Assignment 0

Math 480, Spring 2010

Due: Wednesday, March 31, 2010

This first "assignment" is really just a questionnaire. Feel free to give really short answers if you don't have much to say – it's just our chance to get to know more about you. Not turning anything in says something about you, too – but not something good. :P

1. What are you hoping to get out of this class?

2. Have you ever used any math software before? If so, which?

3. Is there anything specific you're expecting/hoping to know by the end of this course?

4. What other programming languages do you know? ("None whatsoever" is a totally acceptable answer!) If you've programmed before, roughly how many lines of code do you think you've written in your life?

5. If you've heard of Python before, is there anything about it you'd like to know more about?

6. Had you heard of Sage before seeing the description for this course? If so, where?

7. Have you ever been working on a math problem and thought, "Man, it'd be great if I could use a computer to make this easier." If so, what was the problem?

8. Name one math problem you've either never been able to solve, or have seen a solution to but it never really "clicked." (It doesn't have to have anything to do with computers.)

9. If you've programmed before, tell us about the coolest program you've written, or the coolest programming problem you've thought about. (It doesn't have to have anything to do with math.)