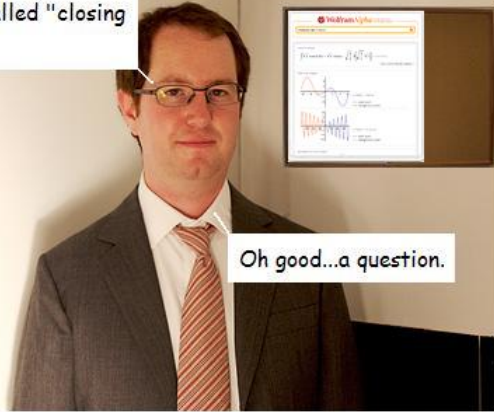


**MATH 8001**

**12 October 2012**

**Observing and Reflecting on Teaching**

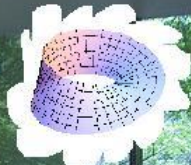
Today I'll share with you the assessment idea called "closing the loop."



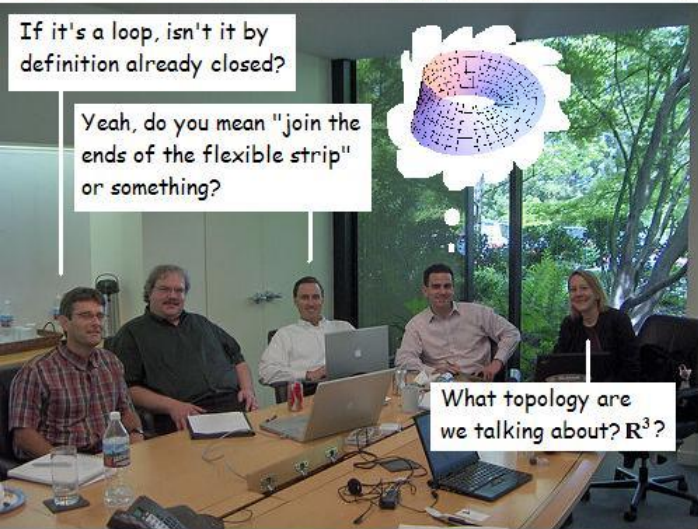
Oh good...a question.

If it's a loop, isn't it by definition already closed?

Yeah, do you mean "join the ends of the flexible strip" or something?



What topology are we talking about?  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?



I hate talking to the math faculty.



Hey, how 'bout we go for a pitcher of beer? I'll bring

## **The goals of the evaluation process:**

- feedback, perspective, self-awareness and reflection
- beginning to build a teaching portfolio

## **Admin**

### **Next Friday:**

instead of “When Things Go Wrong” ,  
the topic will be Responsible Conduct of Research  
speaker: Frances Lawrenz, Associate Vice President for Research  
other grad students will attend,  
but MATH 8001 attendance will still be taken.

**Returning your quizzes at end of hour**

**Collecting your group worksheets at end of hour**

**Next assignment due 11/2**

**Any issues arising in your current teaching?**

## **Feedback tools, coming up soon**

- mid-semester feedback
- faculty observations

## **The goals of the evaluation process are:**

- feedback, perspective, self-awareness and reflection
- beginning to build a teaching portfolio

**The goals of the evaluation process are:**

- feedback, perspective, self-awareness and reflection
- beginning to build a teaching portfolio.

**The goal of the evaluation process is NOT:**

- to form a secret judgment on you that will haunt you for the rest of your career.

## **Mid-semester feedback**

Your instructor is interested in receiving feedback from you on how this class is helping you learn. Your input helps the instructor identify the aspects of the class that are working and the aspects that need improvement.

1. Rate the overall performance of your instructor on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest). Circle one number.

**1 (lowest)**

**2**

**3**

**4**

**5(highest)**

2. List at least one thing that your instructor does well to help you learn in the class.

3. List at least one thing that your instructor needs to improve to help you learn better in the class.



## **Mid-semester feedback**

**Rule 1.** Acknowledge receiving the feedback and taking it seriously.

**Rule 2.** Know which suggestions to disregard and which to incorporate.

Fall Semester 2012  
TA Evaluation Form  
for Instructional Evaluation Committee

Note to the evaluator: Please remember to include your name and the course information in the appropriate places below.

T.A.: \_\_\_\_\_

Course \_\_\_\_\_, Sec \_\_\_\_\_, Time \_\_\_\_\_, Days \_\_\_\_\_, Room \_\_\_\_\_

Visitor and date of visit: Visitor: PROF. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Key to ratings: A = excellent/outstanding  
B = good/more than satisfactory  
C = satisfactory  
D = poor/rather unsatisfactory  
F = very poor/totally unsatisfactory

(Please circle)

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| A B C D F | 1. Mastery of subject  |
| A B C D F | 2. Organization/preparation  |
| A B C D F | 3. Clarity/pace of presentation; blackboard usage; legibility                                      |
| A B C D F | 4. Ability to ask and answer questions and channel discussion properly                             |
| A B C D F | 5. Attitude of instructor towards students and of students towards instructor; rapport and control |
| A B C D F | 6. Use of English  |
| A B C D F | 7. Classroom manner  |

A A- B+ B B- C+ C C- D+ D F OVERALL PERFORMANCE

COMMENTS (including those made after meeting with T.A.)

## **Faculty observations**

## **Writing reference letters**

## **Assignment due November 2:**

1. Observe one 50-minute discussion of one other TA in MATH 8001.
2. Be observed by one other TA in MATH 8001.
3. When you observe, take notes on
  - what the TA writes on the board
  - what the TA says
  - your general observations (what is it like to be a student in this class?)
4. Meet with your partner and come to consensus on each person's
  - major strengths
  - areas for improvement
5. Submit on 11/2 your observation notes and your lists of strengths/improvements

32 TAs in 16 pairs