

## **Computational Methods: Expect the Unexpected**

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The computational methods class is definitely very challenging. One has to be ready for the unexpected; therefore, it would be nice to have a better idea of what is it that one is going to face. In general, Dr. Kaw's class involves so many different things that one might get lost in the middle. From Dr. Kaw's jokes to his incredible knowledge of rap and hip-hop artists, to his inconceivable fast-paced way of speaking, he makes the class as diverse as it can be.

Perhaps, one the most crucial things to do is attending to class. I emphasize attendance because in the lectures one can get to know the topics or section that Dr. Kaw prioritizes and one can study them thoroughly. Also watch the online resources that include videos of the lectures that come really handy when one is preparing for any test. Another piece of advice is to have fun during lectures (yes, Dr. Kaw likes to make jokes all the time), laugh at his jokes (although one might not understand them all), it makes the class more enjoyable and perhaps it improves one's attention to the class.

One thing to remember if one wants to make it out alive from computational methods class is to practice exercises with the TI30X calculator before any test (the use of this calculator is mandatory). It's probably the oldest most archaic piece of equipment I have ever used. However, with practice, one can do just fine. In the end, remember to study several days before the exam (not just the last day), also study the background topics, and be ready to take a lot of tests.