



University of Connecticut

Student Evaluation of Teaching Spring 2020

Individual Report for MATH-2110Q-140-STORR-Multivariable Calculus

Instructor: **Sougata Dhar** (SET Primary Instructor)

Response Table

Raters	Students
Responded	39
Invited	241
Response Ratio	16%

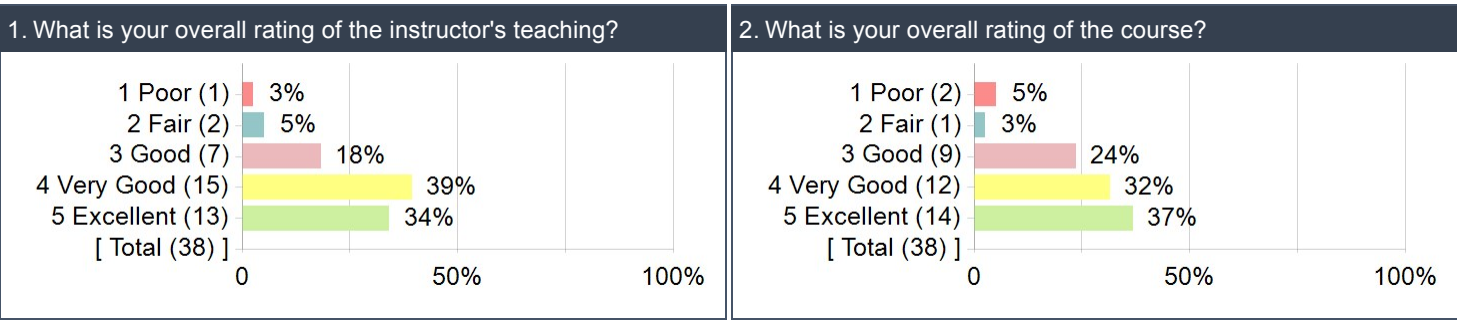
What is your overall rating of Sougata Dhar's teaching?

Question	Course		Department (MATH-Course Level 2000- FEIN)		School (CLAS- Course Level 2000-FEIN)		University (Course Level 2000-FEIN)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
What is your overall rating of the instructor's teaching?	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.1	4.3

What is your overall rating of the course?

Question	Course		Department (MATH-Course Level 2000- FEIN)		School (CLAS- Course Level 2000-FEIN)		University (Course Level 2000-FEIN)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
What is your overall rating of the course?	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0

Overall Rating



Section 1. Summary

Please respond to the following questions about instructor Sougata Dhar:

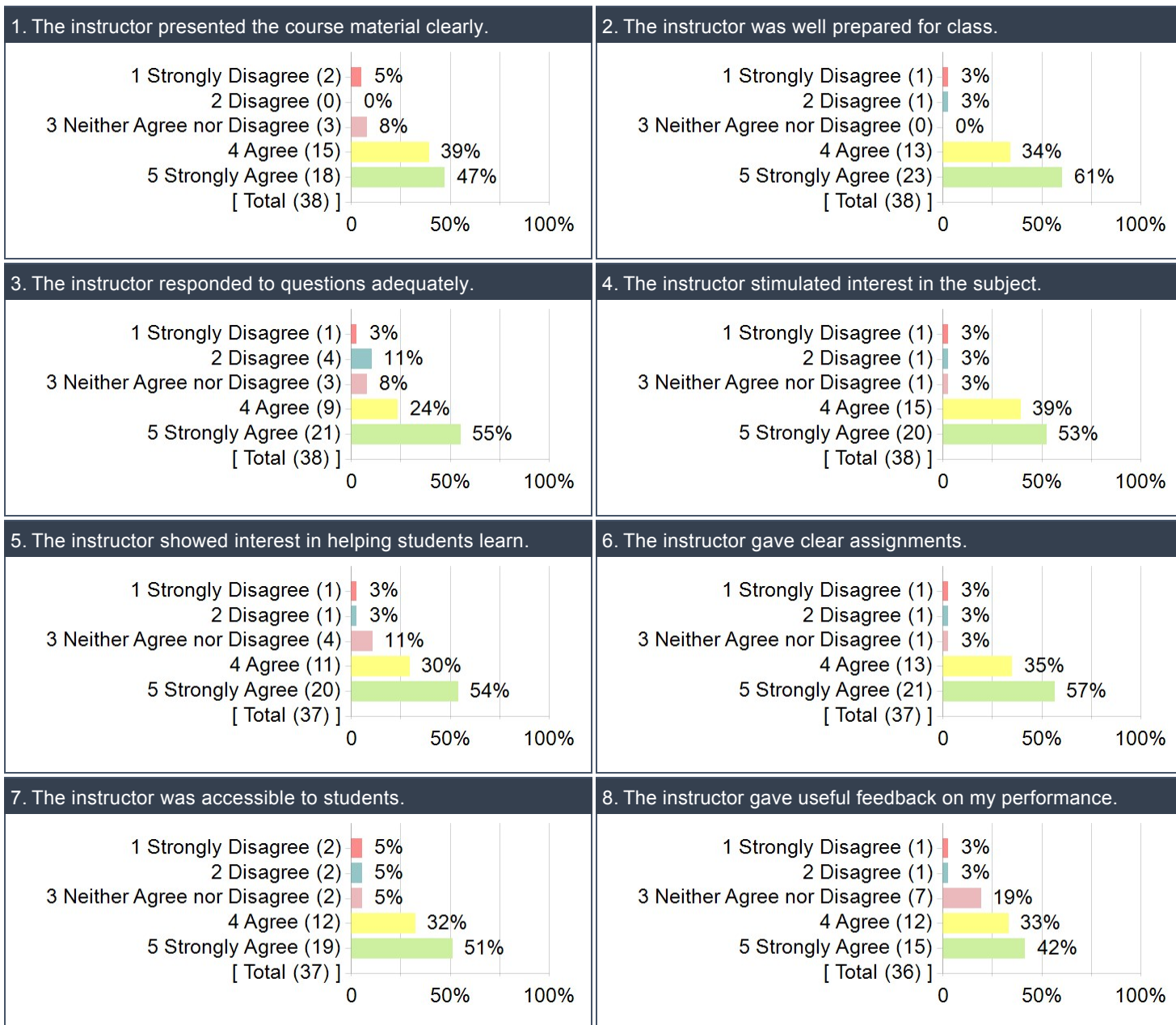
Question	Course		Department (MATH-Course Level 2000- FEIN)		School (CLAS- Course Level 2000-FEIN)		University (Course Level 2000-FEIN)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
The instructor presented the course material clearly.	4.2	4.0	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The instructor was well prepared for class.	4.5	5.0	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6
The instructor responded to questions adequately.	4.2	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.6
The instructor stimulated interest in the subject.	4.4	5.0	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.6
The instructor showed interest in helping students learn.	4.3	5.0	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.7
The instructor gave clear assignments.	4.4	5.0	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The instructor was accessible to students.	4.2	5.0	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6
The instructor gave useful feedback on my performance.	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.4
The instructor returned graded work in a reasonable amount of time.	4.5	5.0	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.5
The instructor used class time effectively.	4.4	5.0	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.5
The instructor treated all students with respect.	4.2	4.0	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.7
The instructor graded fairly.	4.4	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6
The instructor's teaching methods promoted student learning.	4.2	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5

Please respond to the following questions about the course:

Question	Course		Department (MATH-Course Level 2000- FEIN)		School (CLAS- Course Level 2000-FEIN)		University (Course Level 2000-FEIN)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
The methods of evaluating student learning seemed appropriate.	4.4	5.0	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.4
The course content was well organized.	4.3	5.0	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The course objectives were clear.	4.4	5.0	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The course objectives were met.	4.4	5.0	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The course materials made a valuable contribution.	4.2	5.0	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.4
The pace of the course seemed appropriate.	4.3	5.0	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.4

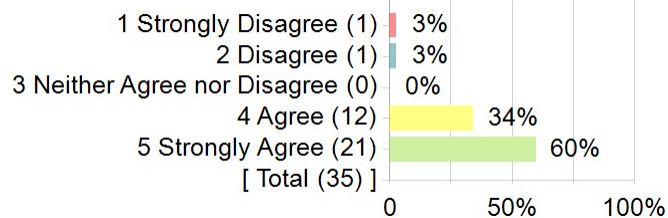
Section 2. Questions About the Instructor

Please respond to the following questions about instructor Sougata Dhar:

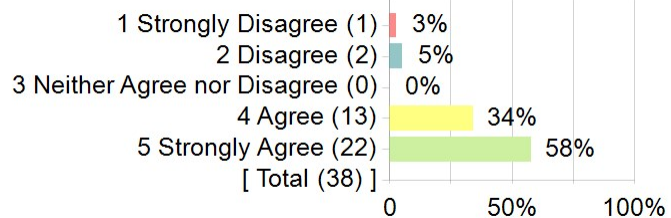


Please respond to the following questions about instructor Sougata Dhar: (continued)

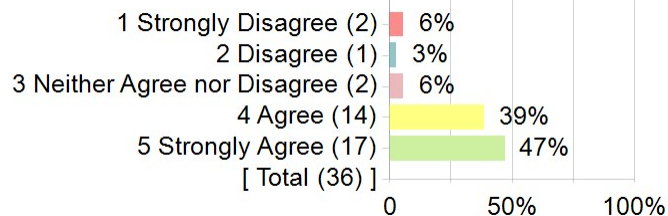
9. The instructor returned graded work in a reasonable amount of time.



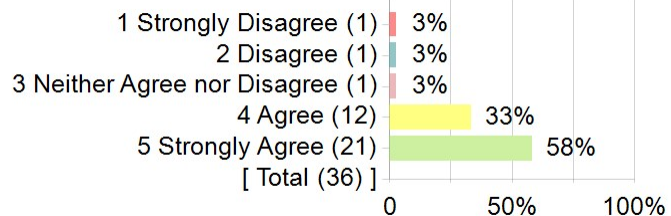
10. The instructor used class time effectively.



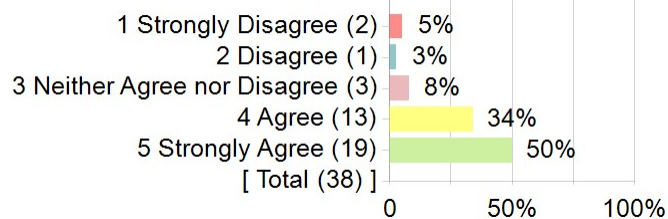
11. The instructor treated all students with respect.



12. The instructor graded fairly.



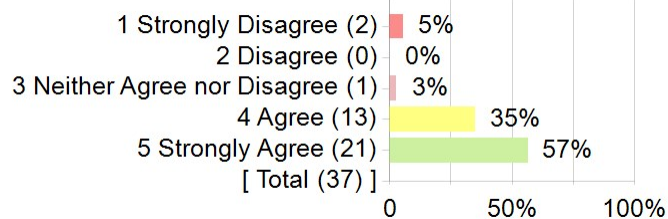
13. The instructor's teaching methods promoted student learning.



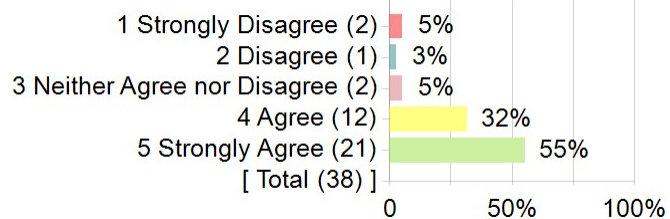
Section 3. Questions About the Course

Please respond to the following questions about the course:

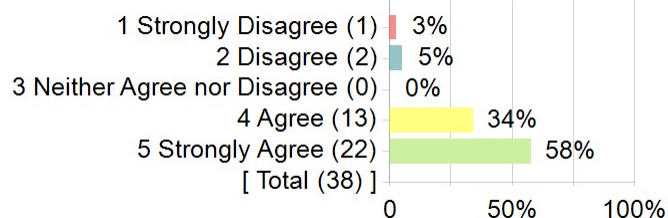
1. The methods of evaluating student learning seemed appropriate.



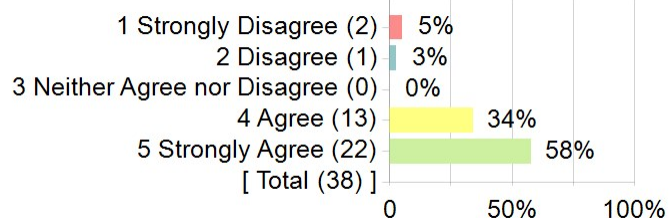
2. The course content was well organized.



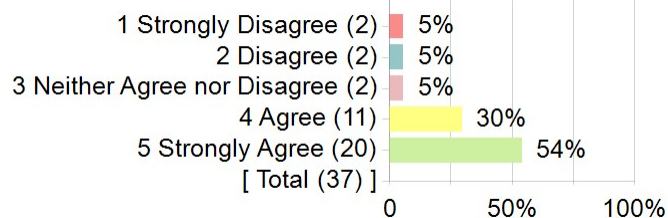
3. The course objectives were clear.



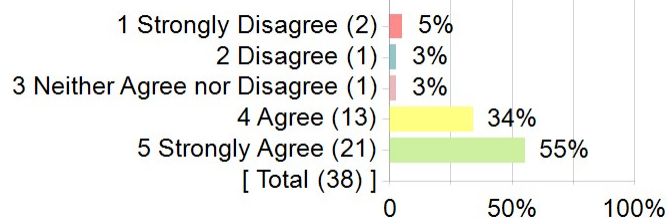
4. The course objectives were met.



5. The course materials made a valuable contribution.



6. The pace of the course seemed appropriate.



Section 4. Student Information

What is your Academic Level?

What is your academic level?		
Options	Count	Percentage
Freshman	25	64%
Sophomore	12	31%
Junior	2	5%
Senior	0	0%
Graduate	0	0%
Other	0	0%

What is your expected grade in this course?

What is your expected grade in this course?		
Options	Count	Percentage
A	29	74%
B	6	15%
C	1	3%
D	0	0%
F	0	0%
Pass	2	5%
Fail	1	3%
Other	0	0%

What is your cumulative average (GPA)?

What is your cumulative average (GPA)?		
Options	Count	Percentage
3.5 and above	24	63%
3.0-3.4	7	18%
2.5-2.9	4	11%
2.0-2.4	3	8%
< 2.0	0	0%

How many times did you miss this class?

How many times did you miss this class?		
Options	Count	Percentage
0-2	27	75%
3-4	7	19%
5-6	0	0%
> 6	2	6%

Section 4. Student Information (continued)

On average, how many hours a week did you spend outside of class preparing for this course?

On average, how many hours a week did you spend outside of class preparing for this course?		
Options	Count	Percentage
0	0	0%
1-3	8	21%
4-6	18	46%
7-9	9	23%
10-14	2	5%
15+	2	5%

Which best describes this course for you?

Which best describes this course for you?		
Options	Count	Percentage
Requirement for my major	38	97%
General Education Requirement	1	3%
Other Requirement	0	0%
Elective	0	0%
Elective for my major	0	0%

My desire to take this course was:

My desire to take this course was:		
Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	3	8%
More than most courses	18	46%
About the same as most courses	16	41%
Less than most courses	2	5%
Much less than most courses	0	0%

For me, the level of difficulty of the course content was:

For me, the level of difficulty of the course content was:		
Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	4	10%
More than most courses	17	44%
About the same as most courses	16	41%
Less than most courses	2	5%
Much less than most courses	0	0%

Section 4. Student Information (continued)

Overall, how much do you feel you've learned in this course?

Overall, how much do you feel you've learned in this course?		
Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	7	18%
More than most courses	19	49%
About the same as most courses	11	28%
Less than most courses	0	0%
Much less than most courses	2	5%

Section 5. Comments

What was the most positive aspect of the way in which this instructor taught this course?

Comments
He reviews materials from previous classes before he move on to the new chapters
He was funny and taught in a very efficient way
I liked his presentations and how he put them online afterwards because they were easy to study off of.
He was very good at making it clear through visualization what we were doing and conceptually/physically what was going on as we worked through a problem.
He made it fun to learn calculus and made jokes to keep it positive in lecture.
Sougata knew what were the most difficult aspects of the course and made sure to spend a good amount of time in order to make sure the content really stuck. His explanations were always very clear.
lots of jokes and made it enjoyable to be there and listen to lectures
he was always energetic and helpful in lectures
He was very encouraging and tried to provide multiple examples when students were confused.
always had a positive attitude. he made the students laugh and made it very interesting. he gave examples of 3D models and helped us visualize what we were learning. amazing professor
Our professor explained concepts as clearly as he could and went at an appropriate pace.
The lectures were very well organized, with the introduction of the lesson, an explanation, and then a few different examples. The structure of the class was perfect. I also like the way that he walks through the aisles of the lecture hall while we work to address questions and to check our work.
thorough
The instructor was great at answering students' questions. He was also able to explain the concepts in a way that helped me better understand the math behind them. He has a great personality as well
Not too much in all honesty.
Clear examples during lectures prior to the pandemic, though it was not helpful in exams.
none
Lectures were fun and helpful
the example problems were super helpful
Instructor was engaging and comedic. Made sitting through lecture and learning material enjoyable.
Fantastic teacher. One of the best professors I've ever had. Charismatic, concise, and approachable. Keep doing what you're doing!
When lecturing, Professor Dhar was always very visual and explained ideas with real objects.
Clearly focused on teaching what would be on the exam
The math principle
I liked how he ran the class. He was very personable and I enjoyed going to his class every day.
Very straightforward lectures
Professor Dhar is super enthusiastic and clear during his lecture which makes the lecture so much more viewable and interesting. He is also very helpful outside of class and overall a very valuable professor to the math department.
Was able to successfully deal with a disruptive student.
In lecture, the enthusiasm and passion towards teaching the material showed. In turn, this made the information easier to understand because it was being explained in an easy to understand, step by step process. I enjoyed going to this class and learning the information.

What can this instructor do to improve teaching effectiveness in the classroom?

Comments
Sometimes he assumes students are all clear with the materials. I hope him had went over the materials more detailedly.
I understand how the material was broken up for each class period. However, it was kind of confusing learning new material one week and then taking a quiz on material learned the prior week. I understand the goal was to have time for the material sink in and click with students but it was kind of difficult because my brain would be in one place trying to learn different topics and then having to back track to other topics that I don't remember in detail and take a quiz on it and then have to switch back to the current topics for lecture the next day.
I thought he did an excellent job, but if I had to pick something I would have liked more in-class practice problems however what was given was more than adequate.
Nothing
I can't think of anything he should do to improve
honestly not really much, the professor is great but the coursework just sucked.
Put out more announcements to keep the students better informed
Have less words on the lecture slides, or put the sentences into simpler terms.
Not much, the instructor did as much as a lecture section could do.
To improve teaching effectiveness, Prof. Dhar can continue to have active student participation. In my opinion, hearing voices from people other than just the instructor makes me pay closer attention.
put more personality into the lectures. That's what made learning more engaging.
First of all, there is no room for humor or jokes in the classroom, especially in a course with so many students who have a hard enough time learning in such a cramped and impersonal environment. For example, statements such as "oof, that looks rough, doesn't it? Yeah, no one wants to do that kind of math. I'm a calc 3 professor and I don't even know how to do that" isn't really an effective way to boost student morale. If you don't seem engaged, no one else will. If you say how much you don't want to be there, even as a joke, no one else will. Your objective isn't to befriend the student body. We pay the school, and in turn you, to provide a detailed, informative insight and understanding on a difficult subject. We don't pay you to joke around all class so that we have to spend extra time outside of class relearning the material.
Exams reviews that also reflect the exams instead of only showing a small section of questions.
none
I thought it was great actually. Except I would have like a more structured review before the exams. Maybe a practice test or a more specific list of topics
The lectures had way too much theory and talking. Going over theory and then doing problems is much more helpful to students. There were times that we spent basically the whole lecture just talking about theory and not problems. That is hard to follow and at the end of the day, we need to solve problems. This is why discussion was much better than lecture.
I'm so sorry you had to deal with the kid who made you stop every lecture.
Perhaps a smaller lecture but it is pretty good as it is.
Listen to students' questions and respectfully answer them
Give more specific example
Nothing.
More practice problems in class
Respond to students emails and show up during office hours.
N/A
When the instructor had a long day or was tired, the lecture revealed it and my understanding of the information showed that. It was very apparent when the instructor did not feel like being there and teaching the whole lecture and as a result, the effectiveness of the teaching on certain days significantly declined.

Please write any comments you have about the course or course materials.

Comments
quite good
I really think the quizzes and test content were fair. There weren't any trick questions or types of questions that we hadn't seen before. I also like the two point bonus because it was easy and gave you confidence while taking the exam.
There was always an example of whatever was covered, but I would have liked if there were more focus on how to go about determining how to solve a problem from the tools we have available, rather than just solving the problem that applied to what we were learning.
I think the textbook I'm not necessary, but webassign helps a lot.
I didn't use the book that much but WebAssign was a very good platform to reinforce that weeks learning. I thought the quizzes were fair and straight forward as long as you attended lecture and discussion regularly.
really bad, this is my second time taking it and I understand it a lot more the second time around and I think they put too much content into this course and things to do overall
webassign is fine. i didnt get the book
I think this course was very well organized and well taught. I struggled a little at first, but once I caught on, I was doing well. Additionally, the transition online was smooth, and my progress was uninterrupted.
I learned a lot from the webassigns, especially during the online learning portion of the class. Lecture notes helped a lot as well. The transition to online learning was, overall, very smooth.
The course material is not presented effectively, nor is the course environment designed to engage students in positive or beneficial learning.
Course was more difficult that expected, TA was incompetent at teaching during Discussions.
none
I feel like some of the webassign questions were unreasonably difficult
Extremely well organized. Can't get better than this
Good
After going online, the course materials really helped me understand the topics. Watching the videos and following along with the powerpoint was very helpful.
Quizzes and exams are straight-forward. WA is helpful.
Through the transition to online, our professor basically disappeared. The learning modules posted were not even recorded by our professor and there was very minimal communication with the students. I received more information from the other Calc III professor than I did from my own professor. It seemed like no effort towards helping the students learn was given and we were thrown into the water with no life preserver. Additionally, The accessibility to our professor after going online was terrible as his office hours were vague and I still don't even know what technology platform (zoom, Webex, blackboard) my professor was using for any of this. Overall, once the transition to online was made, it felt like out professor finished for the semester on our class.

For courses with laboratory and/or discussion sections: were the laboratory/discussion sections helpful to your learning?

Comments
yes they were helpful
The discussion sections were definitely helpful in many ways. She always reviewed lecture material and example questions before a quizzed which helped solidify my knowledge and explained things in different ways that registered better with me instead of the way it was put during lecture. Also, the discussion sections were key to properly understanding the advanced honors activity material.
The discussion section was taught ver in a confusing manner, most of the time I just preferred to try to figure out things on my own or with friends.
Yes, I was able to work on more problems in discussion and figure them out myself.
I thought discussion was helpful. It was a good environment to ask questions and do some of the more tricky problems in a section.
yes, they were helpful for sure.
The discussion sections were extremely helpful.
no
My discussion section was often not helpful, due to my instructor.
yes
Yes. Discussion helped deepen my understanding and allowed me to talk to my peers about certain topics to help each other. Losing discussion when switching to online learning was a big loss, but piazza and the online q and a sessions were helpful.
No not at all.
No.
none
Yes (depends on the TA)
I thought the discussions were helpful because it was easier to ask questions and do the practice problems step by step
Extremely helpful. Besides being at 8:00am, quizzes were fantastic study tools and worksheets provided extra practice. Great TA too.
Yes
The discussion section was not very helpful for this class.
Very helpful discussion sections
Honors discussion was super helpful with course content. It served as a second revision for lecture content.
The discussion section for this class was terrible and confused students even more with more complex explanations and examples based of theories and concepts taught in other classes that are not prerequisites that I have not taken at all, and I learned nothing through them.