Welcome to M 408M Discussion Sessions
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Discussion Sessions

- What are discussion sessions for? What to expect?
  - A safe environment to discuss and solve exercises and review the material!
  - Working in Groups!
  - Get to know your colleagues!
  - Improve presentation skills!
  - Learn new material!

- Discussion Sessions vs. OH: Planned activities vs. Individual Questions.
What **NOT TO** expect?

- Me solving HW problems for you!
- Me speaking the whole 50 minutes! This implies zzzz!!!! Not a monologue.
Effective ways to learn math (and pass the course)

- Hardwork!
- Study in Groups!
- Explaining the material to colleagues!
- Solving a lot of exercises!
- BE ACTIVE!
- Use the resources available to you:
  1. Office Hours (Prof and TA);
  2. Tutoring (e.g. Sanger Center)
  3. The book!!!!
  4. Others...
Effective ways fail the course...

- A lot of material: do not let accumulate!
- Not looking for help when not understanding;
- Not asking questions;
- Being passive!

   At the end the professor will curve and everything will be fine.

- Not only know how to solve problems, but know how to do it fast!

   If I had 30 minutes more I would have nailed the exam! I can solve all the problems in the HW, but when it comes to the exam...
A typical discussion session:

- Brief review of material额外 material (5-10 minutes);
- Group work on selected exercises (15-25 minutes);
- Explaining the solutions to each other (5-10 minutes);
- Wrapping up (5-10 minutes)
Ground Rules

- Interaction during discussions and OH.
- Strict e-mail policy!
- I will not hold extra Office Hours upon request. Please plan accordingly.
- Respect towards colleagues, especially those presenting.
- I am not involved with REGISTRATION AND GRADES!
FAQ

- Do I have to take a prerequisite test? A: I don’t know, talk to undergrad advisor/prof.
- Will be a curve? A: I don’t know, look at the syllabus or ask the Prof.
- Can I come to a discussion session I am not assigned for? A: Exceptional circumstances.
- Can you increase my grade a bit? A: No, you should discuss grades with the professor.
- Am I registered for the right class? A: I don’t know. Talk to undergrad adviser.
- I am registered, but I don’t have access to blackboard, quest, etc? A: I can’t help!
- I am not free during our office yours. Can I just knock at your door? A: No.
FAQ

Can I ask you math related questions during discussions and OH?

YES!!! I love math, and I hope you come to enjoy more during the semester!

LOOKING FORWARD TO GETTING TO KNOW YOU AND INTERACTING WITH YOU ALL!