

UTA Reflection

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This was my second time applying for the undergraduate teaching assistant position in the Math department. While I enjoyed my experience last semester, I wanted to work in person this semester, so I decided to reapply for the UTA program. I was fortunate enough to have had the opportunity to work with Dr. Ethan for MATH 122B this semester.

For this semester, the MATH 122B instruction moved to in person, which allowed me to have more opportunities to work with students. Having one semester's experience of assisting a course online, I was able to work with more confidence. My overall experience changed a lot for this semester. For example, instead of spending most of my time on grading, I actively participated in class and assisted group activities for this semester. Before each class, Dr. O'Brien used a few minutes to discuss the activities we would be doing for the class. I assisted the class activities by answering students' questions and checking students' answers. I felt that this helped me with my communication and I became better at explaining math problems. Besides participating in class activities, I also created rubrics by myself, graded assignments, and held review sessions. I enjoyed all the tasks that I did, especially holding review sessions by myself and going over all of the topics we learned in class.

Moreover, I got more opportunities to practice my LaTeX skills. For example, I made some practice midterms and class activities with LaTeX this semester. Due to my participation within the class, I knew more about students' weaknesses and could directly help them by making up specific questions. Dr. O'Brien provided me with a lot of support on using LaTeX. I appreciated the detailed feedback he gave me each time I made a worksheet. I also had the opportunity to make a powerpoint using LaTeX for my UTA Seminar presentation, which was useful because it allowed me to practice my skills. Thanks to Dr. Duron and Dr. Peca-Medlin for leading the program and Dr. O'Brien for being a mentor and supporting me for all tasks. I have learned a lot from this program; it has given me more than I initially thought.