

Savannah Armstrong

The UTA program allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of math, realize how I learn math concepts, and gain confidence. When I first started as a UTA, I wasn't sure if I would be helpful to students or if my knowledge of math was extensive enough. Throughout my time as a UTA, I realized it's impossible for anyone to have the knowledge to answer any question at a moment's notice, but you can build on what you do know to teach concepts and be helpful. The program gives you resources to become a better teacher and learner. I know I do not want to be a math teacher or professor in my future career, but the UTA program gave me valuable skills that can be applied in any career. I learned how to present math and technical ideas, work with a mentor to achieve goals, and communicate with students effectively.

I found myself truly interested in gaining a full understanding of the course material, and it was empowering to realize that my perspective of the course could help others to learn. I built a meaningful professional relationship with my mentor, and was able to learn what a career in math looks like. As an engineering and math double major, I often work in teams. The program helped me develop teamwork skills, and it was amazing to see suggestions I made be applied to the course. My perspective as a recent student of the course was heard, and it motivated me to continue to share my opinions and viewpoints.

I would recommend the UTA program to other undergraduate students as I was able to develop professional skills in a fun and friendly environment. It is important to have time management and communication skills to get the most out of the program. The program is structured enough to give you direction and learn, but flexible enough to really let you tailor your experience. If you enjoy teaching and planning course material, that is an option. If you are like me and want to dive deeper into aspects of an interesting course, you can do that as well. I am so glad I participated in the program and that I am able to recognize clearly the skills it helped me build.