

# UTA Testimonial Spring 2018

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I really enjoyed being able to be an undergraduate teaching assistant for Math 313 because it was the class that changed how I viewed math. Being able to communicate my love for math through the class that first inspired me to devote my life to math was fulfilling. Even the uninspired parts of UTAing like grading were still useful; I have definitely become faster at grading this semester. Although, the one-on-one time with the students is by far the best. It is personally enjoyable and I feel like it helps me the most at learning how to convey mathematics to others.

This semester, my mentor, Dr. Ngoc Do, allowed me to hold weekly recitations which have helped my teaching skills grow. Also, I feel like the students who have attended regularly have learned a lot and benefited greatly from attending, far more than I could help last semester. Also, having to prepare content to present each week for recitation also helped me learn to organize a lesson with specific goals and learn how to improvise when my plans don't go through. I hope future UTAs are allowed to hold recitations because I feel that it has helped me grow the most out of anything.

I feel like any undergraduate majoring in mathematics that plans to go to graduate school should commit at least one semester to UTAing to prepare. The experience it gives is extremely valuable to gaining the ability to convey your own knowledge to others—a skill which few mathematicians could get away with lacking. A mathematician who knows how to teach will touch more lives than one who doesn't and people, like groups, are remembered for their actions.