

What some of you wanted to know and others wished you didn't ask...

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**Question: Where did you grow up?**

I was born and raised in Hudson Falls, NY, which is on the east side of the large bend in the Hudson River.

**Question: Do you have any family?**

Yes, I have been married for over 6 years now and have two beautiful cats (Jimmy and Tommy). I have three brothers (two older and one younger) and three step-brothers and one step-sister. I have two nieces and two nephews on my side and about 13 on my husbands side.

**Question: Where did you go to college?**

University at Albany

**Question: Did you like Albany?**

I only lived in Albany for one semester and commuted the rest of my time there. I did enjoy the school and made many friends there.

**Question: What is it like to be a doctor?**

Good I guess, except that I have to let people know that I cannot save their life or prescribe medication.

**Question: Why West Point?**

- Close to family
- Prestige
- Put off finding a real job

**Question: How do cadets differ from civilian students?**

The biggest difference is that cadets attend class every day, so if I need to make an announcement, I do not have to post it on my website. I also like the uniforms. In the spring, there are some civilian students that wear less than appropriate clothes and it is distracting.

**Question: If you could change one aspect of USMA, what would it be?**

I would like to change the idea that the cadets' time is limited. No college students feels like they have enough time for all their work. A nice perk here at the academy is that there is scheduled study time and you don't have to get a job to pay for college, an apartment and food.

**Question: How do you feel the Thayer Method compares with other teaching methods?**

The Thayer method is the ideal situation where motivated students are interested in the material they are learning about and seek the knowledge without the guidance of an instructor. Unfortunately, our educational system has changed our style to be more formal and less self-directed. As a student of mathematics, I use the Thayer method in preparing for class as well as in my research.

**Question: Which do you like more, being an instructor or a student?**

A student. I choose to be an instructor to continue my education.

**Question: Why math?**

- I have always liked it.
- I have always been good at it.
- Most people are impressed when I say I do math!

**Question: Are you familiar with Saxon math and if so, what are your thoughts about the curriculum?**

No, I am not.

**Question: Most important topic for this course?**

In life: problem solving  
Here: time management

**Question: What are your goals for this course?**

Goals for the course is to see each student become better than they are right now.

**Question: What is your atmosphere in the class?**

Class atmosphere is created by the students

**Question: What is your teaching style like?**

My teaching style is a informal question and answer.

**Question: What do you like most about teaching?**

Learning from my students.

**Question: If given the opportunity to do it again, would you still go into the teaching field?**

Yes, in fact, I think I will do it even after I retire.

**Question: What is your policy on AI?**

I like to have an appointment scheduled, so that I can guarantee that I will be available, but walk-ins are welcome.

**Question: How patient are you with poor math students?**

In general, I am not a patient person. However, I like seeing students work through material on their own, so I find the patience for learning.

**Question: I would like to know your policy on feedback after graded assignments.**

I give extensive feedback on all work. You took the time to do it, and I will provide the comments where you could make improvements. Unfortunately, this often means that I will take a while to hand back assignments.

**Question: What are your expectations?**

- You are all adults and you will do what you need to be successful.
- I expect you to care more about your education than I do.
- All assignments with due dates will be on time.

**Question: What are your non-math hobbies or interests?**

- I love to try new things!
- running
- bicycling
- traveling
- reading

**Question: What is your favorite candy bar?**

Snickers.

**Question: Did you have fun in Seattle?**

Yes, I was there visiting my cousin and attending a math conference. I would love to spend more time there in the future.

**Question: Where do you want to live?**

I am generally happy wherever my husband and I are at the time. I like our home upstate, but don't anticipate it being our next home.

**Question: What has been the most defining moment in your life and how has it led you here?**

When I chose to transfer from the University of Pittsburg to the University at Albany. This choice was based on my personal life and led to me meeting my husband and choosing to continue into a graduate program in mathematics.

**Question: If you had the opportunity to travel around the world and campaign for one cause, what would it be?**

I still don't have a cause. I guess if I did, I would be supporting it now. I have helped many charities and organization, but I don't feel connected enough to their mission to campaign for them. When I find a cause worth campaigning for, I hope it comes from a positive experience and not a tragic event.