Some Tips for VV285

"Learn Well and Have Fun"

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Course Description



The course revolves around three themes:

1. Linear Algebra

finite dimensional vector spaces, linear maps, matrices and determinants...

2. Differential Calculus

derivatives, curves, potential functions and extrema...

3. Vector Fields & Integral Calculus

line integrals, surface integral, circulation, flux, integrations in practice...

Grading



Component	Proportion
Mid 1	30%
Mid 2	30%
Final	30%
Term Project	10%
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Generally, 3 Q3 \rightarrow A+, 3 Q2 \rightarrow B+.

VV186 vs. VV285



VV285 is

- 1. more abstract, e.g. $\mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, $\frac{d}{dx} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$
- 2. more interesting (it depends on you!),
- 3. relatively easier (in exams),
- 4. more practical (in homeworks/project).

There is connection between VV285 and VV186, but the connection is not that strong. Therefore,

- Don't panic if you didn't do well in VV186.
- Don't be over-confident if you did a great job in VV186.

Assignments & Project



For assignment:

- 1. Similar with VV186.
- 2. Exams may contain concepts that appeared in your assignments.
- 3. Readability is important. (Words speak louder than math symbols.)

For project:

- 1. Randomly assigned teams.
- 2. Differ from an assignment in format, content and language.
- 3. Start early or stay up late.

Recitation Class



In RC, 4 parts will be covered:

- 1. Recap of the lecture content
- 2. Exercises (often basic)
- 3. Review of assignment problems
- 4. Extension of the lecture content

Language: English

Reference Books



- 1. Generally, you can get a good grade without recourse to any reference textbooks.
- 2. However, if needed, a list of recommended textbooks can be found in *vv285 Course Description*.
- 3. Chinese textbooks are not recommended.

Some tips



- For assignment,
 - think carefully,
 - do it on your own,
 - catch the key point (pay attention to any new concept in your assignment).
- ▶ During the class, focus on the general ideas, the connections between new & old knowledge and the remarks/discussions. Do not panic if you cannot understand some details during the lecture. (不求甚解) Just leave them to your own time after class, and push yourself to figure them out. To review the lecture slides is indispensible if you want to obtain a deep understanding.

Some tips



- ▶ Discuss with your friends to discover new perspectives.
- ► You are encouraged to come to RC & OH.



Learn Well And Have Fun!