

Hi everyone,

Your feedback this week was positive and indicates that most students have identified a means to achieve their goals in the class and are pursuing it. It seems most of you are being challenged, are working hard, and are seeing progress. I list some of the statements below, and follow with some more of my observations.

“The class has become more challenging, but I feel like I have gained more understanding of the material as a whole over the last week. Reviewing the videos and putting in extra work has helped me catch up.”

“I find your explanations on the videos pretty difficult to follow, especially if I am learning a concept for the first time. However, having them in video format is nice because I can watch them again to try and understand.”

“I go to office hours of other teachers because I can’t make yours.”

“I like working on the problem set during class because it’s nice to have guidance available when you need it.”

“I use office hours and workshop to work with others and make sure I am responsible on my own for book/videos/notes.”

“I have been doing the reading and videos, but I have trouble understanding them. To help, I have been going to study groups and finding peers who do understand the material in the way it was presented.”

“you should look into a computer game called Kerbal Space Program”  
<https://kerbalspaceprogram.com/>

“IT’S ALL ON ME. BEAT THE LAZINESS. ALL GOOD.”

There was strong support for mini-lectures, and requests that they continue. I find these short interactive discussions a good way to add strength, background, and context to the concepts. I plan to continue to interweave these discussion/debates/demonstrations into the learning process.

There was strong support for my bringing food to class. Students organized “bagels for breakfast” in 2012 for a 7:00 AM class, but this doesn’t seem necessary for our class times. I do think that most of you are on a meal plan, and it would be very reasonable for the meal plan to just bring the food to us, but that is a different battle I’m not presently equipped to take on.

In response to past feedback, I will continue to do my best to post videos for Tuesday by 3:00 PM Sunday. Additionally, I posted a draft of PS #6 and I will carefully review it before officially posting it before midnight Wednesday night. I continue to facilitate student gatherings by introducing students to others looking for collaborators.

What I recommend:

What I'm seeing is students looking around and reaching out, finding the resources that empower them to be self-learners. I see many students having fun doing this in groups. I can only say, "keep it up!"