



COURSE EVALUATIONS

Brief Responses for MATH688010 for 2019 Fall (2198) - Instructor Cioaba, Sebastian Marian

Brief Responses		Response Statistics					Total = Responded / Enrolled		
QID	Question								
1439	Was the instructor well prepared for class meetings?	Never				Always	Total: 13 / 17		
		1	2	3	4	5	Mean: 4.85		
							Std Dev: 0.38		
15814	Please rate the instructor's ability to communicate clearly.	Poor				Excellent	Total: 13 / 17		
		1	2	3	4	5	Mean: 4.69		
							Std Dev: 0.63		
15815	Please rate the instructor's ability to write legibly on board/slides.	Poor				Excellent	Total: 13 / 17		
		1	2	3	4	5	Mean: 4.46		
							Std Dev: 1.13		
15816	Please rate the instructor's ability to explain ideas and techniques.	Poor				Excellent	Total: 13 / 17		
		1	2	3	4	5	Mean: 4.54		
							Std Dev: 0.88		
1443	During the scheduled office hours, was the instructor at the scheduled place for the scheduled period of time?	Never				Always	Total: 13 / 17		
		1	2	3	4	5	Mean: 5		
							Std Dev: 0.00		
1444	Was the instructor available at other times e.g. by appointment?	Never				Always	Total: 13 / 17		
		1	2	3	4	5	Mean: 4.54		
							Std Dev: 0.66		
1445	Were rules, grading policies and other requirements explained carefully at the beginning of the course?	Yes						100%	
		No						0%	
		Total responded/enrolled:					13 / 17		
1446	To date has the instructor been following his/her announced rules and grading policies?	Never				Always	Total: 12 / 17		
		1	2	3	4	5	Mean: 5		
							Std Dev: 0.00		
15817	Overall, I rate this INSTRUCTOR as a teacher:	Poor				Excellent	Total: 13 / 17		
		1	2	3	4	5	Mean: 4.62		
							Std Dev: 0.87		



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Question ID: 1117

Additional Comments:

Responses (8 of 17)

The class was always well prepared organized it was easy to follow. however, sometimes some words were hard to read on the board

The instructor didn't always write proofs thoroughly on the board nor indicated which steps were missing, which made studying after the class tough. Even though we had one week to submit each homework, it felt like a short deadline.

In my experience, the quality of math professors gets better as the courses get more difficult and this is certainly true for Dr. Cioaba. This was the hardest course I've ever taken and Cioaba is the best professor I've ever had as an undergrad.

Neat and precise work presentation in class, appreciated the style of teaching.

The professor is very passionate about what he teaches. He gets us involved in discussion during office hours and he always shows fairness toward us. He is actually a very good mentor for all of us as he shows a great deal of passion for education and he cares about each individual student.

The instructor was prepared for the meetings and has a very engaging teaching style. I looked forward to going to class every day. While the lecture style was engaging and mostly easy to follow, there were times when a little more formality would have been useful. Occasionally, there were diagrams or parts of proofs that needed to be referenced later that were erased. Some proofs were presented in a haphazard non-linear fashion zig-zagging back and forth across the board which made following the flow a bit difficult and also made reviewing notes later more difficult. Overall, the informal and engaging style was beneficial even if linearity and clarity were sacrificed.

One of my best teachers and the only reason I took/enjoyed this class

Sebi is one of the best professors I've ever had. His lectures are well structured and clear, he is engaging, and his assignments (while difficult) are purposeful.



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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	Total: 13 / 17 Mean: 4.77 Std Dev: 0.44
		1	2	3	4	5	
1448	In general, rate the class meetings for this course.	Poor				Good	Total: 13 / 17 Mean: 4.69 Std Dev: 0.85
		1	2	3	4	5	
1449	Rate the textbook for the course.	Poor				Good	Total: 13 / 17 Mean: 4.15 Std Dev: 0.90
		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	Total: 12 / 17 Mean: 4.75 Std Dev: 0.45
		1	2	3	4	5	
1451	Indicate your anticipated grade in this course.						Total responded/enrolled: 13 / 17
		A or B					61.5%
		B or C					38.5%
		C or D					0%
		D or F					0%
17152	I am confident in my math ability.	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree	Total: 13 / 17 Mean: 4.31 Std Dev: 0.85
		1	2	3	4	5	
17153	I enjoy doing math.	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree	Total: 13 / 17 Mean: 4.69 Std Dev: 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 ?						Total responded/enrolled: 12 / 17
		>14 hours					41.7%
		7-14 hours					33.3%
		4-7 hours					25%
		1-3 hours					0%
		<1 hours					0%



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Essay Responses for MATH688010 for 2019 Fall (2198)

Question ID: 1116

Additional comments:

Responses (7 of 17)

The professor always offers to help and patiently explaining the homework to me, give plenty of office hours and material. I learned a lot in this class that is helpful for my research. However, it was hard for me to meet the expectations of the course, and the grades didn't reflect my effort.

Loved the course - tough but rewarding.

Great combination of introductory topics.

The grading system that this professor uses is very inflexible, as the assignments are worth 10 points, the questions are worth 2points each and each error is a subtraction of 0.5 points, or 5% of the assignment grade. Due to the grading scale, each whole point on an assignment directly corresponds to about 1% of the final grade. This leaves no way to recover from one poor assignment, despite high scores on the remaining assignments. I would prefer that the professor use a different grading scheme in the future.

I really enjoyed the course content and it inspired and motivated me in the area of my career.

I found the structure of the course encouraged me to put in many hours of work. The problems assigned we not so numerous as to be daunting or discouraging, but still covered all important topics. The homework and exam problems were very well written and selected. One point of frustration in the structure of the HW problems for me was the timing of assignment. Often problems were assigned before we covered the material, or a key hint or clarification would be given shortly before the assignment would be due. I am one who likes to start on problems early. Often I would research, complete, and type a HW problem, spending many hours on it, only for it to be trivialized in the following lecture. I found this frustrating. This could be remedied if the instructor assigned problems after we covered the material, or gave us warning that we would cover material for specific problems at a later date. I found the lack of timed, closed book exams to be beneficial to my learning. I learned a great deal and will be able to use a great deal of what I learned without the need to memorize formulas or proofs only to forget them later. This also reduced unnecessary stress. I was able to tackle more difficult problems and learned more because of this structure.

Very hard, not sure if I'm going to directly use anything from it, I'm glad I took it



COURSE EVALUATIONS

Essay Responses for MATH688010 for 2019 Fall (2198)

Question ID: 18309

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

Responses (9 of 17)

I consider that any student this course should have a strong mathematical background, in my case not having it make it hard to finish the homework and exams I need to do research in most of the terms that were supposed common knowledge.

Start homework early and go to office hours if you get stuck. The professor's really friendly and helpful.

Follow up on class work and discussion as soon as possible by extra reading and HW solving.

See previous comment about grading system.

Go to office hours! Assignments are non trivial and (in my experience) the real learning happens while discussing problems with other students and the Professor.

Even though there's no prerequisites, some background knowledge is expected and useful (e.g., abstract and linear algebra)

Be prepared to spend 15-30 hours outside of class on homework/take home exams.

First, take notes carefully. Second, go to office hour. Thirdly, read the textbook from the professor.

Last, don't forget the wiki.

Work Harder, Get Better