

Top-10 List for Making the Most of Drop-In Peer Tutoring

- 1) **Be prepared.** Don't forget to bring all relevant course materials: notes, textbook, problem sets, practice exams, pencil & paper, calculator, laptop, charger....
- 2) **Think about what you'd like to focus on.** Take a little time beforehand to think about what type of problem, or what idea or concept, is most challenging for you. That way, you can spend your time with the tutor getting to the heart of the matter.
- 3) **Try the work first.** Take a stab at doing the problems or understanding the material ahead of time. This will help you accomplish #2.
- 4) **Let the tutor guide you.** Our peer tutors use a guiding method, which means that they are not telling you how to arrive at the solution, but rather helping you find your way there. This can take longer, but in the end you'll learn more!
- 5) **Take advantage of being with classmates who are also at the tutoring session.** Working collaboratively gives you the chance to learn from others and check your understanding of course material.
- 6) **Be kind.** Help your fellow students, and be supportive if somebody seems to be struggling, even with material you find easy. Everybody comes at the material in their own way.
- 7) **Be creative in the way you work with the tutor and any fellow students.** Draw diagrams and pictures, go to the board, use props – whatever helps you make sense of the ideas.
- 8) **Visit office hours as well.** Your professor and TA are the experts in your course material. The tutor is a fellow undergrad who knows the material well, but is still an undergrad.
- 9) **Know that there are no stupid questions.** Don't be afraid to ask when you don't understand something. If you don't ask, you won't learn. And chances are that others have the same question you do (but are afraid to ask!).
- 10) **Congratulate yourself.** By attending drop-in tutoring, you are actively managing your learning and making great use of the resources available to you. Keep doing that.