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### UTA Reflection

I had a great experience with the UTA program during the spring of 2019. Last fall, I was in MATH 243 with Dr. Aaron Ekstrom and found out that he would be teaching the revived sports analytics class (DATA 367) in the spring. Having taken the class a year ago as a student and a group leader, I wanted to become a UTA for this course. After talking to Dr. Ekstrom, he was more than willing to have me on as a teaching assistant.

During the spring, I have learned a lot in both the sports analytics class and the seminar itself. The program has allowed me to find new ways and methods for tutoring students and explaining concepts in general, especially when I was tutoring students in the mathematics teaching lab. At first, I was a bit nervous explaining some mathematical and statistical concepts to students, especially when I hadn't reviewed the material in months. However, by the end of the semester, I felt more comfortable tutoring and explaining various mathematical ideas to students. In addition, by answering questions in class, reviewing rubrics that my mentor used, and mentoring students with their statistical projects, I was able to learn from others some new concepts that I did not even think about when I took the sports analytics class two semesters ago.

The seminar was also an important resource during my semester as a UTA. I was able to learn more effective ways of tutoring, develop improved presentation skills, and understand the importance of decent solution-writing and grading. The seminar only enhanced what I was currently doing in the mathematics teaching lab and in DATA 367.

I would recommend this experience to any undergraduate student who is even thinking about graduate school or a teaching career in mathematics. I definitely felt that I improved my tutoring and public speaking skills through the program, while making connections with faculty and students during the process.