

MATH 53 DISCUSSION

JEFF HICKS

Office Hours: My office is Evans 935, and I will be offering office hours 10-11 AM on Mondays and 1-2 on Tuesdays. Additional office hours can be made by appointment (see below.)

Contacting Me: If you send me an email, I will respond within 48 hours of reception. The best email to contact me at is `jeff.hicks@berkeley.edu`. If you have mathematical questions, it is better to stop by during office hours (math over email is hard!) If you have administrative questions about grades, classwork, etc. I may ask you to send me an email to help me remember your questions/concerns.

About Discussion: The purpose of discussion section is to discuss the material covered in lecture. I will clarify any concepts and topics presented in lecture. Additionally, we will work on problems together on the board, and in groups.

Discussion is also where you will take your quizzes, and turn in your homework— there are details about this below. I will not be answering questions from the homework during discussion. If you have specific questions about the homework, come visit me during office hours.

Grading Policy. There will be two midterms in the course, and you must take at least one. Here is a quick guide to the grading policy:

- 25% Discussion
- 25% Midterm I
- 25% Midterm II
- 25% Final

Your lowest midterm can be dropped and replaced by the final exam grade.

The Discussion grade will be comprised of two parts: homework and quizzes.

- **Homework** will be assigned weekly, with exercises pertaining to each day of lecture. Homework is due on Wednesdays. I will drop your 2 lowest homeworks.
- Additionally, there will be a **quiz** on Mondays. There will be no make up quizzes. I will drop two of your lowest quiz scores.

I strictly follow the University and Mathematics Department Academic Honesty Policy for all matters regarding this course.

Additional Notes:

- I do not accept late work.
- I ask that you don't use cellphones or laptops during discussion.
- My website will slowly accrue useful information throughout the semester, like practice midterms, solutions to quizzes, and other goodies. It can be found here :
`http://math.berkeley.edu/~jhicks/classes/spring16math53/courseindex.html`
- I'm very excited for this semester!