

# Math 8001: When Things Go Wrong

October 18, 2013

Any current issues in your own teaching?

## When things go wrong...

Most of these situations do not have clear solutions. But it pays to think about some of these issues beforehand.

## Five Potential Situations

- 1 You've given a lecture on the quotient rule and realize, after talking to students in office hours and grading homework, that nobody in your class knows how to use it correctly.
- 2 You realize you've been using notation which is totally different than the lecturer.
- 3 You have a group of students working in a language other than English. (Followup: what if the TA speaks that same language?)
- 4 You've given what you felt was a fair exam, but the average score is 30+ points lower than it should be.
- 5 You have a calculus student who has taken calculus in high school, refuses to do things "the long way," is disengaged in class, and is not doing well.

## Other Topics For Discussion

What other experiences have you had where something has gone wrong, either as a teacher or a student?

# Respect

If you have earned the respect of your students, it can help mitigate any problems which arise.

So... how do you earn their respect?