

# math 55 at harvard

Math 55 at Harvard: The Ultimate Challenge in Undergraduate Mathematics

**math 55 at harvard** is often hailed as one of the most challenging undergraduate math courses in the world. For students passionate about mathematics, it represents both a rite of passage and an extraordinary opportunity to dive deep into advanced mathematical concepts. The course's reputation for rigor, intensity, and the high level of abstraction it demands has made it legendary not only at Harvard but throughout academic circles. If you're curious about what makes math 55 so unique, what it entails, and how students prepare for it, this deep dive will shed light on this iconic course.

## The Essence of Math 55 at Harvard

Math 55 is a two-semester course designed primarily for first-year students who have demonstrated exceptional talent and interest in mathematics. The course covers a broad spectrum of topics, including advanced linear algebra, abstract algebra, real analysis, and, depending on the year, sometimes elements of topology or number theory. What sets math 55 apart is not just the breadth of material but the depth and speed at which it is covered.

Unlike typical undergraduate courses that might take a semester to cover a single area, math 55 moves at a breakneck pace, challenging students to assimilate complex concepts rapidly and rigorously. The course is often described as a "fast track" to graduate-level mathematics, giving participants a solid foundation for research and advanced study.

## Who Takes Math 55?

Enrollment in math 55 is selective, attracting students who have excelled in math competitions like the AMC (American Mathematics Competitions) or who have a strong background in proof-based mathematics from high school. Many students entering math 55 have already mastered calculus, linear algebra, and introductory proofs, and they are eager to tackle abstract mathematical thinking.

Because of its difficulty, math 55 is not for everyone. Harvard itself acknowledges that only a small fraction of students can keep up with the course's demands. For those who do, it offers an unmatched experience in mathematical rigor and problem-solving.

## Course Content and Structure

Math 55 is divided into two parts: Math 55a in the fall semester and Math 55b in the spring semester. Each section covers different but complementary areas of mathematics.

## Math 55a: Foundations and Proofs

The first semester focuses heavily on abstract algebra and linear algebra. Students delve into groups, rings, and fields, learning how to construct and work with rigorous proofs. Topics often include:

- Group theory fundamentals
- Vector spaces and linear transformations
- Eigenvalues and eigenvectors
- Ring theory and polynomial rings
- Introductory real analysis concepts

What makes this part demanding is the expectation that students not only understand these concepts but can also prove theorems and solve complex problem sets regularly. The problem sets are notorious for their difficulty and depth.

## Math 55b: Advanced Analysis and Beyond

The spring semester typically transitions into real and complex analysis, measure theory, and occasionally topology. Students explore:

- Sequences and series of functions
- Continuity, differentiability, and integration in depth
- Metric spaces and convergence
- Introduction to Lebesgue measure
- Basic elements of topology

This semester solidifies students' understanding of analysis and prepares them for graduate-level mathematical research. The abstract nature of the material combined with the rapid pace continues to push students to their limits.

## The Challenge and Reputation of Math 55

Math 55 at Harvard is often described as a "weed-out" course, but this label doesn't capture its full essence. While it is undeniably tough, the course is designed to stretch the mathematical thinking of the most capable students and prepare them for advanced work.

# Why Is Math 55 So Difficult?

Several factors contribute to the course's legendary difficulty:

1. **Speed of Instruction:** The curriculum moves quickly, covering topics that might otherwise be spread over multiple semesters.
2. **Abstract Thinking:** The course demands a high level of abstraction, pushing students to understand and manipulate mathematical structures rather than just perform calculations.
3. **Rigorous Proofs:** Unlike computational courses, math 55 emphasizes constructing and understanding rigorous proofs, which can be challenging for even talented students.
4. **Heavy Workload:** Regular, challenging problem sets require hours of focused work.
5. **High Expectations:** Professors expect not just correctness but elegance and insight in solutions.

## Impact on Students

For many, taking math 55 shapes their entire academic trajectory. It can lead to research opportunities, graduate studies, and careers in theoretical mathematics, physics, or computer science. However, the workload and pressure can also be intense, and some students decide to switch to other math courses after the first few weeks. This decision is perfectly reasonable, as math 55 is not designed to be accessible to all.

## How to Prepare for Math 55 at Harvard

If you're considering enrolling in math 55, preparation is key. The course demands a solid foundation in both problem-solving and proof techniques.

## Mastering Prerequisite Skills

Before starting, students should be comfortable with:

- Calculus (single and multivariable)
- Introductory linear algebra concepts
- Basic proof-writing skills, including induction and contradiction
- Familiarity with set theory and functions

Many students benefit from taking Harvard's Math 21a or similar courses beforehand or from independent study through textbooks like Michael Artin's *Algebra* or Rudin's *Principles of Mathematical Analysis*.

## Practice with Problem Sets and Past Exams

One of the best ways to get a feel for math 55 is to review problem sets and exams from previous years. These materials, often available online through student forums or Harvard's course pages, provide insight into the type of thinking and rigor expected.

## Time Management and Study Groups

Given the intensity of math 55, managing your time wisely is crucial. Many students form study groups to discuss challenging problems and share insights. Collaborating with peers can make the experience more manageable and enjoyable.

## The Legacy and Influence of Math 55 at Harvard

Math 55 has produced many prominent mathematicians, scientists, and scholars who went on to make significant contributions in academia and industry. Its reputation as a breeding ground for mathematical talent is well-earned.

## Alumni Success Stories

Many former math 55 students have gone on to renowned graduate programs and careers in fields ranging from pure mathematics to economics and computer science. The course's rigorous training equips them with problem-solving skills and abstract thinking abilities that stand out in any discipline.

## Changing Over Time

Though math 55 has maintained its core structure, the curriculum and teaching methods have evolved. Recent years have seen adjustments to make the course more accessible without compromising its challenge, including better support systems and more collaborative learning opportunities.

## Why Math 55 Still Captivates Students

Despite its difficulty, math 55 at Harvard remains a coveted endeavor for many students. The allure lies in the intellectual challenge and the chance to engage deeply with pure mathematics at an early stage in one's academic life.

Many students describe the course as a transformative experience—one that

sharpens their analytical abilities and fosters a lifelong appreciation for the beauty and power of mathematics.

Whether you're a prospective Harvard student or just a math enthusiast curious about the course, understanding math 55 offers a glimpse into the highest levels of undergraduate mathematical education and the dedication required to excel in it.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is Math 55 at Harvard?**

Math 55 is an advanced undergraduate mathematics course at Harvard University known for its rigorous and challenging curriculum, covering topics in abstract algebra and real analysis.

### **Why is Math 55 considered so difficult?**

Math 55 is considered difficult because it covers a large amount of advanced material at a fast pace, requiring strong mathematical maturity, problem-solving skills, and dedication.

### **What topics are covered in Math 55?**

Math 55 typically covers abstract algebra, including group theory and ring theory, as well as real and complex analysis, often extending into topology and other advanced areas.

### **Who should take Math 55 at Harvard?**

Students with a strong background in mathematics, a passion for problem-solving, and an interest in pursuing advanced studies in math or related fields are ideal candidates for Math 55.

### **How does Math 55 compare to other math courses at Harvard?**

Math 55 is regarded as one of the most challenging math courses at Harvard, often considered a step above other upper-level courses in terms of difficulty and depth.

### **What is the typical workload like for Math 55 students?**

Math 55 students can expect a heavy workload, with frequent problem sets, challenging homework, and a fast-paced lecture schedule requiring significant time commitment.

### **Can students receive credit for Math 55 if they have AP or IB math experience?**

While AP or IB credits can demonstrate readiness, students still need to meet

Harvard's placement requirements and perform well on the Math 55 qualifying exam to enroll.

## How can students prepare for Math 55 before attending Harvard?

Students can prepare by mastering topics in linear algebra, calculus, and proof-based mathematics, and by practicing problem-solving skills and reading advanced math texts.

## Are there any notable alumni who took Math 55 at Harvard?

Yes, many accomplished mathematicians, scientists, and academics have taken Math 55, including Fields Medalists and prominent researchers in various fields.

## What resources are available to help students succeed in Math 55?

Students can use office hours, study groups, past problem sets, textbooks recommended by the course, and online forums to help understand the material and prepare for exams.

## Additional Resources

Math 55 at Harvard: A Deep Dive into One of the Most Challenging Undergraduate Courses

**math 55 at harvard** has gained a legendary status among mathematics students worldwide. Known for its intense rigor and demanding curriculum, this course represents a pinnacle of undergraduate mathematical education at Harvard University. Often cited as one of the hardest courses in the world, Math 55 attracts highly motivated students who seek to challenge themselves beyond the standard undergraduate offerings. This article explores the structure, content, and reputation of Math 55 at Harvard, providing an analytical overview for prospective students, educators, and enthusiasts alike.

## Understanding Math 55 at Harvard

Math 55 is a two-semester sequence designed for exceptionally talented and ambitious students interested in a deep and rapid immersion into advanced mathematics. Unlike typical introductory courses, Math 55 covers an extensive range of topics at a pace that demands not only a high level of mathematical maturity but also exceptional dedication and problem-solving skills.

The course is divided into two parts:

- **Math 55a** - Focuses on abstract algebra and linear algebra.
- **Math 55b** - Concentrates on real and complex analysis.

Together, these segments provide a comprehensive foundation in pure mathematics, often covering material that would typically span multiple undergraduate courses elsewhere.

## **Curriculum and Content**

The syllabus of Math 55 at Harvard is famously dense. In Math 55a, students delve into group theory, ring theory, module theory, and linear algebra with a level of depth that goes far beyond the standard undergraduate curriculum. The course assumes familiarity with proof-writing and mathematical logic, requiring students to engage with abstract concepts from the outset.

Math 55b shifts focus to analysis, where students explore metric spaces, point-set topology, measure theory, and complex analysis. The pace is swift, and the content is challenging, often paralleling graduate-level material. The course demands a mastery of rigorous proofs and an ability to synthesize complex ideas quickly.

## **Historical Context and Evolution**

Math 55 at Harvard has evolved over decades, reflecting shifts in mathematical pedagogy and the changing landscape of undergraduate education. Originally designed to accelerate students toward graduate studies, the course has maintained its reputation as a crucible for cultivating mathematical talent. Over time, the curriculum has been refined to balance breadth and depth, while preserving its challenge.

Though the course remains demanding, Harvard has adapted its approach to accommodate a wider range of students. For instance, an alternative track, Math 25, offers a somewhat less accelerated but still rigorous introduction to higher mathematics, demonstrating Harvard's commitment to diverse learning paths.

## **Why Math 55 at Harvard Stands Out**

Several factors contribute to Math 55's notoriety in academic circles and beyond:

### **Intensity and Workload**

Math 55 requires an extraordinary time commitment. Students often report spending upwards of 20 hours per week on problem sets and readings. The problem sets themselves are notoriously difficult, featuring problems that require creative insight, deep understanding, and advanced proof techniques.

### **Selective Enrollment and Preparation**

Due to its difficulty, Math 55 is generally reserved for students with exceptional mathematical backgrounds. Many enrollees have excelled in advanced high school mathematics competitions such as the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) or have extensive experience in proof-based mathematics. Harvard's admissions process for these students often considers their preparedness for such an intense course.

## Impact on Mathematical Development

Completing Math 55 at Harvard can profoundly influence a student's mathematical trajectory. Alumni often credit the course with sharpening their analytical abilities and preparing them for graduate-level study or research careers. The course's comprehensive nature gives students a broad toolkit applicable across many fields of mathematics and related disciplines.

## Comparisons with Other Advanced Undergraduate Mathematics Courses

Math 55's reputation is often compared with other challenging mathematics courses at elite institutions:

- **MIT's 18.701/18.702:** These are graduate-level algebra and analysis courses with a similar depth but typically taught over a longer timeframe.
- **Princeton's Math 501/502:** Known for rigor but often more specialized in focus compared to Math 55's broad scope.
- **Stanford's Math 115/116:** Advanced undergraduate courses with challenging content but generally less intensive in pace and volume.

Math 55's distinctiveness lies in its compressed timeline and vast breadth, combining multiple advanced topics into a single year-long sequence.

## Pros and Cons of Taking Math 55

### 1. Pros:

- Exceptional preparation for graduate-level mathematics.
- Exposure to a wide range of fundamental mathematical theories.
- Access to a community of highly motivated peers and distinguished instructors.
- Enhanced problem-solving and proof-writing skills.

## **2. Cons:**

- Extremely high workload, which may affect work-life balance.
- Potentially intimidating for those without a strong background in proof-based mathematics.
- Less time for other academic or extracurricular pursuits.

## **Instructor and Teaching Style**

Historically, Math 55 has been taught by some of Harvard's most renowned mathematicians. The teaching style emphasizes rigorous proofs, abstract reasoning, and problem-solving under tight deadlines. Lectures move quickly, often assuming students can assimilate complex concepts without extensive hand-holding.

This approach appeals to students who thrive in fast-paced, intellectually demanding environments but may pose challenges for those accustomed to more guided learning experiences. The course also encourages collaboration among students, fostering a competitive yet supportive atmosphere.

## **Student Experience and Outcomes**

Many students who undertake Math 55 report a transformative academic experience. The course's difficulty can be both a source of stress and profound satisfaction. Success in Math 55 often correlates with strong mathematical careers, with many alumni proceeding to prestigious graduate programs or research positions.

However, it is important to note that Math 55 is not the optimal choice for every student interested in mathematics. The course's intensity means that some students may choose alternative paths that allow for more gradual development of mathematical skills.

## **Conclusion: Math 55 at Harvard in Context**

Math 55 at Harvard remains a benchmark for mathematical excellence in undergraduate education. Its demanding curriculum, rapid pace, and comprehensive coverage continue to attract some of the brightest minds eager to push their intellectual boundaries. While not without its challenges, the course offers unmatched preparation for advanced study and a unique academic experience.

For prospective students, understanding the demands and rewards of Math 55 is essential to making an informed decision. As Harvard continues to evolve its mathematics offerings, Math 55 stands as a testament to the enduring value of rigorous, high-level mathematical training at the undergraduate level.

## **Math 55 At Harvard**

**math 55 at harvard:** *The Mathematics of Sex* Stephen J. Ceci, Wendy M. Williams, 2010  
Compressing an enormous amount of information--over 400 studies--into a readable, engaging account suitable for parents, educators, and policymakers, this book advances the debate about women in science unlike any other book before it. Bringing together important research from such diverse fields as endocrinology, economics, sociology, education, genetics, and psychology, the authors show that two factors--the parenting choices women (but not men) have to make, and the tendency of women to choose people-oriented fields like medicine--largely account for the under-representation of women in the hard sciences.

**math 55 at harvard: Frei wie in Freiheit** Sam Williams, Richard Stallman, Theo Walm, 2012-01-02 Biographie über Richard Stallman, den Verfasser der GNU GPL, Autor des gcc und Gründer der Free Software Foundation.

**math 55 at harvard: An Applied Mathematician's Apology** Lloyd N. Trefethen, 2022-06-06  
In 1940 G. H. Hardy published *A Mathematician's Apology*, a meditation on mathematics by a leading pure mathematician. Eighty-two years later, *An Applied Mathematician's Apology* is a meditation and also a personal memoir by a philosophically inclined numerical analyst, one who has found great joy in his work but is puzzled by its relationship to the rest of mathematics.

**math 55 at harvard: Research in Collegiate Mathematics Education II** James J. Kaput, Ed Dubinsky, Alan H. Schoenfeld, 1996  
The field of research in collegiate mathematics education has grown rapidly over the past 25 years. Many people are convinced that improvement in mathematics education can only come with a greater understanding of what is involved when a student tries to learn mathematics and how pedagogy can be more directly related to the learning process. Today there is a substantial body of work and a growing group of researchers addressing both basic and applied issues of mathematics education at the collegiate level. This second volume in *Research in Collegiate Mathematics Education* begins with a paper that attends to methodology and closes with a list of questions. The lead-off paper describes a distinctive approach to research on key concepts in the undergraduate mathematics curriculum. This approach is distinguished from others in several ways, especially its integration of research and instruction. The papers in this volume exhibit a large diversity in methods and purposes, ranging from historical studies, to theoretical examinations of the role of gender in mathematics education, to practical evaluations of particular practices and circumstances. As in *RCME I*, this volume poses a list of questions to the reader related to undergraduate mathematics education. The eighteen questions were raised at the first Oberwolfach Conference in Undergraduate Mathematics Education, which was held in the Fall of 1995, and are related to both research and curriculum. This series is published in cooperation with the Mathematical Association of America.

**math 55 at harvard: Free as in Freedom: Richard Stallman and the Free** Sam Williams, 2002-03 1e dr.: 2001.

**math 55 at harvard: Source Code** Bill Gates, 2025-02-04  
The origin story of one of the most influential and transformative business leaders and philanthropists of the modern age "A surprisingly candid memoir of the Microsoft mogul's early years...Reading this book feels like watching someone take a well-known black-and-white sketch, fill in the details, and paint it in vivid color." —GeekWire  
The business triumphs of Bill Gates are widely known: the twenty-year-old who dropped out of Harvard to start a software company that became an industry giant and changed the way the world works and lives; the billionaire many times over who turned his attention to philanthropic pursuits to address climate change, global health, and U.S. education. *Source Code* is not about Microsoft or the Gates Foundation or the future of technology. It's the human, personal story of how Bill Gates became who he is today: his childhood, his early passions and pursuits. It's the story of his principled grandmother and ambitious parents, his first deep friendships and the sudden death of his best friend; of his struggles to fit in and his discovery of a world of coding and

computers in the dawn of a new era; of embarking in his early teens on a path that took him from midnight escapades at a nearby computer center to his college dorm room, where he sparked a revolution that would change the world. Bill Gates tells this, his own story, for the first time: wise, warm, revealing, it's a fascinating portrait of an American life.

**math 55 at harvard:** Free as in Freedom [Paperback] Sam Williams, 2011-11-30 Free as in Freedom interweaves biographical snapshots of GNU project founder Richard Stallman with the political, social and economic history of the free software movement. It examines Stallman's unique personality and how that personality has been at turns a driving force and a drawback in terms of the movement's overall success. Free as in Freedom examines one man's 20-year attempt to codify and communicate the ethics of 1970s era hacking culture in such a way that later generations might easily share and build upon the knowledge of their computing forebears. The book documents Stallman's personal evolution from teenage misfit to prescient adult hacker to political leader and examines how that evolution has shaped the free software movement. Like Alan Greenspan in the financial sector, Richard Stallman has assumed the role of tribal elder within the hacking community, a community that bills itself as anarchic and averse to central leadership or authority. How did this paradox come about? Free as in Freedom provides an answer. It also looks at how the latest twists and turns in the software marketplace have diminished Stallman's leadership role in some areas while augmenting it in others. Finally, Free as in Freedom examines both Stallman and the free software movement from historical viewpoint. Will future generations see Stallman as a genius or crackpot? The answer to that question depends partly on which side of the free software debate the reader currently stands and partly upon the reader's own outlook for the future. 100 years from now, when terms such as computer, operating system and perhaps even software itself seem hopelessly quaint, will Richard Stallman's particular vision of freedom still resonate, or will it have taken its place alongside other utopian concepts on the 'ash-heap of history?'

**math 55 at harvard:** *Number Theory Related to Fermat's Last Theorem* Koblitz, 2013-11-21

**math 55 at harvard:** **Bulletin** , 1918

**math 55 at harvard:** **Bulletin** United States. Office of Education, 1918

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**math 55 at harvard:** **Power Up Your Math Community** Holly Burwell, Sue Chapman, 2024-09-02 A yearlong learning adventure designed to help you build a vibrant math community A powerful math community is an active group of educators, students, and families, alive with positive energy, efficacy, and a passion for mathematics. Students, teachers, and leaders see themselves and each other as mathematically capable and experience mathematics as a joyful activity. Power Up Your Math Community is a hands-on, 10-month guide designed to help you and your school maximize your students' math learning and strengthen your mathematics teaching and learning community. Each chapter offers a month's worth of practice-based professional learning focused on a desired math habit alongside parallel math problems and learning activities for teachers to use themselves and with students. This format allows educators to work together to improve math teaching and learning across a school year, building a strong foundation for students' mathematical proficiency, identity, and agency. The book ignites solutions and advocates for rigorous and joyful mathematics instruction for everyone—including school leaders, teachers, students, and their families. Authors Holly Burwell and Sue Chapman provide educators with a detailed roadmap for creating a positive and effective math community that supports all students' mathematical learning by Offering guidance on building a math community with chapter vignettes and prompts such as Mathematical Me, Let's Do Some Math, Since We Met Last, Let's Try It, Math Talks, Manipulatives and Models Matter, Game Time, and more Emphasizing an assets-based approach to teaching math that recognizes the unique strengths and experiences of each student Providing strategies for promoting growth mindset in math and equity and inclusion in math education Focusing on both classroom-level and building-level improvement as well as offering support for teachers, instructional coaches, principals, and district leaders Power Up Your Math Community will inspire

you to reimagine the way you teach math and empower you with the tools to make a lasting impact on your students' mathematical understanding. So, get ready to power up your math community and watch as your students thrive in their mathematical journey!

**math 55 at harvard:** Monthly Record of Current Educational Publications , 1914

**math 55 at harvard: Educational Survey of Elyria, Ohio** Benjamin Francis Andrews, Charles Homer Lane, Edith Reeves Solenberger, Henry Ezekiel Jackson, Louis Round Wilson, Mabel Louise Robinson, Stephen Beauregard Weeks, United States. Office of Education, Lester Alonzo Williams, 1918

**math 55 at harvard:** Handbook of the Tutte Polynomial and Related Topics Joanna A.

Ellis-Monaghan, Iain Moffatt, 2022-07-06 The Tutte Polynomial touches on nearly every area of combinatorics as well as many other fields, including statistical mechanics, coding theory, and DNA sequencing. It is one of the most studied graph polynomials. Handbook of the Tutte Polynomial and Related Topics is the first handbook published on the Tutte Polynomial. It consists of thirty-four chapters written by experts in the field, which collectively offer a concise overview of the polynomial's many properties and applications. Each chapter covers a different aspect of the Tutte polynomial and contains the central results and references for its topic. The chapters are organized into six parts. Part I describes the fundamental properties of the Tutte polynomial, providing an overview of the Tutte polynomial and the necessary background for the rest of the handbook. Part II is concerned with questions of computation, complexity, and approximation for the Tutte polynomial; Part III covers a selection of related graph polynomials; Part IV discusses a range of applications of the Tutte polynomial to mathematics, physics, and biology; Part V includes various extensions and generalizations of the Tutte polynomial; and Part VI provides a history of the development of the Tutte polynomial. Features Written in an accessible style for non-experts, yet extensive enough for experts Serves as a comprehensive and accessible introduction to the theory of graph polynomials for researchers in mathematics, physics, and computer science Provides an extensive reference volume for the evaluations, theorems, and properties of the Tutte polynomial and related graph, matroid, and knot invariants Offers broad coverage, touching on the wide range of applications of the Tutte polynomial and its various specializations

**math 55 at harvard: Inner Product Structures** V.I. Istratescu, 2012-12-06 Approach your problems from the right end It isn't that they can't see the solution. It is and begin with the answers. Then one day, that they can't see the problem. perhaps you will find the final question. G. K. Chesterton. The Scandal of Father 'The Hermit Oad in Crane Feathers' in R. Brown 'The point of a Pin'. van Gulik's The Chinese Maze Murders. Growing specialization and diversification have brought a host of monographs and textbooks on increasingly specialized topics. However, the tree of knowledge of mathematics and related fields does not grow only by putting forth new branches. It also happens, quite often in fact, that branches which were thought to be completely disparate are suddenly seen to be related. Further, the kind and level of sophistication of mathematics applied in various sciences has changed drastically in recent years: measure theory is used (non-trivially) in regional and theoretical economics; algebraic geometry interacts with physics; the Minkowsky lemma, coding theory and the structure of water meet one another in packing and covering theory; quantum fields, crystal defects and mathematical programming profit from homotopy theory; Lie algebras are relevant to filtering; and prediction and electrical engineering can use Stein spaces. And in addition to this there are such new emerging subdisciplines as experimental mathematics, CFD, completely integrable systems, chaos, synergetics and large-scale order, which are almost impossible to fit into the existing classification schemes. They draw upon widely different sections of mathematics.

**math 55 at harvard:** Gates Stephen Manes, Paul Andrews, 1994-01-21 Manes and Andrews reveal the guiding genius behind information technology and software such as Windows which have become such universal standards, including a bracing, comprehensive review of the industry and its goals, and how Bill Gates lead his company now and into the future.

**math 55 at harvard: Interaktion am Werk** Marei Fetzer, 2007

**math 55 at harvard: Collected Works of John Tate** Barry Mazur, Jean-Pierre Serre, 2016-12-13 In these volumes, a reader will find all of John Tate's published mathematical papers—spanning more than six decades—enriched by new comments made by the author. Included also is a selection of his letters. His letters give us a close view of how he works and of his ideas in process of formation.

**math 55 at harvard:** [The Education Index](#) , 1953-06

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