

Here's a handy chart of expectations!

What you will do:	What you won't do:
Work in groups.	Work alone. This includes dividing up the problems among yourselves and then reporting back to each other.
Come to workshop prepared, having gone to lecture and done any homework that was assigned.	Use workshop as a chance to catch up on lecture material or homework.
Feel free to come to office hours with any questions about homework.	Avoid office hours and complain that I never help you with homework.
Get to know each other! Other Merit students can be a great resource to you, and we recommend working together outside of workshop.	Be rude, hurtful, racist, sexist, intolerant, or generally uncivilized (to me as well as to students!). Interpersonal relations are particularly important in this course.
Listen to the other students, even the shy ones. You might have to stop talking and ask them a direct question sometimes!	Seldom contribute because you are shy. The onus is not just on the loud people to draw you out.
Let me know if there's a problem with lectures or homework or quizzes or exams.	Stew in seething resentment towards your professor.
Let me know if there's a problem with worksheets or workshop (but check this list first!)	Stew in seething resentment towards your TA.
Make sure your group brings a book to class.	Use computers or cell phones during class.
What I will do:	What I won't do:
Help you sift through your logic if you feel stuck.	Answer direct questions. Including "did I do this correctly?" You may find this rather annoying. I cannot distribute answer keys for the Merit worksheets, either.
Write worksheets that push you, and help you obtain deeper understanding of the material.	Write worksheets that trick you. They aren't intended to be mean, and will generally contain hints about what to do if you read them carefully.
Help you with homework during office hours. Answer direct questions during office hours.	Talk about homework during workshop.
Set up appointments to the best of my ability if you cannot make it to my regular office hours. Reply within 24 hours to emailed questions (perhaps with "we should discuss this in person").	Always be available. I am in grad school, you know.
What I can do:	What I can't do:
Talk with your professor and make reasonable guesses about exam content before I write our practice exams.	Read peoples' minds, especially professorial ones! Sometimes my practice exams are very different from the real exams, but they should always be useful.
Be your advocate if I agree that you have been incorrectly or unreasonably graded on homework or exams.	Change your grade if the professor doesn't agree with me.
Determine your 199 grade.	Determine your 231 grade.