

Stage 2 Mathematical Methods Classes - 2019

Dear Parents and Students,

Tutors SA has established a successful, structured course for Stage 2 Mathematical Methods, which is based on the new Stage 2 SACE curriculum. We are focused on teaching, mentoring, and assisting students to the best possible level to gain higher grade for the subject. Overall, our past students have achieved exceptional results including subject merits for this subject and provided very positive feedback about the class and outcomes.

Group 1: Weekly Friday Classes – Starting 11 Jan 2019

Session Times: 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm (2 hours weekly)

Group 2: Weekly Thursday Classes – Starting 10 Jan 2019

Session Times: 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm (2 hours weekly)

1. Comparison of Stage 1 vs Stage 2 Maths Methods:

Compared to Stage 1 (Year 11 Maths sessions), Stage 2 Maths Methods classes are operated at a more reasonable pace, where students have more time to grasp concepts as well as to extend their knowledge once initial understanding is established. Lessons are structured in a way that it is in line with what students' study at schools. The depth we go into focuses on ongoing learning, summative assessments as well as the final exam, with high end results in mind.

2. A summary of the structure and extra support provided through Maths Methods sessions:

- 2.1** Start early to stay ahead of the school(s) so that student get to grasp concepts well at school and get to perform well in their summative tests.
- 2.2** Regular weekly homework to reinforce the concepts students have learnt. Conduct practice summative tests (based on past similar tests) at the end of **every core chapter before** their summative tests at schools.
- 2.3** Conduct a mid-year practice exam and discuss solutions.
- 2.4** Free support for Folio tasks (Directed Investigations) - Extra one-on-one help when required (direct help before and after the normal session times), review drafts, etc. Based on the new curriculum, there will be 1 directed investigation that accounts for 20% of the grade and hence this forms a critical component in the subject. **Our past students have highly appreciated this free support given to raise their grades.**
- 2.5** Free support for other difficult areas/questions - Extra one-on-one help when required (before and after the normal session times).
- 2.6** Complete the curriculum by mid/end of September 2019.
- 2.7** Structured revisions sessions (5 weeks minimum). Start revision early towards the final exam in November 2019. In 2018, we conducted 6 weeks of structured revision sessions and I am targeting to extend that further in 2019.
- 2.8** Conduct a full trial exam under exam conditions to give real practice of answering a 3-hour exam.

3. Learning material: We will be following the Mathematics for Australia 12 Mathematical Methods published by Haese Mathematics, which is the same book followed by most schools in SA for SACE Stage 2. All the extra learning material and homework material that will be used during these sessions will be provided for FREE for all the enrolled students.

4. Who will be conducting this course at Tutors SA?

Don will be conducting Stage 2 Maths Methods classes at Tutors SA. Don is the managing director, and founding owner of Tutors SA, and has been very committed to student development as a senior instructor/mentor for several years.

4.1. Don's Qualifications

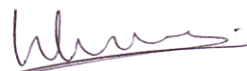
PhD (Electronic Engineering), The University of Adelaide; **Bachelor of Engineering (Computer Systems) with First Class Honours**, The University of Adelaide.

4.2. Don's Biography:

Dr Don Wenura Dissanayake is the managing director of Donash Australia Pty Ltd, which owns Tutors SA and STEM Centre Australia education institutes. Don has been working as a research scientist for more than 7.5 years at the Defence Science and Technology Group (DST Group, formally known as DSTO); one of the leading government organisations in Australia. Further, he also contributed as the External Engagement Manager at Technology Partnerships Office at DST Group, and collaborated with academia and other industry partners. Don is also an Adjunct Senior Research Fellow at the University of South Australia. In 2010, he worked as a lecturer and a course co-ordinator. Don has supervised and mentored research associates, masters and undergraduate students from various engineering disciplines. Don has developed a high level of research and development expertise in embedded computer systems and advanced digital signal processing fields. He has a relentless passion and recognised ability to teach and extensive tutoring experience (more than 15 years) for school years 5–12. Don has tutored and mentored more than 500 students to achieve successful outcomes in mathematics, physics and undergraduate engineering and mathematics subjects. Don is a successful academic who has completed his PhD in Electronic Engineering and Bachelor of Engineering (Computer Systems) with first class honours. In 2010, he received the prestigious Adelaide University Dean's Commendation for Doctoral Thesis Excellence. Don has co-authored a book on biomedical devices and has published over 20 journal articles and conference papers which he has presented internationally.

I hope this information is useful to you, and feel free to contact me for more information.

Kind regards
Wenura (Don)



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