

## Tips on Homework and Presentations

### Preparing for class

- Reading assignments are important and should be done BEFORE the section is discussed in class.
- Reading math is not like reading a novel and should be done using pen and paper.
- You can't learn math without working things out. Bring your notes and book to class.
- Be prepared to ask and answer questions, even when you are not presenting.

### Preparing for class presentations

- A presentation takes time to prepare – do not leave it for the last minute!
- The purpose of the presentation is to make the ideas of the proof clear to other students. Lecture to the students, not to the professor.
- Write out the proof in detail. Understand what the key ideas are and what are the key transitions.
- Use complete sentences on the board, using proper English and mathematical grammar.
- Explain your reasoning as you go along. Do not write everything down and then start explaining.
- Engage the audience and leave time for questions.
- Students who are not presenting are expected to participate and ask questions when needed.
- See the professor and/or the teaching assistant if you have any questions about preparing your presentation.

### Preparing written assignments

- Both form and content count in grading. You should write in complete, correct English sentences, make correct use of all relevant mathematical terms, and use correct mathematical grammar.
- Your writing should be clear and concise.
- Make sure that you include enough detail to make the argument clear, but do not make it so long that the argument is obscured.
- Your homework should be neatly written. This is not a draft of an assignment, but a completed piece of work.