

From Previous Students To Future Students

On Colloquiums:

“I like having to go to these. They were interesting and it was neat to see what people are doing in math.”

“Extremely interesting”

“Going to colloquiums is fun!”

“Topics are not easy to get into, but widen my view of math.”

“I really liked these. They got me really excited about upper-level math.”

Writing Proofs:

“Do scratch work, lay out the proof then attack. It may seem difficult or repetitive, but you can do it!”

“Little details are important. Often understanding comes in whether you know to put the small stuff into your proof.”

“It’s not all about math - there’s some flowery writing involved. Also make sure your terms are precise and concise.”

“Writing proofs is hard. Take advantage of office hours.”

“USE DEFINITIONS!!! That is how you do proofs. Always use whatever definitions exist to solve proofs. It makes life easier.”

“It takes a long time to write and make sure to leave a lot of time to do homework and spend a lot of time receiving help!”

LaTeX:

“It’s frustrating at first, but stick with it and you’ll figure it out. It actually doesn’t suck after a month or so.”

“Have fun! Learn to look for little errors.”

“Make sure you use the available resources and the website.”

“Learn the symbols for it quickly! Also, use Google to search for topics when unknown.”

“Enclose anything that looks remotely mathematical in dollar signs, but exclude any words.”

“It takes a long time! Leave yourself a good amount of time to type things up.”

Group Exams:

“Liked the ability to work with classmates to improve our understanding.”

“They were fun, all with the exam buzz.”

“I like being able to work with others and get input on what I did before I turn it in.”

“Don’t blow them off! They may seem like they’ll be easier because you have people to help you, but they are harder questions than would be on the midterms.”

“Despite the fact that you work with others, you still are graded mostly on your own work. Don’t rely on your group to do it for you.”

“Prepare for a group exam just as you would for any other exam. The problems aren’t necessarily easier, but you have longer to do them; collaboration however can be difficult.”

“Do prepare and study for them, and prepare notes.”

“Be assertive - finish your problem before helping others. Don’t be scared to ask for extra quiet time.”

“Study and know theorems”

“Always prepare but don’t feel nervous. Group exams are a good way to learn.”

“Group exams help me learn during the exam while I do not need to be as nervous as taking a midterm.”

Poster Projects:

“Practice presenting it before the day of the presentation. Think about questions people might ask about it.”

“Fun way to express yourself and what you have learned.”

“Start planning early”

Midterms:

“Study everything! Go over all the homework again, even the proofs. Go over all the notes. Make notes when you are doing the homework on what seems important.”