

Mathematical Biography

Your first assignment in this course is to write a short mathematical autobiography.

The purpose of this assignment is to have you reflect on your experiences with mathematics. This will set the stage for all the (possibly different) ways you will experience mathematics in this class. The autobiography will also help me know how you feel about mathematics, understand where you're coming from when you come to a math class, and create a course that will be useful for you.

Describe your history as a learner of mathematics. You might include things like: some experiences with teachers (in any grade), teachers you liked or did not and what liked or did not, how your attitude toward mathematics has changed over the years, why you enjoy it or not, what feels good about doing math or learning math or teaching math, what makes you nervous, what is exciting for you, what you're looking forward to...

As far as length: if you're only writing two or three paragraphs, there's more for you to think about; if you're writing three pages, you're overthinking it.