

## MATH 6241

### Introductory Assignment

Welcome to MATH 6241, Understanding Numbers and Operations! I'd like to get to know you better. Also, I think it is important for you to assess where you are when this course begins.

In general there are two kinds of students who take MATH 6241:

- (1) students seeking initial certification to teach (MAT students);
- (2) certified teachers enrolled in a graduate program.

Please respond to the following prompts, writing in narrative form. Please write no more than 2 pages (typewritten, double-spaced, 12 pt font). The assignment is worth 10 points; 7 points will be credited based upon the extent to which you have addressed the items below and 3 points will deal with your technical writing (is your paper grammatically correct and is it coherent?).

Tell me about your situation.

- If you are seeking initial certification, in what area is your undergraduate degree? Are you making a career change? What led to this decision? Have you spent time in the schools observing, helping, etc?
- If you are already certified but working toward a graduate degree, tell me about your teaching experience. Where and what grades have you taught? Are you teaching now? Why have you decided to seek an additional degree?

Tell me about any memorable experiences (positive or negative) you've had either learning and/or teaching mathematics.

Tell me about any person or persons who have impacted your understanding of mathematics.

What does teaching mathematics in the elementary grades look like to you?

How do you feel about teaching mathematics in the elementary grades? Have any experiences or persons influenced your desire (or lack of desire) to teach mathematics? Please elaborate.

Submit the assignment through Vista as an attached Word document. Save your document as:

YourLastNameYourFirstInitial\_MATH6241intro.doc (or .docx)

For example, I would save my document as:

CrawfordL\_MATH6241intro.doc