

Some Tips for **VV285**

"Learn Well and Have Fun"

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JOINT INSTITUTE

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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...

Component	Proportion
Mid 1	30%
Mid 2	30%
Final	30%
Term Project	10%

Generally, 3 Q3 \rightarrow A+, 3 Q2 \rightarrow B+.

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.

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.

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

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.

- ▶ 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 indispensable if you want to obtain a deep understanding of VV285.**

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

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And
Have Fun!

Q&A