MATH 5210
Dr. Smith
How to study for this class.

(1) The canonical calculation for undergraduate courses is 2 to 3 hours spent outside of class for each lecture hour. Equivalently: 2-3 hours per credit hour per week should be spent working on theorems and exercises; for a three-hour course, this comes up to a minimum of 6-9 hours a week. There's a correlation between the hours spent per week on a course and the grade. To earn a B or an A, a student may need to spend even more time.

(2) During class time, students will go over their proofs of theorems and the solutions to exercises. I may comment on the proofs and solutions and may engage the student in a Socratic dialogue. You should listen and take notes - **ask questions if you do not understand the proof or solution!** Then you should go home and try to reproduce the proof/solution without looking at your notes. Use your notes as hints. If you still cannot figure out the solution/proof ask someone in your study group for help. **DO NOT LOOK UP PROOFS ON THE INTERNET OR USE AI TO OBTAIN PROOFS!**

(3) Set up and use study groups. I discovered that successful students often set up study groups with friends from the class and use those groups to work through problems. I suggest that a student first works on a problem for an hour or so before asking for help. This allows the problem to be firmly set in a student's mind - so that just a "nudge" in the direction of a solution is all that is needed.

(4) Finally, ask me questions. My teaching method is based on the Socratic question and answer process - and the questioning process goes both ways.