Syllabus for Math 95: Introduction to Teaching Mathematics

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Class Meetings: Tuesday 2:00-3:50 AP&M 5829

Course Description: How do people learn mathematics? What are the difficulties unique to the subject? What are the elements of a successful learning situation? These are among the questions we will consider in Math 95. Participants in the course will have the opportunity to address these questions through their own solutions to mathematical problems and learning of mathematical concepts and ideas. The goal is that the participants develop the main components of the knowledge base necessary for effective mathematics teaching.

Evaluation of Student Performance: Your grade will be determined by the following scale: 30% participation and attendance, 30% weekly homework assignment, 40% final group project.

Base Weekly Homework Assignment: (subject to modification each week)  
Please submit (as a group) at the beginning of class each week:

- A detailed solution (partial or complete, depending on your group’s progress) to the problem(s) considered in class the previous week
- A one to two paragraph reflection on the errors (if any) you made while attempting to solve the problem(s) and the insights you gained, both mathematically and pedagogically

Please note: Due to the seminar structure of this class, it is absolutely essential that you arrive in class on time for every lecture. Failure to arrive promptly at 2 pm may result in partial attendance points for that day’s lecture.