

The mechanics of this course
Math 30, Sec. 07, Tim Hsu
Fall 2018

Here's how to handle a typical class session. To be concrete, in *italics*, I've listed the specific instructions for our second class, Mon Aug 27.

- **Before class:** You will be responsible for doing three things before each class.
 - **Read the text:** Read it carefully and try to understand the story it's telling. (There really is a story to it!) This may take time, and multiple attempts, and I'm certainly not assuming you'll learn all of it by yourself — the idea is that after you make a first effort, you'll really be ready to dig into the ideas in class. Example: *For Mon Aug 27, read 1.4–1.5.*
 - **Watch videos:** Videos are meant to highlight the material in the text. There are two kinds of videos to watch:
 - * *Concept videos*, which explain the main ideas in the text. These are shorter videos (5–15 min, average less than 10 min), but you may have to pause or replay a video to think about the ideas or take notes. You are expected to watch all concept videos.
 - * *Example videos*, which work through particular examples of problems. These are longer (average around 15 min), and are optional.

Videos will be linked from the course webpage.

- **Take an online quiz:** You then need to take a brief online quiz to see if you understood the basic ideas of the material. Quizzes will be linked from the course webpage.

Note that you are to do all three of these things, but the precise order is up to you. Some of you may prefer to read the text first, some of you may prefer to watch the videos first, or you may even prefer to go back and forth repeatedly.

- **In class:** Class time will fall into two or three segments.
 1. **Go over the homework assigned previously.** This segment will be omitted on Mon Aug 27 because of the diagnostic pre-test you will be taking that day.
 2. **Group work and discussion.** We will work in groups on worksheets or handouts to be distributed electronically or on paper.
 3. **In-class quiz.** We will have an in-class quiz once a week. Mon Aug 27 will instead feature the diagnostic pre-test; the first regular quiz will be **Wed Sep 05**, on one topic chosen from 1.4–1.5 and 2.1.
- **After class:** Do the homework assigned for next time, to be collected in the next class. Example: *HW02, due Wed Aug 29: (1.4) 8, 12, 22, 30; (1.5) 8, 18, 40, 52(b), 54(b).*