

Math 1A

PDP Discussion Section 316

Bradley Froehle, Fall 2009

The entire contents of this sheet, and lots more information, can be found on the discussion section website: <http://math.berkeley.edu/~bfroehle/teaching/1a/>.

The Basics:

We'll meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:40-5:00pm in 230C Stephens Hall. If you have enrollment questions, please talk to me or Hugo Ramirez (hramirez@berkeley.edu).

Office Hours:

Tentatively, I'll be holding office hours on **Mondays from 12-1pm** and **Fridays from 2-3pm** in **1039 Evans Hall**. If these times change I'll make an announcement in class and make a post on the discussion section website. Please let me know if these times are inconvenient and I'll change them to other times or add another hour of office hours. Please do not hesitate to visit me in office hours — I enjoy getting to know my students and am eager to help your learning.

Contact Information:

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Webpage: <http://math.berkeley.edu/~bfroehle/teaching/1a/>

Course Information:

Most of the course information can be found on Prof. Borcherd's website at <http://math.berkeley.edu/~reb/courses/1A/>, with a few notable differences indicated below.

Grading:

Your grade will be computed in the same way as everybody else in Prof. Borcherd's class, with the one following exception: homework for this section **will be graded for accuracy** as well as completion.

Quizzes & Homework:

Homework will be due on *Tuesday* in discussion section. We'll also have a short quiz every week in discussion section.

Textbook:

See the professor's website for the exact textbook we'll be using. If you have an older edition, I've posted scanned copies of the homework sets online at

URL: <http://math.berkeley.edu/~bfroehle/teaching/1a/stewart/>

Username:

Password:

Worksheets & Group Work:

Don't bother buying the worksheets from Copy Central — we won't be using them. Instead, I'll create worksheet problems which we will solve **collaboratively** during discussion section.

Collaboration & Calculators:

You are allowed, and in fact encouraged, to work on the homework problems together and form study groups for the class; *however*, you must write up your own homework solutions and there is no collaboration allowed on the quizzes, midterms, or final exam. As far as calculators go, you are free to use them on the homework, but try not to get addicted as they are not permitted on the quizzes, midterms, or final exam.

Showing Your Work:

Starting with this course and continuing for the rest of your mathematical career, you are expected to show your work and justify your answers. Not only will this give you the opportunity for partial credit, but learning how to formally express yourself in mathematical writing is one of the more important things you can take away from this class.

Special Arrangements:

If you have special testing arrangements through DSP or other special needs, please talk to me as soon as possible.

Some General Advice:

Math is not a spectator sport. Rolling up your sleeves and grabbing some chalk is really the only good way to learn it, and the more problems you've done, the more comfortable you'll be when you see new ones on exams and quizzes. Along with that goes:

- **Speak up!** If I write something on the board or say something that doesn't quite make sense, please feel free to yell at me. I'm always happy to try explaining something another way, or to re-write something that is completely illegible (trust me, you'll see!), or do another example problem. Plus, I guarantee there's at least one other person in class who's in the same spot.
- **Don't fall behind.** This class moves very quickly, and falling behind for even a few days can be extremely dangerous. Both our undergraduate assistant and I am here to help, so please come find one of us if you ever don't fully grasp something. In fact, come find us even if you do know what's going on and we'll be more than happy to help you understand it even better.
- **Take notes**, both in lecture and in discussion section. Not only will it help you to pay attention in class, but there are a number of places where the textbook's explanation can be a little lacking, and having two other explanations to fall back on can be a real help.
- **Come see me!** If for no other reason than to save me from sitting bored in my office for 2 hours a week.