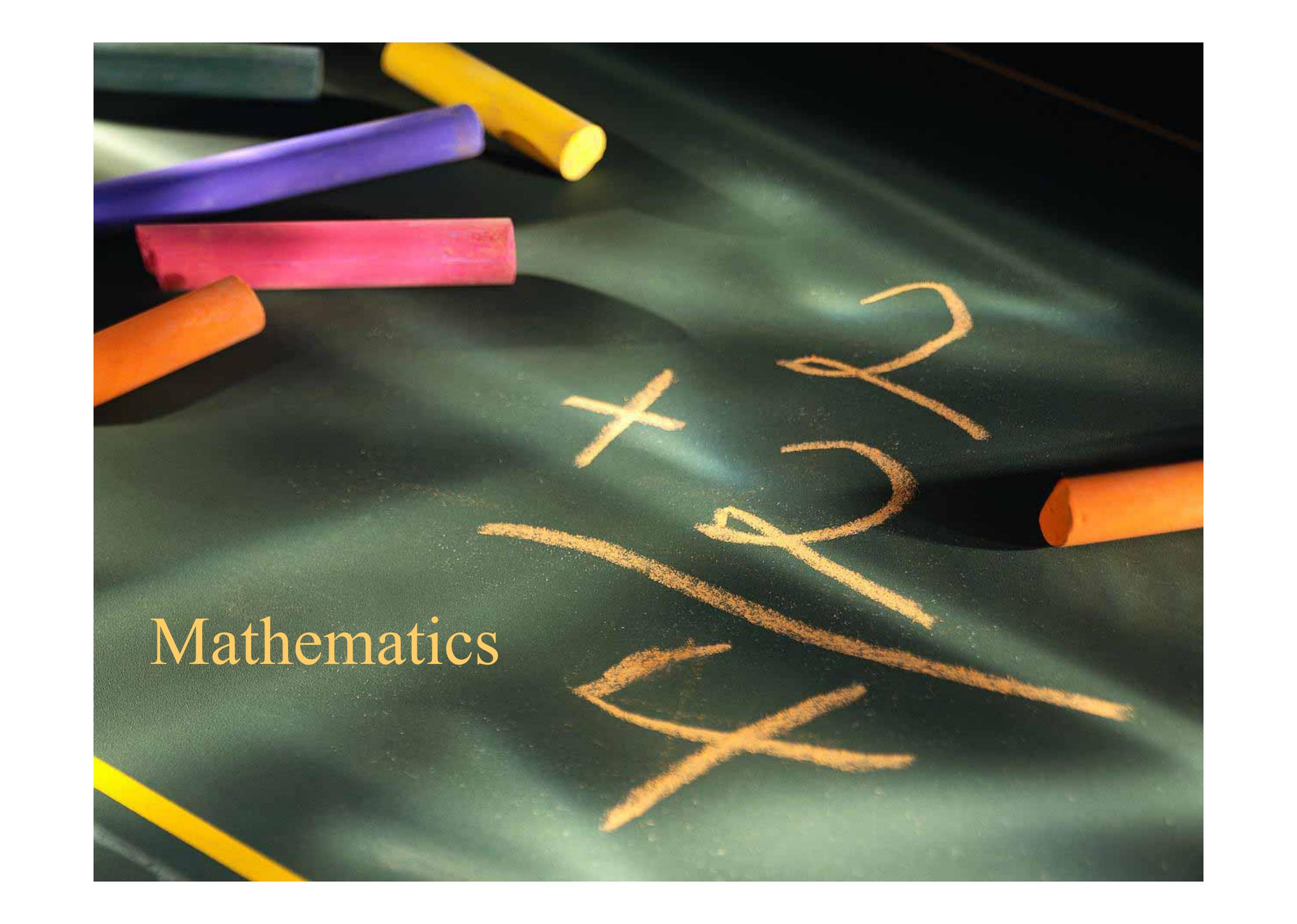
Ethics

What is right?

What is wrong?

Do these things change as situations change?



A close-up photograph of a dark green chalkboard. Several colorful chalk sticks (yellow, purple, pink, orange) are scattered in the upper left corner. In the center and lower right, the word 'Mathematics' is written in a stylized, cursive font using orange chalk. The word is written in two lines: 'Mathematics' on the top line and 'Mathematics' on the bottom line. The chalk is slightly smudged, giving it a hand-drawn appearance. The background is dark and slightly out of focus.

Mathematics

Knowledge Issues

What are the various difficulties in saying that we know different things?

What are the limitations of our knowledge?

What are the tensions or problems that follow from us claiming to know certain things?

I know....

How to start a fire.	I am hungry.	Yasu is bored.	How to dance.	How to speak Japanese.	$E=MC^2$.
How to take photographs.	The sky is blue.	The sun will rise tomorrow.	The world is round.	I will go to heaven when I die.	That telling lies is wrong.
How my friend Mr. Hamer feels when people tease him.	$8 + 7 = 14$	That my cat back home in New Zealand, Mr. Smudge is alive and well.	That my mother loves me.	Tigers have stripes, while leopards have spots.	What life is like in England.

Are there any “knowledge issues” related to the knowledge claims described above?

In this course you will be expected to...

- 1) Write a 1200-1600 word essay that discusses Knowers, Ways of Knowing, Areas of Knowledge and Problems of Knowledge.
- 2) Give a spoken presentation of 10 minutes which discusses Knowers, Ways of Knowing, Areas of Knowledge and Problems of Knowledge.