

**Mathematics 3810H – Ancient and classical mathematics**

TRENT UNIVERSITY, Winter 2020

**Assignment #3**

**Meaning Meno**

*Due on Thursday, 13 february.*

Read and consider (at least) the part of Plato's *Meno* on pages 11–15 of the translation by Cathal Woods, which may be found at

[papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=1910945](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1910945)

and then answer the following questions as best you can:

1. Summarize the geometric problem and its solution that Socrates leads Meno's slave through. Is the solution complete and correct? [5]
2. What is Socrates trying to show in this passage, besides the obvious mathematical result? Is Socrates correct? Explain why you think he is or isn't correct, as the case may be. [5]