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Day 1, Part 1

The first day of class can be nerve-wracking/exciting/overwhelming for both students and instructors. On most of my first days as a student, about five minutes was given for the syllabus and then we got to work – while my friends in other disciplines had “syllabus days” that meant their classes ended far earlier than they were scheduled to finish. As an instructor, I’ve tried to find a middle ground for my first days: taking the time to welcome students to the course and into our shared learning space, and also getting some math done. In this talk, I’ll speak about the first part of my first class of the semester, and how I aim to lay the groundwork for a positive classroom environment for the rest of the term.