Mathematical Autobiography

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1 Background and Interests

I heavily pursued mathematics in high school taking Advanced Placement Calculus. What I loved most about the class was its fast pace and higher level thinking. This initial love did not translate immediately into my undergraduate studies though because I also had a passion for science. When I was looking for colleges I had decided that I wanted to pursue forensic anthropology because I am very science and logic oriented. This led to me attend Ohio University as an Honors Tutorial College Biological Anthropology student. After being at OU for a year and a half I started taking higher division mathematics courses because I missed not having math classes with challenging problems and defined rules. This led me to the conclusion that I should study mathematics more intensively and declare it as a second major.

I plan to attend graduate school starting in the 2008/2009 academic year, eventually obtaining a Ph.D. I do not know what field of mathematics I want to pursue but am leaning towards some form of applied mathematics, possibly biology. My mathematical interests include different aspects of calculus and matrix analysis. After school I would like to become a professor and continue in research mathematics.

I wanted to be a part of this research group because I want to experience research mathematics and get a better idea of different types of mathematics. I also hoped that this program will give me something challenging to work on so that I can become immersed in mathematics again.

2 Learning Styles

According to the VARK questionnaire, I scored a 7 on visual and aural, an 8 on kinesthetic and a 10 on read/write. I found this quiz very interesting because I do not think I am an aural learner because I forget information people tell me unless I write it down myself and review it. I cannot even remember a 7-digit phone number from aural repitition unless I write it down. From previous tests

I have been classified as a predominantly visual and read/write but also as a kinesthetic learner.