University of Connecticut

Student Evaluation of Teaching
Spring 2020

Individual Report for MATH-3435-002-STORR-Partial Differential Equations

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

Response Table

Raters	Students
Responded	17
Invited	17
Response Ratio	100%

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

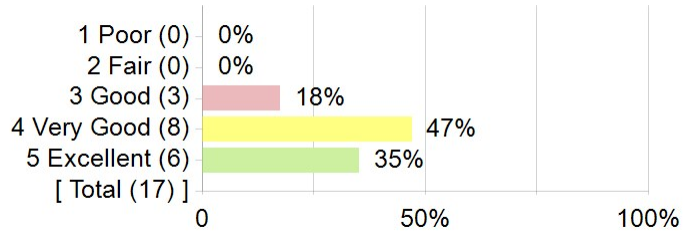
Question	Course		Department (MATH-Course Level 3000-FEIN)		School (CLAS-Course Level 3000-FEIN)		University (Course Level 3000-FEIN)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
What is your overall rating of the instructor's teaching?	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.3

What is your overall rating of the course?

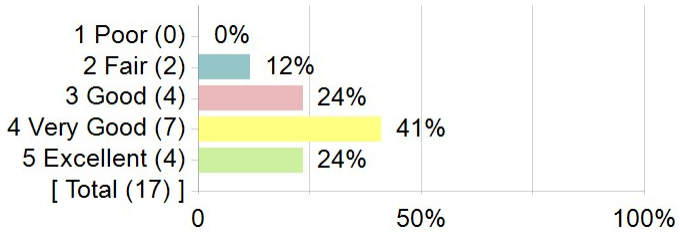
Question	Course		Department (MATH-Course Level 3000-FEIN)		School (CLAS-Course Level 3000-FEIN)		University (Course Level 3000-FEIN)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
What is your overall rating of the course?	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.0	4.2

Overall Rating

1. What is your overall rating of the instructor's teaching?



2. What is your overall rating of the course?



Section 1. Summary

Please respond to the following questions about instructor Sougata Dhar:

Question	Course		Department (MATH-Course Level 3000-FEIN)		School (CLAS-Course Level 3000-FEIN)		University (Course Level 3000-FEIN)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
The instructor presented the course material clearly.	4.6	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The instructor was well prepared for class.	4.7	5.0	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.7
The instructor responded to questions adequately.	4.6	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.7
The instructor stimulated interest in the subject.	4.6	5.0	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.6
The instructor showed interest in helping students learn.	4.7	5.0	4.5	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.7
The instructor gave clear assignments.	4.8	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The instructor was accessible to students.	4.6	5.0	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.7
The instructor gave useful feedback on my performance.	4.5	5.0	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The instructor returned graded work in a reasonable amount of time.	4.7	5.0	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.5
The instructor used class time effectively.	4.6	5.0	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.6
The instructor treated all students with respect.	4.7	5.0	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.8
The instructor graded fairly.	4.7	5.0	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.6
The instructor's teaching methods promoted student learning.	4.6	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.5

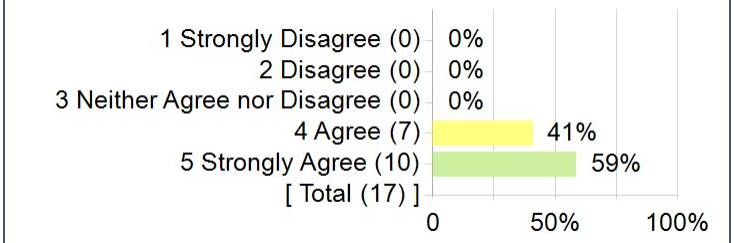
Please respond to the following questions about the course:

Question	Course		Department (MATH-Course Level 3000-FEIN)		School (CLAS-Course Level 3000-FEIN)		University (Course Level 3000-FEIN)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
The methods of evaluating student learning seemed appropriate.	4.5	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The course content was well organized.	4.6	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The course objectives were clear.	4.5	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The course objectives were met.	4.4	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The course materials made a valuable contribution.	4.2	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.5
The pace of the course seemed appropriate.	4.2	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5

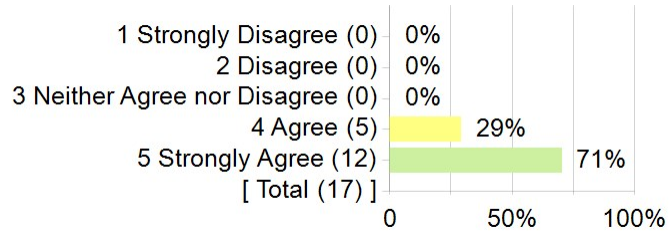
Section 2. Questions About the Instructor

Please respond to the following questions about instructor Sougata Dhar:

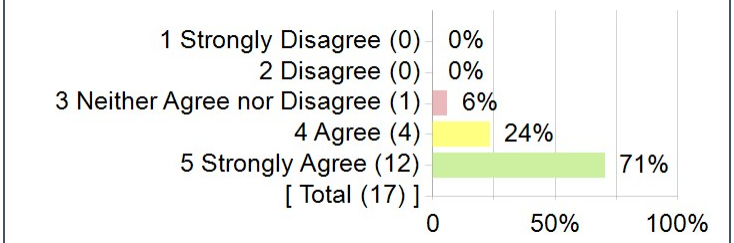
1. The instructor presented the course material clearly.



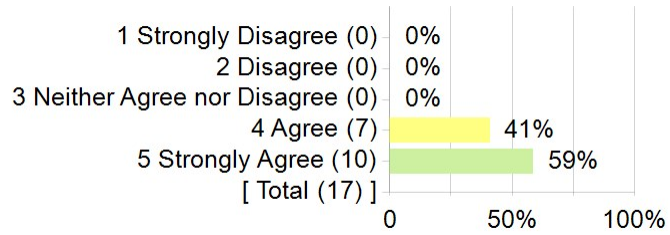
2. The instructor was well prepared for class.



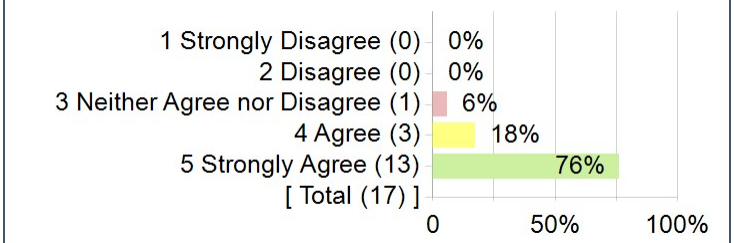
3. The instructor responded to questions adequately.



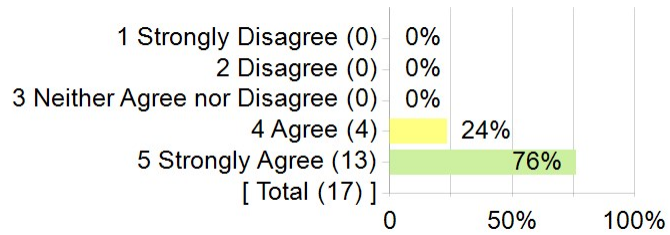
4. The instructor stimulated interest in the subject.



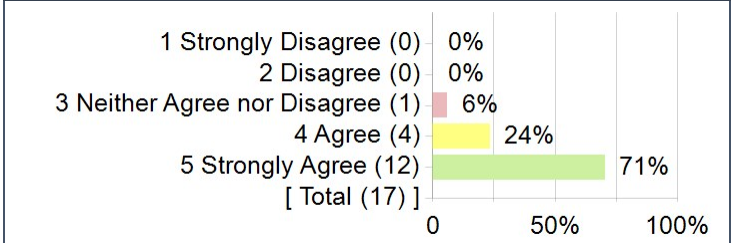
5. The instructor showed interest in helping students learn.



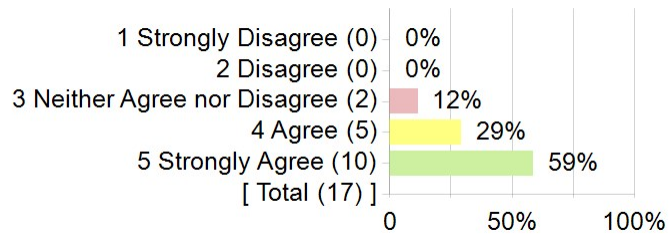
6. The instructor gave clear assignments.



7. The instructor was accessible to students.

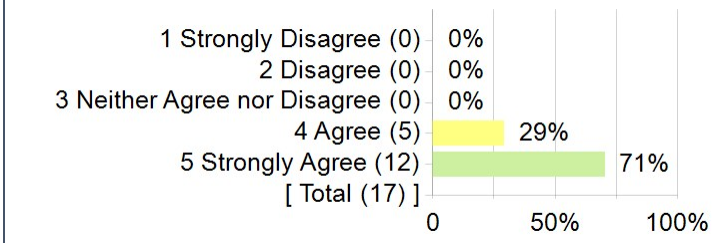


8. The instructor gave useful feedback on my performance.

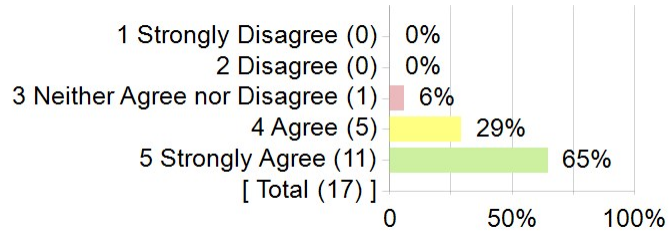


Please respond to the following questions about instructor Sougata Dhar: (continued)

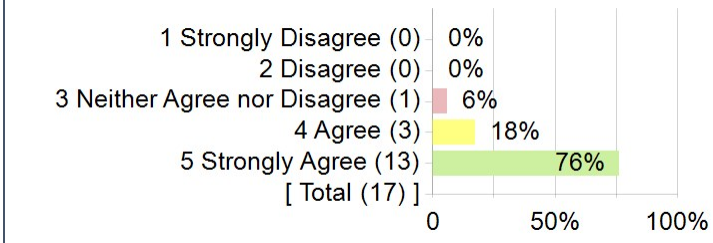
9. The instructor returned graded work in a reasonable amount of time.



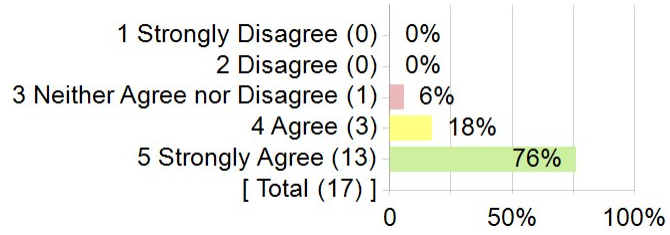
10. The instructor used class time effectively.



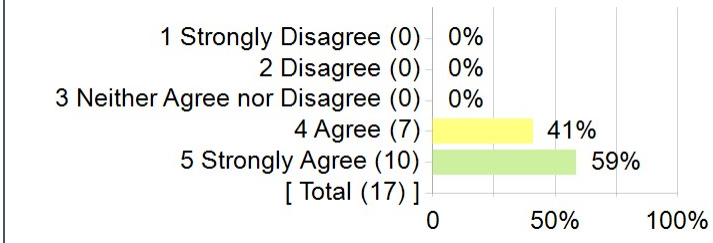
11. The instructor treated all students with respect.



12. The instructor graded fairly.



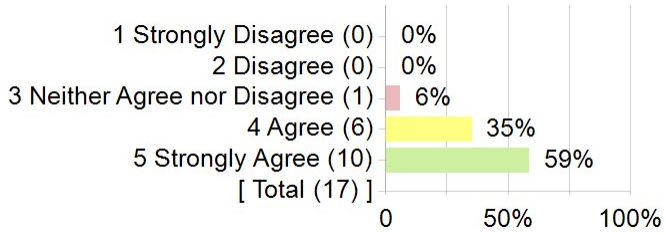
13. The instructor's teaching methods promoted student learning.



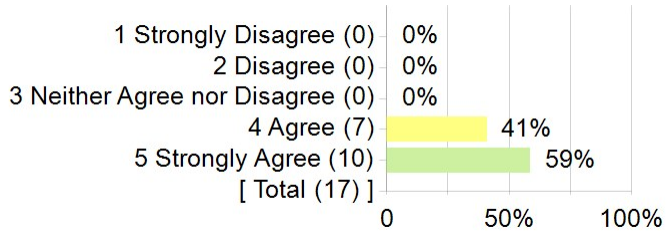
Section 3. Questions About the Course

Please respond to the following questions about the course:

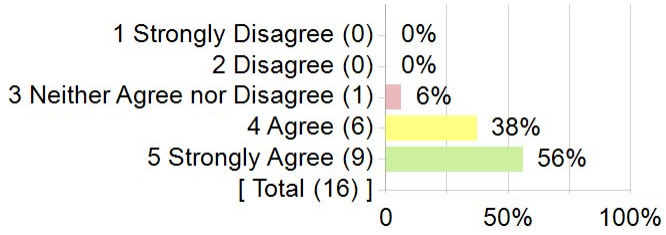
1. The methods of evaluating student learning seemed appropriate.



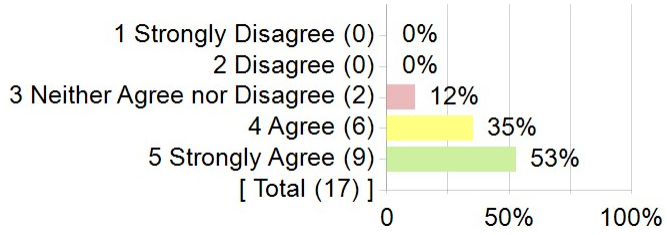
2. The course content was well organized.



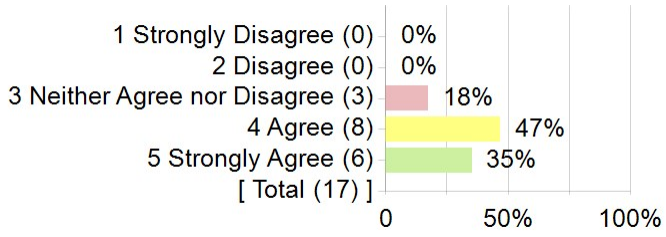
3. The course objectives were clear.



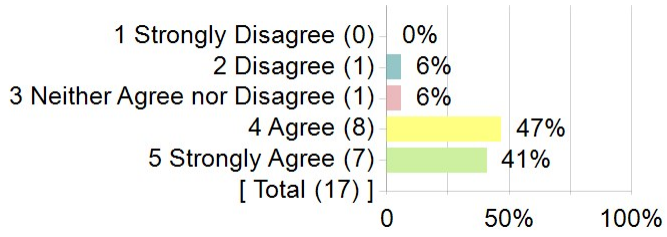
4. The course objectives were met.



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	0	0%
Sophomore	2	12%
Junior	8	47%
Senior	7	41%
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	10	59%
B	3	18%
C	0	0%
D	1	6%
F	0	0%
Pass	2	12%
Fail	0	0%
Other	1	6%

What is your cumulative average (GPA)?

What is your cumulative average (GPA)?		
Options	Count	Percentage
3.5 and above	11	65%
3.0-3.4	4	24%
2.5-2.9	2	12%
2.0-2.4	0	0%
< 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	13	81%
3-4	1	6%
5-6	2	13%
> 6	0	0%

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	3	18%
4-6	8	47%
7-9	3	18%
10-14	3	18%
15+	0	0%

Which best describes this course for you?

Which best describes this course for you?		
Options	Count	Percentage
Requirement for my major	5	29%
General Education Requirement	0	0%
Other Requirement	10	59%
Elective	1	6%
Elective for my major	1	6%

My desire to take this course was:

My desire to take this course was:		
Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	2	12%
More than most courses	4	24%
About the same as most courses	10	59%
Less than most courses	1	6%
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	3	18%
More than most courses	13	76%
About the same as most courses	1	6%
Less than most courses	0	0%
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	1	6%
More than most courses	8	47%
About the same as most courses	7	41%
Less than most courses	1	6%
Much less than most courses	0	0%

Section 5. Comments

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

Comments
His teaching style is great!
I liked how we would do practice problems. This helped understand the applications of the topics we covered.
He really cares about students, and he will make sure students understand the material, he always asks students for the feedbacks about his teaching.
He was always open for extra help after lecture and during office hours.
He was very nice and chill
He was efficient in his teaching. This class is very dense, but he did a great job of focusing on the important parts of the class that needed to be taught.
The professor used examples in class and made himself available during office hours for additional help.
Professor Dhar was fantastic at explaining every concept in a logical and understanding manner. Furthermore, the homework was effectively used to allow us to derive and discover things that were important but not entirely suited for the classroom, allowing us to form our own determinations and strategies.
he was very nice with the students
The instructor provided a lot of opportunities to go to him for help, and even more so after the transition to an online class. He was also always willing to answer questions during or outside of class.
He wrote in a very organized fashion on the board, making it easy for me to write clear and useful notes. This makes a huge difference in a difficult math class such as this.
Emphasis on understanding and not memorization
Thoroughly explained concepts using in class notes
The homework problems were the most helpful in studying and understanding the material well.

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

Comments
Not much
Towards the end of semester, it was helpful when you posted the quiz and homework solutions so we could better understand why we got certain problems wrong. I think it would be valuable to spend more time on doing practice problems rather the proofs and describing what the results from the practice problems mean.
He is an amazing professor.
Spend more time on each topic.
N/a
He could post his notes regularly and post more worked–out problems.
To improve effectiveness in the classroom, continue doing more examples. I understand math concepts by doing examples as opposed to reading words describing them.
My only criticism is that he goes a little fast, which would be a hindrance if one did not pay attention.
do more examples, or provide more examples outside of the class. Maybe also once in a while they can do an example out completely, doing out all the steps even if they assume that students may have prior prerequisite knowledge about how to do something, it may be helpfull to refresh them on that thing and not just move on from it.
I think that providing better materials, such as a more effective text book would've been helpful in the class. Also, sharing class notes online as done after the transition to an online course was very effective, and would also be effective in an in person setting.
Make a much bigger deal about which things are techniques we will have to use and come back to or things that are important to have on a formula sheet. Sometime's it felt like a lot of my time spent on the homework was just finding the proper things to use. Also my formula sheets were too long and hard to use efficiently. Just boxing the formula or general solution and saying "make sure you keep this handy for these problems" would make a big difference.
Highlight key points during class while uploading notes ahead of time therefore allowing for more time to review examples in class that are similar to the homework, quizzes, and exams.
Introduce more practice problems with solutions to complete.

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

Comments
None
For me, I thought this was a very difficult course. The topics covered were very abstract, which is a style of learning that I'm not necessarily used. However, the way the instructor taught the course made it easier to understand the topics.
The course materials are hard and chanllenging, but with Prof.Dhar, it is not very hard to understand the material.
I found this course to be very difficult, but professor Dhar was presented it in a good way.
N/a
The book is not necessary. I think homework problems should be provided.
The book was useful in the begging but lost its efficacy towards the end of the semester.
The book wasn't really used, only in the beginning. Possibly a better book can be found.
difficult course but good professor
Course materials could be improved
This was a very challenging course for me, particularly in the beginning. The textbook was useful to an extent but something to see more examples worked out would be very helpful. Maybe videos or something about how to solve various problems.
Book was somewhat helpful as long as the course content presented in class aligned with the textbook. Understandably some course content was not perfectly presented in the book which lead to periods where the book was not helpful

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

Comments
NA
N/A
N/A
N/a
N/A
N/a
N/A
na
n/a
N/A