• “Challenge problems” are designed to have little (but some) impact on your grade whether you do them or not.

• Challenge problems provide an opportunity to work on something interesting and optional. They help address that some students in the course have more background in the area and are more interested in pursuing additional homework problems and concepts.

• Challenge problems will typically allow you to get 2–5% of additional credit on an assignment, yet they will typically be much more difficult than this credit amount suggests.

• You should not attempt a challenge problem until you have finished the rest of an assignment. The graders may ignore challenge problems on homeworks that are not at least “almost perfect” otherwise.

• Challenge problems may be less carefully specified and less carefully calibrated for how difficult/time-consuming they are.