One of the best learning experiences I had while attending the University of Utah was in Brendan’s class. I was enrolled in a math class only because there was no way to get out of it. Sitting in the back of a huge auditorium filled with students I sought to do the least amount of work possible, the bare minimum to pass the class. Surely I was not aimed to succeed and Brendan changed that. It wasn’t long before I realized that he cared about my learning and my success. He not only knew me by name but he knew the names of every student that packed the entire auditorium. I found myself wanting to do better because I didn’t want to let him down. He cared so much and put forth so much effort to help me; I had to improve. Soon I, and many other students, were regulars in his office. Brendan would take as much time as was needed to help us understand. I never felt rushed and always knew he would help me get it, no matter how long it took. Looking back, any success I had in that math class was due to two things: Brendans genuine desire to help me learn (which was reflected both his lectures and one-on-one), and how extremely generous he was with his time.

-Spencer Grider