

MATH 413 ASSIGNMENT 3

Apr 28, 2010

For your third assignment, you will teach a short math class using the Moore method. You will teach your mini math lesson in class on **May 10**. It will be 30 min long. The rest of us will act as your students. It is up to you to choose the material you want to teach. But remember that the Moore method only works well if you are teaching material we do not already know. To be fair, I will pretend that I do not know the material you are teaching, whatever it may be.

You will be evaluated on your familiarity with and understanding of the material you are teaching, and your ability to transfer that knowledge to “your students.” Remember that in a Moore method classroom, you are not really supposed to instruct. You teach your students by having them discover the mathematics by challenging them to justify carefully selected statements. I.e. you guide them by telling them what they should prove, but letting them discover the arguments themselves. You will find that your success depends not so much on what you do during your class but more on how well you prepare the material that you want to cover. The choice of the topic is very important and you should give it careful thought. It does not have to be new to you, but it should be something that is likely to be new to “your students.”

Half an hour is a rather short time to teach, which makes it even more important that you plan what you want to cover carefully. The end result of your preparation should be a (probably quite brief) handout which contains the basic definitions and a few theorems you will want us to prove.

Don't hesitate to talk to me if you need help with your plans or with selecting a good topic to cover.

This assignment will count for 4% of your grade in Math 413.