

Successful Office Hours

Activity 1 (3 minutes)

In groups of 3-4, first introduce yourselves quickly. Then, share your best or the most difficult experiences with office hours (e.g. OH were helpful, intimidating, waste of time, etc).

Example questions for activity 2

Question 1

Consider a steel plate with a hole at the center. How will the circle change when the plate is heated?

Question 2

Consider a circle with radius r . Find its area by calculus.

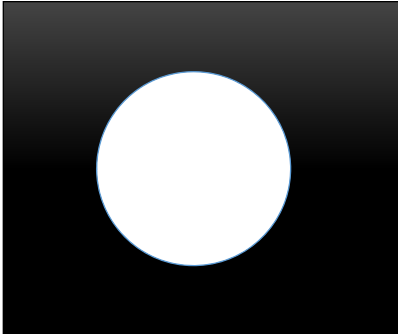
Question 3

Consider a circle with radius r . How many rotations does it undergo if it rolls a distance x

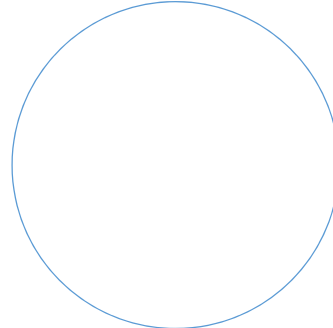
Questions 4

You want to enjoy a warm cup of coffee after your meeting finishes in 10 minutes. It just finished brewing and you are trying to decide if you should add the cream now or after. What choice will give you the hottest coffee.

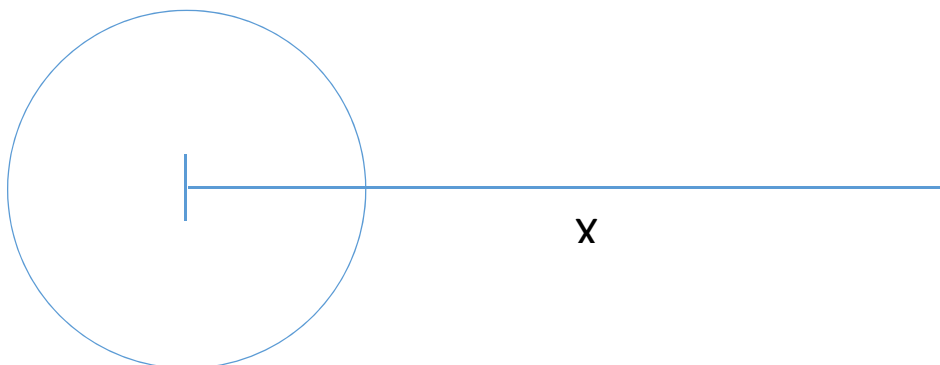
Q1



Q2



Q3



Activity 2a (3 minutes)

In a group of 3-4 people, select the person who's name comes first alphabetically. They will chose one of the four provided example problems and act as a mock TA during an OH attended by the other group members.

Question: _____

Note

Activity 2b (3 minutes)

Repeat this activity with the person whose name comes last alphabetically acting as the TA. Chose a different problem and try to implement the effective teaching strategies discussed.

Question: _____

Note

Activity 3 (5 minutes)

In groups of 3-4 read through one of the example situations and brainstorm ways to address the problem. Afterwards we will come together as a larger group to discuss.

Example 1

You are TA-ing a course, X101, which is the professor's first time teaching. You find the homework and midterm are simpler than the lecture, and no one attends the office hour. What would you do to improve this situation?

Example 2

You are TA-ing a course, X102. You find the lecture materials and homework difficult for most students. Students struggle on almost every questions and you spend more than 16+ hours a week on TA work. What would you do to improve this situation?

Example 3

You are TA-ing a course, X103. The professor has assigned homework problems that have little to do with the material covered in lecture, leaving the students lost. How do you structure your OH to help guide students?

Example 4

You are TA-ing a course, X104. The professor has assigned a very open ended homework problem, with many possible solutions depending on which assumptions are made. This professor also has not provided you, the TA, with any solutions or guidance. How do you run your office hours to help structure your students approach?

Example: _____

Note