



## COURSE EVALUATIONS

### Brief Responses for MATH245010 for 2019 Spr (2193) - Instructor Cioaba, Sebastian Marian

**Brief Responses** **Total = Responded / Enrolled**

QID	Question	Response Statistics					Total	Mean	Std Dev	
1439	Was the instructor well prepared for class meetings?	Never				Always	16 / 18	4.81	0.40	
		1	2	3	4	5				
15814	Please rate the instructor's ability to communicate clearly.	Poor				Excellent	16 / 18	4.56	0.51	
		1	2	3	4	5				
15815	Please rate the instructor's ability to write legibly on board/slides.	Poor				Excellent	16 / 18	4.5	0.89	
		1	2	3	4	5				
15816	Please rate the instructor's ability to explain ideas and techniques.	Poor				Excellent	16 / 18	4.25	0.86	
		1	2	3	4	5				
1443	During the scheduled office hours, was the instructor at the scheduled place for the scheduled period of time?	Never				Always	16 / 18	4.69	0.48	
		1	2	3	4	5				
1444	Was the instructor available at other times e.g. by appointment?	Never				Always	16 / 18	4.69	0.79	
		1	2	3	4	5				
1445	Were rules, grading policies and other requirements explained carefully at the beginning of the course?	Yes						100%		
		No						0%		
		<b>Total responded/enrolled:</b>					16 / 18			
1446	To date has the instructor been following his/her announced rules and grading policies?	Never				Always	16 / 18	5	0.00	
		1	2	3	4	5				
15817	Overall, I rate this INSTRUCTOR as a teacher:	Poor				Excellent	16 / 18	4.5	0.63	
		1	2	3	4	5				



## COURSE EVALUATIONS

### **Essay Responses for MATH245010 for 2019 Spr (2193) - Instructor Cioaba, Sebastian Marian**

**Question ID: 1117**

Additional Comments:

#### **Responses (10 of 18)**

Professor Cioaba is a good teacher and I feel like I learned to material. He presented it in a logical and engaging way. He had very high expectations of us. He wrote very intense exams, especially for only 50 minutes, and emphasized knowing how to do the proofs right away rather than allowing us to figure them out on the exams. He gave us a lot to study from and was always available for office hours. He genuinely wanted us to learn but the course as a whole was very difficult.

Funny, definitely keeps the class on their toes and expects a lot from students.

Professor Cioaba is one of the best math professors (and teachers in general) that I have ever had. While the material can be difficult, Professor Cioaba does an excellent job going in detail and explaining the intuition of a concept. Homework and exams are somewhat difficult and Cioaba is a very strict grader.

Very good math professor, able to articulate abstract mathematical concepts in a very clear way, always prepared for class and truly cares about how students learn the topics of the course.

This class is difficult. The class average is a little above 50% for every exam so far and it scares me.

Professor Cioaba was a very good professor, he was clear with regards to material as well as requirements

Very entertaining and knew the material very well, but expected way too much of us. This was an intro-level class, yet we started covering topics in higher-level classes such as Real Analysis and Abstract Algebra. I get that he was trying to prepare us for when we have to take these courses, but all of this was still too abstract (no pun-intended) for us to understand. Again, this was an intro-level class. The homework was fair, except for the one that randomly had 22 problems on it that took forever to complete. The exams were harder than he claimed they were because it very difficult to complete each exam problem unless the proofs were memorized, which is what I found myself doing. I was bothered every time he said that a concept was "easy" because it was new to us and was very difficult to understand at first. For office hours, I was completely lambasted every time I showed up if I didn't remember a concept from discrete math or if I didn't know how to approach a proof. In some ways this was good because it motivated me to study harder and get my act together. At the same time, it was also very discouraging. The whole point of going to office hours is to find out what I don't know so I can review it later on. I'm not sure if the professor saw it that way. He seemed to prioritize perfection over effort, and it is very alarming that this mindset spilled over into office hours where students are supposed to feel free to ask any questions.

Dr. Cioaba was one of my best professors this semester. His teaching style was vary engaging, and he showed a genuine interest in his students. I didn't experience this, but some people said he was intimidating due to his "nonchalant intelligence" and thus asked less questions than they would have otherwise. My one complaint is that the tests were very long for the allotted time. Sometimes I felt like I was being assessed on my writing speed more than my knowledge since I would write for the entire test time and only finish a fraction of the test. I usually got most the points I answered and new how to approach questions I didn't and merely ran out of time. I think this would be fixed by having the same length tests with an hour and 15 minute time slot. But that being said, this aspect of the course has been consistent for most of my intro/"weed-out" courses so maybe this isn't an issue.

Super funny and make us think deeper than conceptual ideas!!! Really like it!!!

great class



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### Brief Responses for MATH245010 for 2019 Spr (2193)

#### Brief Responses

QID	Question	Response Statistics					Total = Responded / Enrolled
1447	Given the class size, did the instructor return written work/exams in a reasonable time?	Never				Always	<b>Total:</b> 16 / 18 <b>Mean:</b> 4.63 <b>Std Dev:</b> 0.62
		1	2	3	4	5	
1448	In general, rate the class meetings for this course.	Poor				Good	<b>Total:</b> 16 / 18 <b>Mean:</b> 4.63 <b>Std Dev:</b> 0.62
		1	2	3	4	5	
1449	Rate the textbook for the course.	Poor				Good	<b>Total:</b> 16 / 18 <b>Mean:</b> 3.69 <b>Std Dev:</b> 1.35
		1	2	3	4	5	
1450	If the instructor prepared additional material and/or gave extra help sessions for the course, please assess their value to you.	Poor				Good	<b>Total:</b> 16 / 18 <b>Mean:</b> 4.25 <b>Std Dev:</b> 0.78
		1	2	3	4	5	
1451	Indicate your anticipated grade in this course.						
		<b>Total responded/enrolled:</b> 16 / 18					
17152	I am confident in my math ability.	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree	<b>Total:</b> 16 / 18 <b>Mean:</b> 4.31 <b>Std Dev:</b> 0.79
		1	2	3	4	5	
17153	I enjoy doing math.	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree	<b>Total:</b> 16 / 18 <b>Mean:</b> 4.5 <b>Std Dev:</b> 0.63
		1	2	3	4	5	
18307	How many hours on average per week did you work on the course material outside the class ?						
		<b>Total responded/enrolled:</b> 16 / 18					



## COURSE EVALUATIONS

### **Essay Responses for MATH245010 for 2019 Spr (2193)**

#### **Question ID: 1116**

Additional comments:

#### **Responses (12 of 18)**

Math245: Introduction to Failure. This is one really difficult class, but I definitely feel I learned what I wanted from the class. All I wanted was to learn how to learn how to write proofs, because I felt my proof writing skills were inadequate. Because of the difficulty, I switched to P/F grading.

The course goes into some depth in a variety of fields of mathematics. Learning to properly write proofs is something very important for mathematics. After taking this course I feel prepared enough to take an upper-level course such as MATH451

Challenging course that changed the way I perceive certain math concepts and ideas. Very rigorous course as well, and requires a lot of attention, reviewing and studying each and every week because the course moves very very quickly.

The lectures are good, but actually doing proofs on your own is different. The only way to get good at them is by practicing, but I don't know if I'm practicing them correctly. I also have a very limited selection of problems available to practice with.

The professor taught a bit fast and was sometimes hard to keep up with. The homeworks were very difficult and sometimes i did not feel prepared for them based on what we covered in class up to that point.

I feel that my experience and performance in the course probably doesn't properly reflect the course. I had other circumstances that prevented me from dedicating the time needed to this class. I probably should not have taken this class or withdrawn, but that's irrelevant at this. The course is difficult. Concepts themselves don't seem difficult, but the problem I had with the course was that we were given a lot of information that seemed very ambiguous as to how we would use it or why it was relevant. From my experience, classes tend to work up to a goal. It doesn't seem like we're working towards any type of actual "goal". It just feels like we're going over different topics that don't necessarily follow one another in any type of order, but are just supposed to lay the groundwork for future classes.

I've said all that I needed to say.

I really did enjoy this class. I always wanted to attend because Sebi made the class intriguing and genuinely cared about our understanding. Although this class is very difficult for me, I do not believe that its the professor's fault nor mine. I think it is just a subject that takes some time getting your head wrapped around.

This course was interesting and made me much better at math. It was hard, which is probably a good thing. I think it would have been better to have this as an hour and 15 minute course as opposed to a 50 minute course since some of the proofs spanned multiple classes. The tests were hard mostly due to time constraints as opposed to content difficulty which was somewhat frustrating but consistent with other intro/"weed-out" courses I have taken. I think there was a lot of overlap at the beginning of the course with MATH210 and this portion of the course should have moved more quickly since MATH210 is a pre-req (I also had just taken MATH210 in the previous winter session so others may disagree).

It would be better if you are not that strict with rules of homework!!1  
too difficult



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## **COURSE EVALUATIONS**

### **Essay Responses for MATH245010 for 2019 Spr (2193)**

#### **Question ID: 18309**

What advice would you give the students that will take this course next semester ?

#### **Responses (15 of 18)**

Go to his office hours, go to class, take very good notes and rewrite them. Start the homework early. Get into study groups. Don't blow this class off, it's possible to pass but you have to work really hard for the grade you want.

Study not until you get things right, but until you can't get things wrong.

Put in the time and you will succeed, and don't be afraid to ask questions

Spend time every single day reviewing notes from class, and go to every single lecture as they are key to completing homework assignments and preparing for exams.

Review notes carefully.

I don't know. Other students I've talked to say that you just have to keep working and pray for a C. start the homework early, master the material and ask lots of questions

Treat your notes with care, they're very important

Go to every class, go to office hours, and ask for help when you need it. Cioaba is more than willing to go the extra mile to help you if you are struggling, as long as you show you are willing to try.

This course will be very difficult if you performed poorly in Math 210. It is also very difficult if you do not do the homework, review notes, and reach out to the professor if you are performing poorly. With many other classes, it is easy to find helpful materials (articles, papers, videos, etc.) by a quick google search, however, it is much more difficult to find similar materials for this class.

This class will force you to change your study habits. The material is covered very fast and there are no study guides. Spending time reviewing the material each day is essential for doing well in this class.

REWRITE YOUR NOTES. Sebi told me this and it changed my confidence and knowledge of the course rapidly. ALWAYS ALWAYS ALWAYS ask questions as soon as you are confused or else everything piles up and you become lost. Lastly, remember that this is a tough course so as long as you keep trying your best, that is all you can ask of yourself and be proud of that!

Don't wait until the last minute to do homeworks or ask questions. The content isn't hard but it is a new way of thinking which takes time and practice.

Work hard and think connection between every concept you should be fine!!! Worth taking!!  
more time to take exam



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## **COURSE EVALUATIONS**

### **Essay Responses for MATH245010 for 2019 Spr (2193)**

#### **Question ID: 21159**

How would you rate the additional materials provided (the book draft in particular) ? Please write what you liked and what you didn't like.

#### **Responses (15 of 18)**

The draft book was helpful. I appreciated the examples and it was easy to follow.

Only really used once, as some problems were similar to homework problems. Otherwise, handouts had very minor typos.

The book draft did a good job further explaining the concepts learned in class. I feel that just reading the textbook without having concepts further explained in class, would not be as beneficial. Something that I really liked about the textbook was the drawings and intuition that supported a lot of the proof.

A few typos here and there but otherwise, a better textbook than the one offered by the bookstore

The book draft did indeed provide additional help to learning course material, the concepts and techniques are written in a very clear way and is much like the topics covered in lecture

Book draft provides some help understanding material but doesn't support all topics covered in the course

The book draft wasn't very helpful, but it was interesting. I relied on lecture notes. The sample problems with answers are very useful.

The book draft was useful for a more fundamental approach to the tools covered in class.

I liked the clarity of definitions and organization of chapters

Plenty of sample homework solutions from previous years, and Cioaba provides his own book to his students for free (while it is being drafted at least).

The text provided by the professor (his own text) was helpful. It was not completed, so I don't blame them for the occasional typo. I didn't use it enough to find an issue I had. I liked that class lectures seemed to follow what was in the text, making it easier to recap lectures by reading the text.

I didn't really use it to study because I didn't have time to read it.

I would occasionally look at the professor's textbook and it helped with clarification.

I didn't really use it so I can't comment. In looking for typos it looked like it was similar to what was covered in class so it's probably good, but I don't know.

Not much extra materials, but they are all great in general!

all of these a great