

# Teaching Students L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

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# Don't Take Too Many Notes

This talk is available from my web-site:

`http://frodo.elon.edu`

under the link **Presentations**.

# Introduction

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- ▶  $\LaTeX$  is so powerful that it can be overwhelming for beginners.
- ▶ At Elon we have found that the best way to teach our students is developmentally, matching  $\LaTeX$  skills with our expectations at each class level.

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- ▶ We also have a link set up for students to install these programs on their own computers for convenience.
- ▶ One of our department members (James Beuerle) takes explicit responsibility for working with our computing support services to ensure that things work.

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  - ▶ Arrays and tables

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  - ▶ Equation alignment

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- ▶ Graphics inclusion

# L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Skills for Students: Advanced

- ▶ Cross-references

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- ▶ Cross-references
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- ▶ Presentation slides

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- ▶ Ideally students would be able to include graphics in problem sets, but that is not usually feasible given their time constraints; usually easier to print them from *Mathematica* and attach.
- ▶ Short papers require sections and citations, with only intermediate skills.
- ▶ Upper level class papers should show good use of structure and cross-referencing. Certain classes required students to revise term papers into presentations.

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- ▶ Constant practice, small increments

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- ▶ Students with a facility with  $\LaTeX$  should be encouraged to support their fellow students.
- ▶ Students should be introduced to  $\LaTeX$  commands as they need them.
- ▶ Expectations for writing mathematics, including  $\LaTeX$  skills, should be articulated for each mathematics class.

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<http://www.latex-beamer.sourceforge.net>
- ▶ *Guide to L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X* by Helmut Kopka and Patrick W. Daly is my favorite reference.