

6.7210 Introduction to Mathematical Programming

15.081 Introduction to Mathematical Programming

Survey Window: Fall 2023 End of Term

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Xiong, Zikai, Teaching Assistant - Overall rating: 6.8

Teaching in Lecture

Quality of Teaching

Rating Scale: 1=Strongly Disagree, 4=Neutral, 7=Strongly Agree, N/A=Not Applicable (7 is best)

	AVG	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	RESPONSES	MEDIAN	STDEV
Stimulated interest	6.5	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■	19	7.0	0.77
Displayed thorough knowledge of subject material	6.8	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■	19	7.0	0.54
Helped me learn	6.7	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■	19	7.0	0.67

Rating Scale: 1=Very Poor, 7=Excellent, N/A=Not Applicable (7 is best)

	AVG	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	RESPONSES	MEDIAN	STDEV
Overall rating	6.8	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■	19	7.0	0.54

Comments on teaching (strengths, areas for improvement)

[Student 6078](#) - I really love the way Zikai is teaching, he always has great recitations that could perfectly matches what I want to learn apart from the regular lectures. He's very nice and patient.

[Student 8460](#) - Very patient!

[Student 11753](#) - Zikai's recitations are extremely well run. I really enjoyed his teaching style: his explanations are clear and succinct, and his recitations have a clear logical flow. Also, he is very helpful and encouraging in his office hours. One thing to improve may be to make sure the equipment is working. I didn't miss out on anything, but some recitations have missing audio.

[Student 13996](#) - Zikai was hands down fantastic. Incredibly responsive, very accurate in his answers, and genuinely so kind. Really a great TA.

[Student 30504](#) - Zikai has become my favourite TA throughout the semester and is unparalleled in his diligence, expertise, and kindness. The first thing that struck me was that he would interrupt his own work at any time of the day (even late in the evening at the ORC) in order to answer the student's questions. This can sometimes take him half an hour or even an hour because of the following discussions (e.g. on extensions of concepts) and he is always passionate to continue reflecting on these and always manages to find a satisfiable solution to the problem. His consistent support has been incredibly valuable to me especially, as I believe I am one of those who is struggling most in my class due to a complete lack of mathematical proof experience. I will remember how his comment on my last problem sheet submission ("good to see that you learnt and thought a lot!") made my day :) and I do agree that, despite being still shaky with the upcoming exam, I have acquired way more than I expected I could achieve in just 2 months in my knowledge on LP concepts, know-how on constructing proofs, and a mindset that is gradually more like a mathematician rather than an engineer (who comparatively does not care that much about rigour and details...). This would not have been possible without Zikai this semester and I wish him all the best for his upcoming career as an outstanding instructor!

[Student 32139](#) - Amazing guy! Well done!

[Student 43100](#) - Excellent TA, very clear and interesting in front of the class. Always eager to help and explain, even during offline hours. Very accessible and reactive. Thank you Zikai!

[Student 45972](#) - Xikai is a phenomenal TA. He was knowledgeable, enthusiastic, helpful, and kind.

[Student 51020](#) - Zikai was awesome- he was always willing to help, and explained this super clearly. It was clear he was always well-prepared for OH and recitation

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