Advice Essay

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Computational or Numerical Methods is a class that teaches different techniques to approximate math problems. It is not a follow up class to Programming Concepts although it is taught by the same professor. There are some things one might want to go over before taking this course. A main course to recall would be differential equations. Most of the equations and problems are differential equations such as Taylor series and regression. Also, don't forget how to use MATLAB. For those students who are in love with their TI-89, I am sorry to say but in this class you are forced to part with it and downgrade to a simple scientific calculator. To prepare yourself for an exam, (which you have many) buy the book! The class is taught right from the book so if you miss something in class, it is right there in writing. The best way to study the problems is do the examples in the book and look over the multiple choice tests. From there you should be ready to do the problem set questions. The problem set questions are the most similar to the ones on the exam. The best thing about this course is you are given opportunities to receive extra credit by taking surveys. Another good thing about this course is the grades are broken down by having five exams, special assignments, projects, and a final. Also a very helpful way to study in this class is the online YouTube videos, where Dr. Kaw goes through problems step-by-step. This class is not too bad, just a lot of math. Good Luck!