

Winter 2021 University of Manitoba Student Ratings of Instruction (UM SRI) Core Question Report

This report contains the summary of UM SRI results from Winter 2021 courses with regular course end dates.

Students were invited to share their feedback on the teaching and the course material to help improve the overall quality of education at the University of Manitoba. As part of this goal, all instructors receive an Individual Report for developmental purposes (i.e., to identify strengths and areas for improvement related to their teaching methods). Contents of this report include frequencies and comments from the **core questions** that may be used to guide instructors in the preparation of teaching development plans.

We encourage instructors to examine the results carefully, to seek to understand them, to take note of patterns, to draw logical conclusions, and to act on the valuable feedback that students have provided.

When interpreting the results, please consider the following:

1. The evaluations stem from student perception and the validity increases proportionally with the number of responses. A teaching development plan should be based on the most representative results and less on outlying responses.
2. Students may have provided open-ended feedback in response to two core questions.
3. This core question report is shared with the instructors and their respective Department Heads, Deans, and the Office of the Provost.
4. If an instructor added questions to the course evaluation via Question Personalization (QP) Tasks, only the instructor will be able to view responses to these questions, which will be sent to the instructor in a separate report.

A PDF version of this report can be downloaded and saved to your computer to keep for your records.

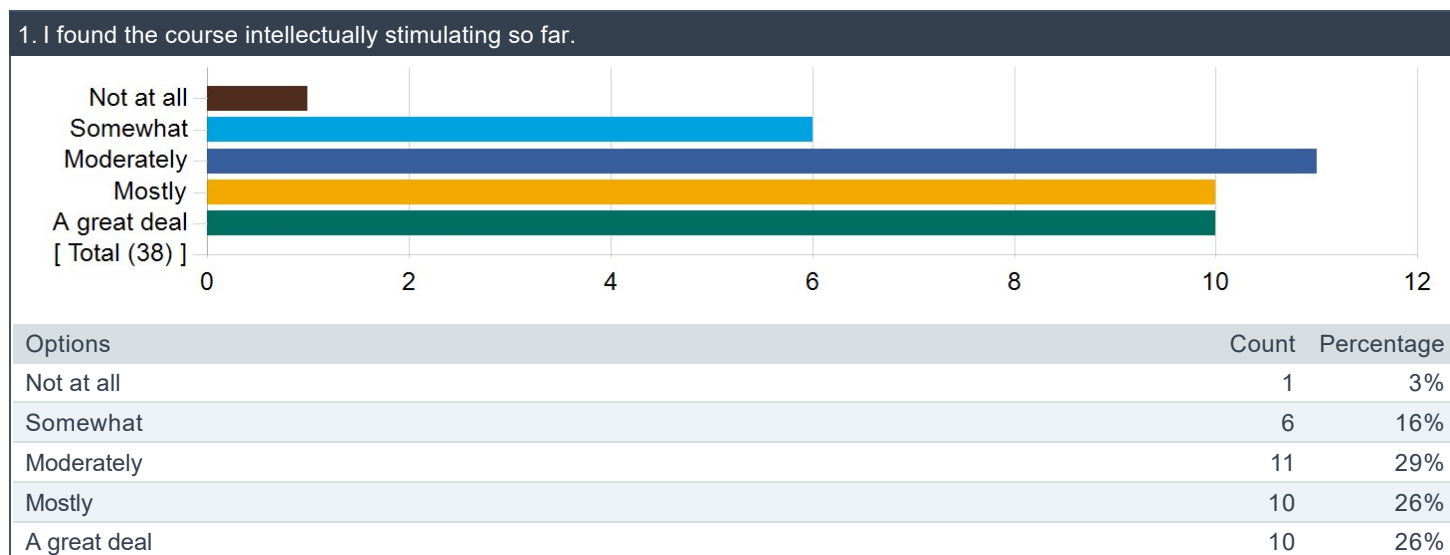
Response rate

Raters	Students
Responded	38
Invited	148
Response Ratio	26%

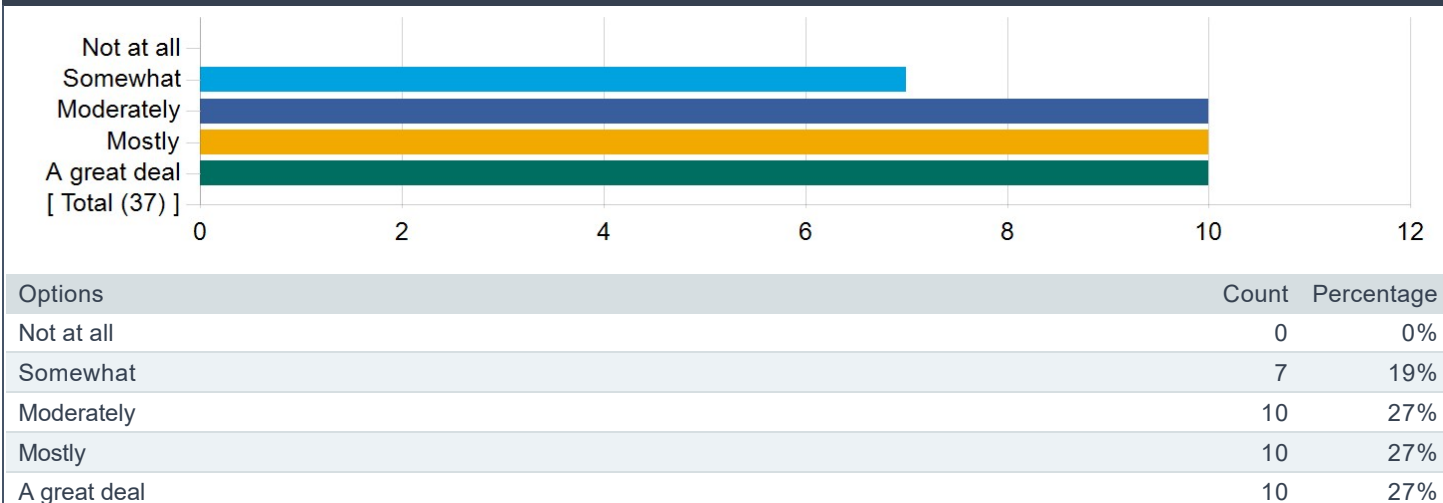
Course evaluation results for core questions

Responses to single-selection questions

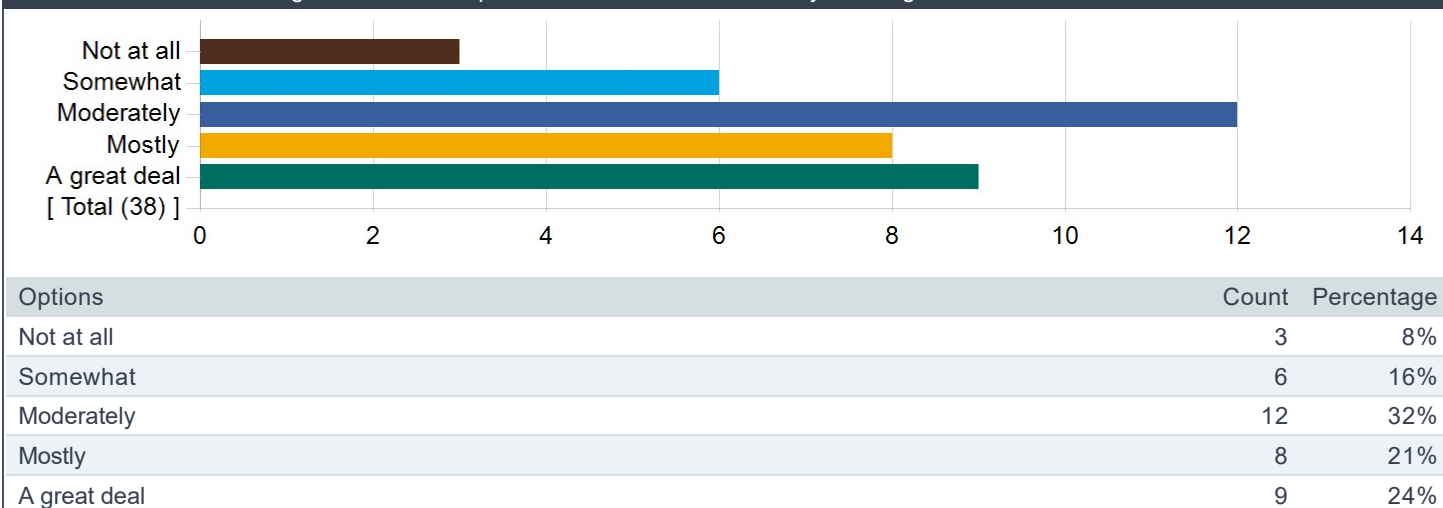
Core questions (1 = Not at all to 5 = A great deal)



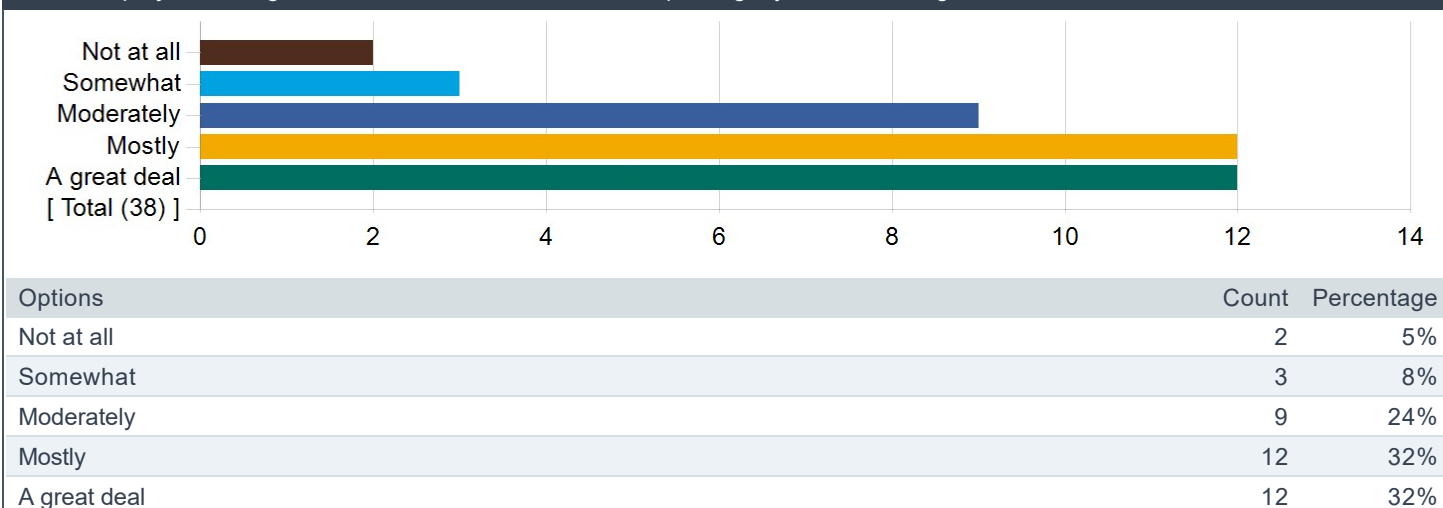
2. The course is providing me with a deeper understanding of the subject matter.



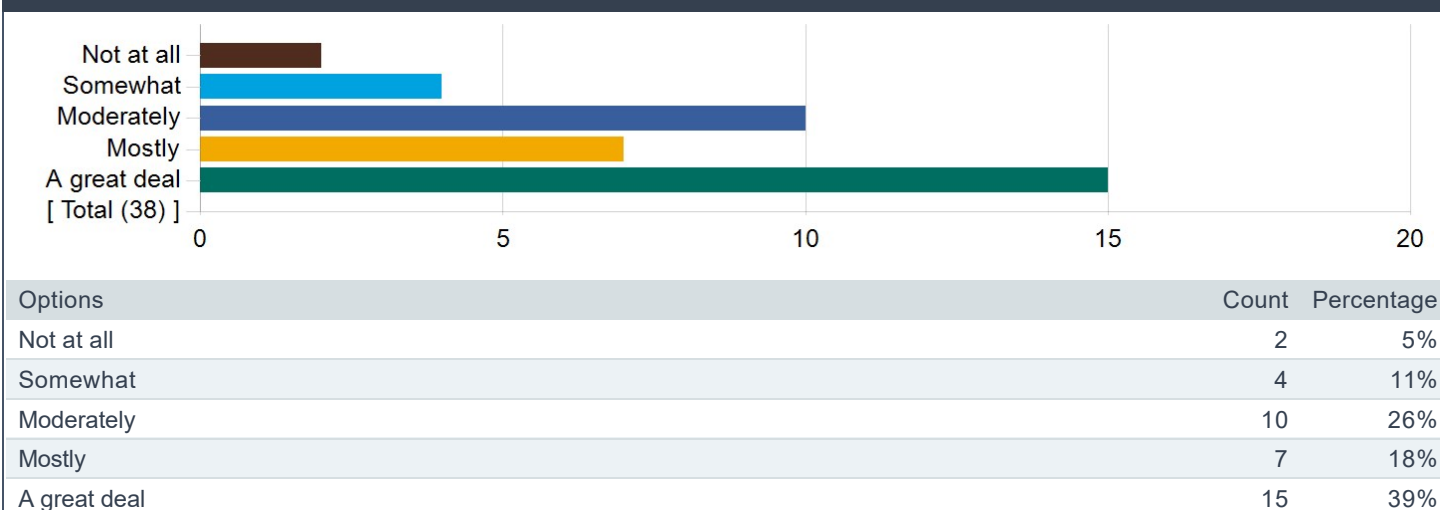
3. The instructor is creating a course atmosphere that was conducive to my learning.



4. Course projects, assignments, tests, and/or exams are improving my understanding of the course material.

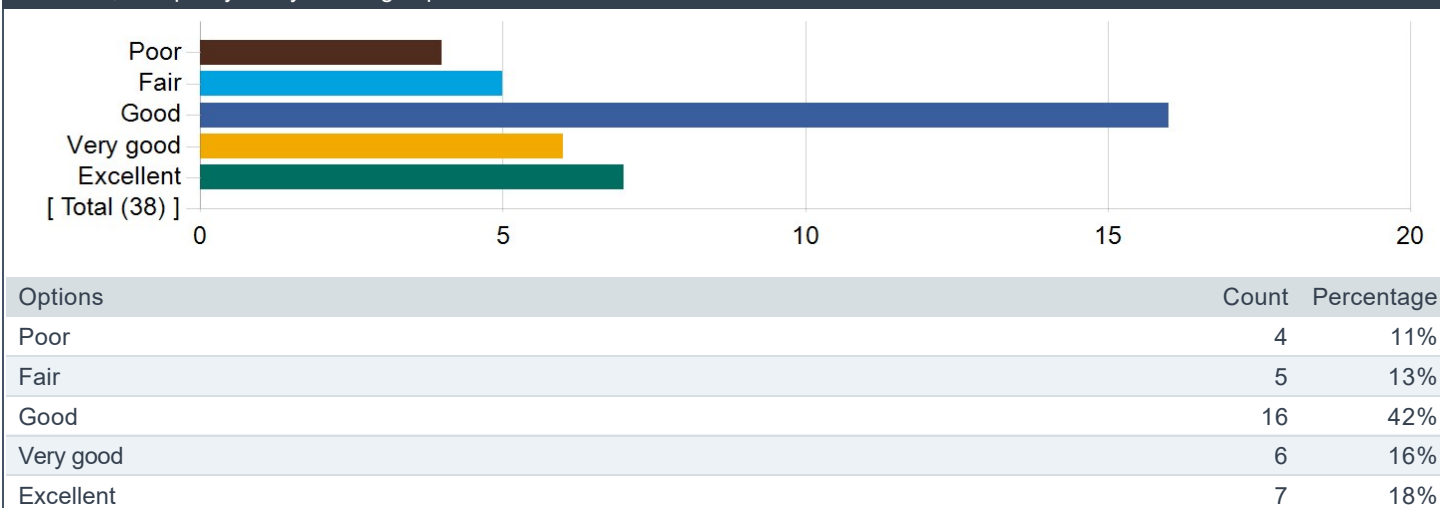


5. Course projects, assignments, tests, and/or exams are providing an opportunity for me to demonstrate an understanding of the course material.

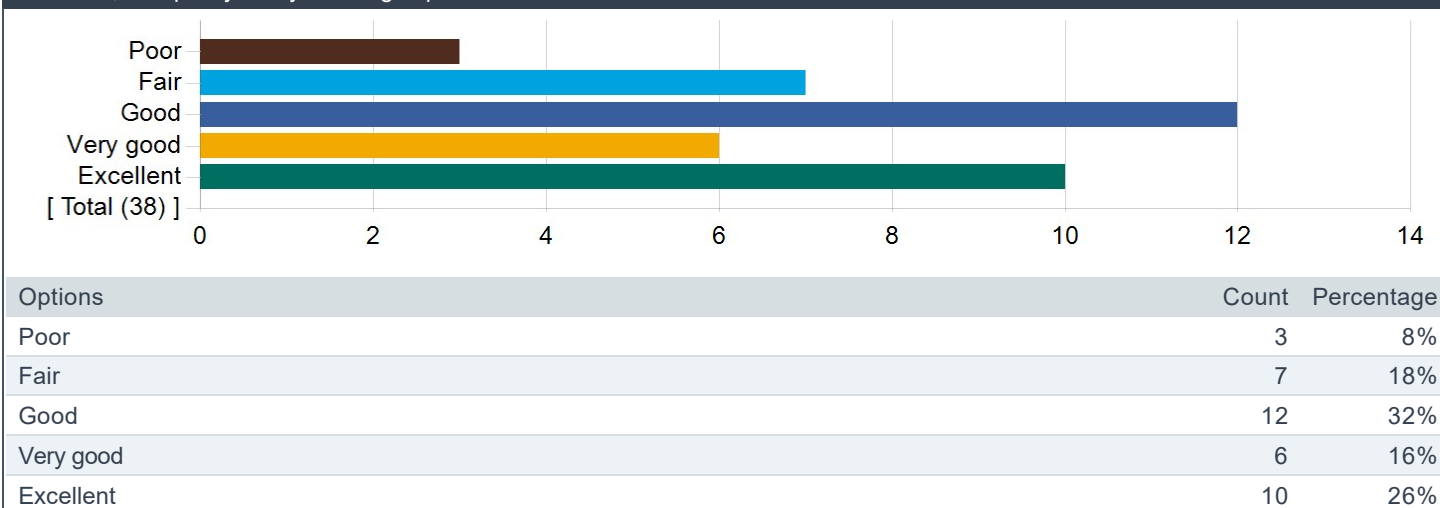


Core Questions (1 = Poor to 5 = Excellent)

1. Overall, the quality of my learning experience in this course so far is . . .



2. Overall, the quality of my learning experience with this instructor so far is . . .



Responses to open-ended questions

What did this instructor do to facilitate my learning within this course?

Students
Practicing questions with the teacher helped understand how to solve the material best. I appreciated the lectures were recording for later use, when necessary. The website providing access to other material from other sections was much helpful. The question periods worked best for helping understand specifically what I am struggling with. I greatly appreciated the available copy of the calculus book in pdf being available on UM Learn.
For the topic of logarithmic differentiation/implicit differentiation you uploaded a video explaining how to solve some questions from the conceptual slides that we were not able to get to in class. I found that video extremely helpful, and would have liked more of those. However I understand that it is not possible to record 1hr 30min videos for each topic, but maybe if you recorded video solutions for some harder problems from more difficult topics that would be extremely helpful for future students.
He made sure that the students knew what was happening before moving on.
He allowed us to ask questions in class, updated his website regularly and always followed up with answers to people's questions in class. His website was also organized and always willing to add office hours.
I appreciated the recorded lectures and notes being available on the professor's website as I was not able to attend the live lectures due to my work schedule. During the lectures there were many helpful tips and practice questions done to help me better understand the topics. I really appreciated the availability and how quick the professor was to answer any questions or emails. I would also like to comment on the layout of the tests. It took a LOT of pressure off of me knowing that if I complete all of the weekly tests, then I would not have to do a final exam. So thank you for that!
had plenty of examples to do work and provided lots of opportunities for students to learn or seek help if needed.
Overall, I thought the instructor for this course was fantastic. By having an office hour period before each class it allowed for students to clarify certain aspects of the content or ask questions before shifting the focus to new material.
class recording
This instructor went over examples for each topic which improved my understanding of certain topics. The early optional start time before lectures was helpful and great opportunity to ask questions.
He provided extra materials to help with understanding of the concepts.
His office hours were very helpful, very nice when it came to explaining
he explained every point in a manner where we could understand easily and grab hold of the subject matter in a more efficient way.
he also responded to our questions immediately and was very helpful regarding to any subject related matter.
Our instructor is a very nice ready to dedicate and help student with questions, he was sincere and helpful
provided lots of practice questions
Near perfect course.
He would answer the student's questions with deeper understanding
Nothing really he was a bit too fast for my liking I couldn't really understand what he was saying most of the time
He had class for additional time and allowed it to be student led.
Going slower on the tougher concepts in class really helped with my understanding of harder concepts. And doing a lot of practice problems in class also helped with my understanding of the concepts.
Fei Qi was very open for questions and extra time for tutoring. Very much appreciated!
Provided a certain amount of time to tutor students on the material.
Went over a multitude of examples during his lectures to help better understand the material
Provided all I needed to study
He always explained everything in details which I liked so much
Professor Qi covered all material during our course times. Professor Harland (course coordinator) provided excellent pre-lecture videos and problem slides that were very clear and covered the course content sufficiently in preparation for the lectures as well as the tests. Problem Worksheets with answer videos were also given as supplementary learning materials by Professor Harland. The course was challenging, but I found all material learnable through diligence and the resources provided.
He taught pretty good and I understood.
The instructor was open for questions and always made sure the class was not behind with the current topics.
My instructor held live lectures and recorded them, he also had concept slides and problem questions with solutions on his own website with all the learning materials.

How might this instructor improve this course?

Students
I wish the lectures contained more practice questions over theory and instead, integrated theory into the practice questions. I wish the question periods were longer as they helped me understand exactly what was needed. Nick Harland's YouTube videos were the most concise and effective way for me to learn the material. Similarly, for the theory and basic understanding, I found reading the book to be helpful. Although these are helpful, they provide only a few examples, which is why I find the question periods so helpful. I recently learned of the Math Help Centre, but wish it was more advertised and more accessible, as I really could've used it earlier in the course. The practice worksheets were a bit too scattered. I wish they were associated with tests, so when preparing, students could go through one of the practice sheets and be ready. I kind of wish the worksheet videos were on YouTube, as I find the site easy to use. On YouTube, there is a chapter feature, where the video can be split up into multiple sections; this could greatly in finding exactly the question you are practicing. In the lab section, I found the worksheets were labelled differently than the regular (A) section, which created some confusion. On the lab, I wish the solution sheets were all uploaded from the beginning, as reading step-by-step in text is very helpful. The grade compensation was lacking, especially for such a difficult course. My grades aren't the best and so I've been struggling mostly throughout the course. Removing the mark of one of the tests is helpful, but I find a small misunderstanding in the content can result in many marks being lost. As such, a couple tests receive low grades because of a couple minor understandings. Regardless of how well I studied, there always seemed to be something minor which caught me off guard. A solution to this problem could be allowing one retake per test to account for such details that the student may have missed.
In general I had an excellent experience in this course and learned a lot. I came away with a deeper understanding of the concepts because you are good at explaining them. However at times it was a little stressful when we became behind in the lecture material and sometimes things felt rushed. I think maybe shortening the conceptual slides for certain topics would help with this.
He could make the course more fun to listen to.
There is a LOT of work associated with this class. I understand that the pre-recorded videos are there to help us, but doing anywhere's between 15mins to 2 hours worth of videos before each class, plus needing time to write down notes is unreasonable. I feel like by doing so, is taking advantage of things being online, which is not fair for students. Additionally, having a test every week is stressful and I feel like that should have been taken into consideration. I feel so drained by the end of the semester from having a test every week.
In terms of him as an instructor, I wouldn't really suggest anything.
This is not necessarily the professor, but I would like to comment on the amount of videos for this last test (as I'm sure other students are also doing). The material we are expected to cover is quite a lot for one week (especially compared to previous weeks) and I am quite stressed about it. I understand it is the last test and therefore longer, but I believe I would be able to do a lot better on it with a bit more time to study.
The format for tests was frustrating considering how we are given a limited time to upload and it is a somewhat lengthy process to take a picture of your work upload it to your computer convert it to a jpg and then upload it to crowdmark, especially with slow wifi. I feel students shouldn't be punished based on their internet connection especially during tough times like a pandemic. I think tests should be restructured.
Perhaps only focusing on using 1 textbook resource would be beneficial for the students. Sometimes I found that certain aspects in the lecture were not as emphasized on the tests so focusing on the specified lecture slides would be best.
taking more time to explain things
This instructor need to write clearly for students to understand, the written notes were sometimes hard to understand. They need to try to finish the lectures on time.
I could think of no more way for him to improve.
One of the best teachers I've ever studied under.
To be sincere some of his class was understanding but when I decided to go further and watch some videos from instructors I realize that what they give in the test is completely different from what we are taught at least they should try to bring something similar
speaking slower
Be a bit slower in talking sometimes
No notes.
Time management. I believe we were a little bit behind
He's good as he is and he always wants the class to follow what he's saying its just that his method of teaching works with a select few people and I'm not one of those people
He went too far into detail and did not explain concepts well. I eventually stopped attending his lectures due to complex notes and because I found his teaching style to be confusing. He would read off the slides and write down equations without explaining where they came from. I instead attended Dr. Harland's lectures and got a tutor as I found I would do poorly if I continued to stay in Dr. Qi's lectures. Dr. Harland explained things well and explicitly stated what he expected on tests.

Students
I believe Fei Qi is doing everything that he can to help students better understand the course material
Post everything on UMLearn, not on the external website.
Nothing really
The course textbook was not always very helpful. When going through practice problems, it only provided answers for 1 out of every 2 questions, and the answers never provided explanations. I think the answer key could be more thorough to help supplement learning. I ended up doing more practice problems from other sources such as the previous midterm/exam booklets and Grant's Tutoring textbooks.
Every thing was good. Personally i liked it the way he was teaching and providing information.
I think there was a disconnect between the professors teaching and the actual questions on the test. The way I was asked to solve questions on the test was different from how I learnt them on during class, so when I got questions right but was marked unfairly because of how the test coordinator would mark the test.