

Ethan Morgan

UTA Program Final Reflection

Fall 2020

I decided to apply to the mathematics undergraduate teaching assistant program because I have always enjoyed working on math with other individuals, both in the collaborative and instructional sense. With this in mind, I thought it would be useful and enjoyable to partake in this in a more formal capacity rather than just being the friend you can ask for advice on math homework. I am very glad to say that the experience was all that I hoped it would be and more.

The course that I assisted with a session of was Math 129, or Calculus II. I think that this was a good match since I was already very familiar with the material. As a result, I was enabled to focus my efforts completely on learning how to be an effective teaching assistant rather than having to worry about whether or not I was comfortable enough with the course's material to do so. Although going in I was not exactly sure what the best ways for me to get involved might be, my mentor Dr. Duron was incredibly helpful in helping me to establish goals for what I could accomplish and meaningful work that I could do over the semester. I believe that I was truly able to get as much out of my time spent working in her class as well as in each week's tutoring hours as I possibly could.

Although I already knew I enjoyed teaching math to people, this experience enabled me to develop my confidence in my ability to do so and my effectiveness in communicating mathematical ideas a great deal. Thanks to the UTA program I know that I will be much more prepared for any similar positions I may have in the future than if I had not participated in it.

In short, I would highly recommend participating in this program to any math majors who want to deepen their involvement in the subject and gain practical experience with it. I would like to thank Dr. Jones and Dr. Duron for leading the program this semester and Dr. Duron once again for being a fantastic mentor and helping me to develop my teaching skills.