

My main advice for this course is to do consistent work. Leaving the math homework or commentary papers till the night before their due causes unneeded stress and you will end up making silly mistakes. Do consistent work every day and in the end it will pay off. I also highly recommend taking advantage of office hours and MSSC times. Professor Aydin is super helpful during office hours and will guide you through problems that may be causing you issues. As well, MSSC is a great time to collaborate with peers and have your work peer reviewed. It's better to have another set of eyes to check for small mistakes. Office hours and MSSC help negate a lot of stress surrounding the math homeworks and help you to better understand the problems. I also recommend that you start thinking of your final project ahead of time. It is never too early to think of a topic you're interested in. Thinking of a topic ahead of time will allow you to begin looking for sources ahead of the first due date. It will also help you to look for sources and details during class lectures that you may not have noticed otherwise. The more consistent and ahead you are with your work in this class, the less stressed you will be.

My advice for future students is this: This course is a large commitment, but it is all worth it. This is an important course that will change a lot about the way that you think. It will be hard and you will need to reach out for help. Use the resources provided to you by Professor Aydin. Go to the tutor and go to office hours because listening to and reading the material is different from actually understanding it and being able to apply it. Ask questions and get help when you are confused, that is the only way you will really learn these concepts. You will get a good grade if you try and put in a real effort into this course. You will be proud of your success in this class and you will get so much from it if you enter with an open and ready mind.

One piece of advice that I have for future students in this course is to form a study group with your classmates. One of the most useful parts of the homework help sessions was that everyone who came to the sessions was able to help each other when some students understood problems that others didn't. Hearing the problems explained in multiple different ways was key in gaining a better understanding of how to solve them.

If I had to give advice for future students of this course, I could not recommend this enough: ask for help sooner rather than later. This is a piece of advice that I could have, and should have, followed more closely myself. There were moments during the semester in which the material felt overwhelming and a bit too confusing to learn, yet I rarely went out of my way to receive help for it. If the content does not immediately make sense, it's okay! We are all imperfect and it may take some time before you fully grasp the material. Don't be afraid to make mistakes as long as you make the effort to improve afterward

As for advice I would give for future students of the course, I think I'm inevitably going to echo past advice when I say utilize the help sessions for the math homework. Being in a group working on the same homework is always a good way to ensure you understand the material. Another piece of advice is to keep up with the workflow, as it can pile up rather quickly if you leave it alone for too long. If you follow those pieces of advice the course should go smoothly.

My biggest recommendation for this class is to be consistent. At times, I allowed myself to fall behind in studying the material, and I really noticed a dip in my success in the class, not just academically but also in my understanding of the material which is arguably more important. Keeping your mindset away from academic success is also really important, as this is genuinely important material to learn, so even if you don't find great academic success, you will still have a rewarding experience from the class. Additionally, the final project is a really inspiring experience, so I would encourage students to enjoy it! It is a lot of work, but very rewarding, so pick something that you are interested in exploring more, and have fun with it!

An important piece of advice I would give to future students would be to make sure they put an equal amount of work into understanding both the historical and mathematical elements of the course. Having a good understanding respectively helps in the understanding of the other. I would also definitely recommend going to help sessions for homework because I often found myself over thinking problems or not knowing how to start them and going to homework help sessions definitely helped understanding exactly what each problem was asking of me. MSSC sessions also offer the opportunity to work with peers outside the classroom and it really feels like a collaborative experience.

I would recommend this course to anyone who is passionate about creating a more just and equitable society. However, if someone is purely taking this course because they believe it will be easy, I would not recommend the course to them. MATH 128.00 requires dedication and willingness to accept that things are not always simple. It is difficult to reconstruct the Eurocentric worldview one has experienced their entire life, yet this course proves that doing so is crucial to achieve progress. For future students, I would encourage them to remain open minded. At times, work in MATH 128.00 can be overwhelming. However, despite it being jarring, if you remain committed and eager to learn, you will discover amazing things. This course, overall, changed my worldview, and I know it will be beneficial and applicable to my studies as a history major for the rest of my time at Kenyon College.

I would recommend this course, as I feel it is extremely eye-opening and does a great job of showing you what you know and then showing you why it is wrong.

I would wholeheartedly recommend this class to my friends. This class was very informative and I was very invested. It wasn't an easy course, hard work pays off in the class.

I have, and would still, recommend this course to my friends. There is a high workload volume, but assignments are generally straightforward and help is accessible, but mainly the sense of purpose the subject matter provides make this course such an enriching experience. I always cite Ibn al-Haytham when talking to them about this course, speaking on his discoveries in optics and his biography. Friends tend to have their interests pique when I mention slivers of the plot from The Prisoner of Al-Hakim.

My final piece of advice to future students is this: Look for the meaning behind every piece of work assigned. It may seem like a lot at times, but when you distill readings down from their prose and formatting to their real thesis, you can rest assured you understand what the intended message was. If you find yourself struggling, always seek help from the MSCC tutor and reach out to Professor Aydin—he always makes time to meet with you. The class is scaffolded in such a way to help you do well throughout and leading up to the final presentation. It's important to take advantage of the resources available, and in that way you will succeed in this course.

The reading questions for Berggren will give you everything you need to understand what you read, and Professor Aydin is very available to help both in class and at office hours, which you should not skip. The homeworks and readings can be hard, but they are always rewarding, and the culminating presentation especially feels like a big accomplishment. This is not the scariest course ever, but math is hard for lots of people, and it definitely isn't the easiest course ever either. But you will have fun if you work well, because the subject matter is so interesting.

I would recommend this course to my friends because it is educational and eye-opening. For future students, my advice would be to keep up with the readings and stay engaged in class discussions.