

Computational Methods Advice

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Computational Methods is a course that requires a different method of approach than the one that I was used to in other classes. To be successful in this class, you should have a greater depth of understanding than just how to solve a problem with the blind use of a formula. You have to understand the theory behind the formula and understand how to derive it as well. This class requires that you keep up with the lectures, by practicing the work done in class and also practicing example problems until you feel comfortable with the course work. Another important suggestion is not to procrastinate with assignments as well as studying for the exams. The material is better understood if you keep up with the lectures and ask questions to either Dr. Kaw or the TA.

A great tool to use is the website that goes along with the class. It is a great resource for looking at what material you are expected to learn, as well as a source to many YouTube videos on topics covered in class. If you missed class or did not understand the material properly, you can always view the videos, and work at your own pace. The web site also has background information, as well as YouTube videos on material from the previous class that you may need to review. One last main suggestion is to practice using the required calculator. It seems that you would know how to use it, but during a test is not the time to practice how to use it.

Attending class as well as putting time and effort into the course are the key elements that are necessary for the class.