Northwestern

Individual Report for MATH_290-3_41: MENU Linear Alg/Multivar Calc (Apurva Nakade)

Project Title: **Course and Teacher Evaluations CTEC Spring 2023**

Courses Audience: **17**
Responses Received: **14**
Response Ratio: **82.4%**

Report Comments

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Creation Date: **Monday, June 12, 2023**

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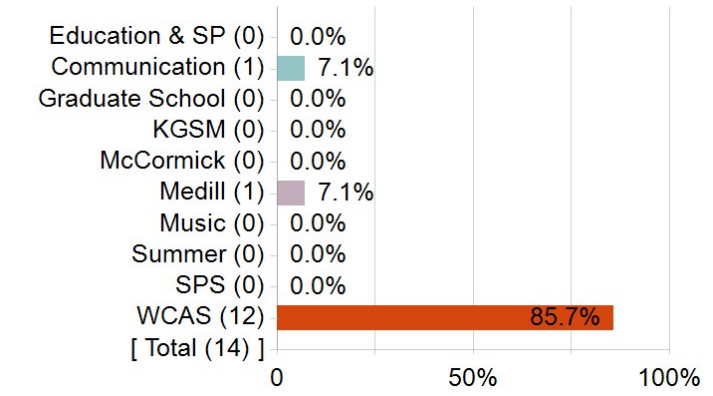
Course Evaluations

Instructor	Course
Apurva Nakade	**MATH_290-3_41: MENU Linear Alg/Multivar Calc**

DEMOGRAPHICS

Your School

Your School



Options	Count	Percentage
Education & SP	0	0.0%
Communication	1	7.1%
Graduate School	0	0.0%
KGSM	0	0.0%
McCormick	0	0.0%
Medill	1	7.1%
Music	0	0.0%
Summer	0	0.0%
SPS	0	0.0%
WCAS	12	85.7%

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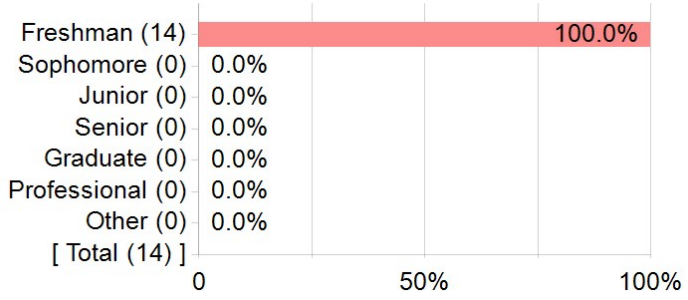
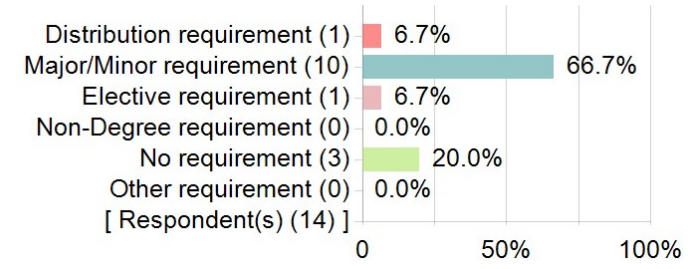
Your Class

Your Class



Options	Count	Percentage
Freshman	14	100.0%
Sophomore	0	0.0%
Junior	0	0.0%
Senior	0	0.0%
Graduate	0	0.0%
Professional	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%

What is your reason for taking the course? (mark all that apply)



Options	Count	Percentage
Distribution requirement	1	6.7%
Major/Minor requirement	10	66.7%
Elective requirement	1	6.7%
Non-Degree requirement	0	0.0%
No requirement	3	20.0%
Other requirement	0	0.0%
Respondent(s)	14	

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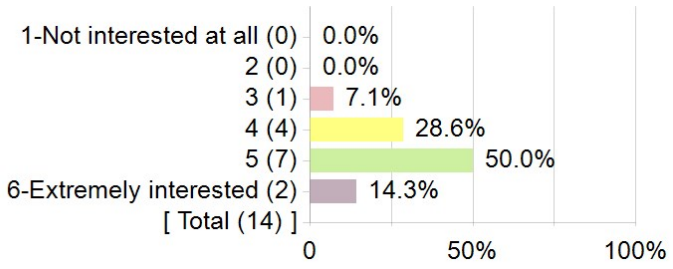
What was your Interest in this subject before taking the course?

What was your interest in this subject before taking the course?

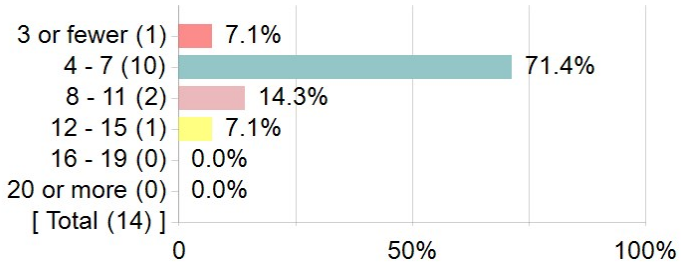


Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not interested at all	0	0.0%
2	0	0.0%
3	1	7.1%
4	4	28.6%
5	7	50.0%
6-Extremely interested	2	14.3%

TIME-SURVEY QUESTION

Estimate the average number of hours per week you spent on this course outside of class and lab time.

Estimate the average number of hours per week you spent on this course outside of class and lab time.



Options	Count	Percentage
3 or fewer	1	7.1%
4 - 7	10	71.4%
8 - 11	2	14.3%
12 - 15	1	7.1%
16 - 19	0	0.0%
20 or more	0	0.0%

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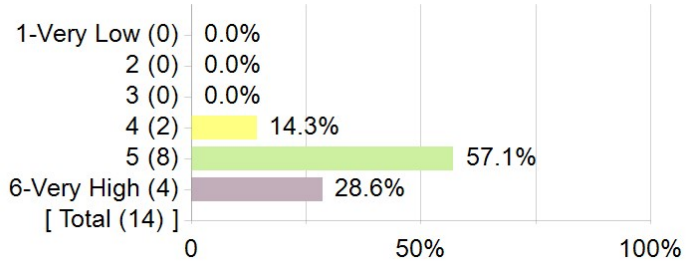
COURSE QUESTIONS

Provide an overall rating of the course.

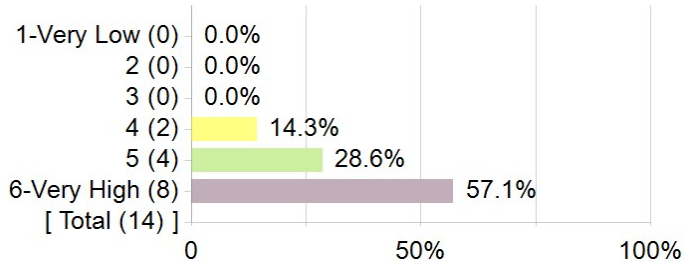
Provide an overall rating of the course.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	0	0.0%
3	3	0	0.0%
4	4	2	14.3%
5	5	8	57.1%
6-Very High	6	4	28.6%
Statistics			Value
Response Count			14
Mean			5.14
Median			5.00
Standard Deviation			0.66

Estimate how much you learned in the course.

Estimate how much you learned in the course.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	0	0.0%
3	3	0	0.0%
4	4	2	14.3%
5	5	4	28.6%
6-Very High	6	8	57.1%
Statistics			Value
Response Count			14
Mean			5.43
Median			6.00
Standard Deviation			0.76

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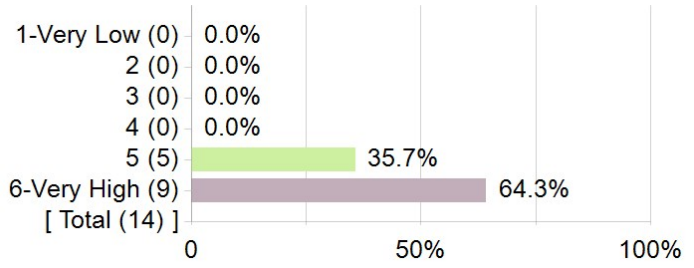
Rate the effectiveness of the course in challenging you intellectually.

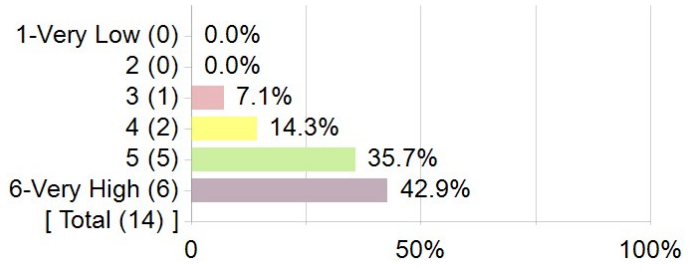
Rate the effectiveness of the course in challenging you intellectually.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	0	0.0%
3	3	0	0.0%
4	4	0	0.0%
5	5	5	35.7%
6-Very High	6	9	64.3%
Statistics			**Value**
Response Count			14
Mean			5.64
Median			6.00
Standard Deviation			0.50

Rate the instructional materials (texts, audiovisual materials, etc.) used in this course.

Rate the instructional materials (texts, audiovisual materials, etc.) used in this course.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	0	0.0%
3	3	1	7.1%
4	4	2	14.3%
5	5	5	35.7%
6-Very High	6	6	42.9%
Statistics			**Value**
Response Count			14
Mean			5.14
Median			5.00
Standard Deviation			0.95

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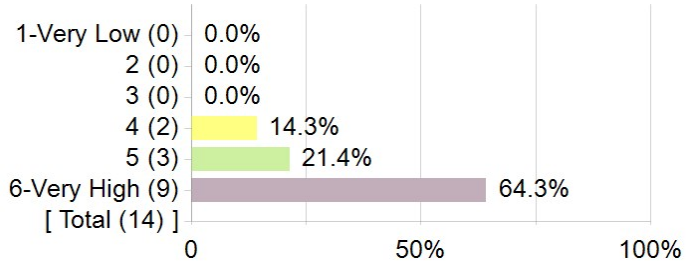
INSTRUCTOR QUESTIONS

Provide an overall rating of the instruction.

Provide an overall rating of the instruction.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	0	0.0%
3	3	0	0.0%
4	4	2	14.3%
5	5	3	21.4%
6-Very High	6	9	64.3%
Statistics			Value
Response Count			14
Mean			5.50
Median			6.00
Standard Deviation			0.76

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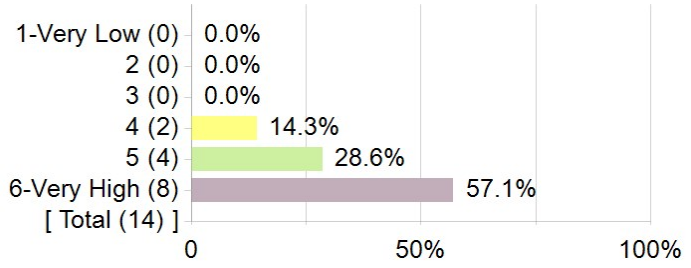
Rate the effectiveness of the instructor in stimulating your interest in the subject.

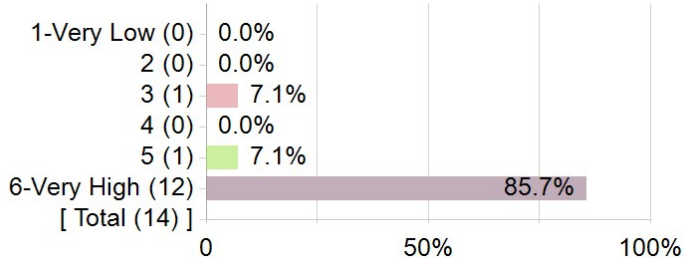
Rate the effectiveness of the instructor in stimulating your interest in the subject.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	0	0.0%
3	3	0	0.0%
4	4	2	14.3%
5	5	4	28.6%
6-Very High	6	8	57.1%
Statistics			**Value**
Response Count			14
Mean			5.43
Median			6.00
Standard Deviation			0.76

Rate how well prepared the instructor was for the class.

Rate how well prepared the instructor was for the class.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	0	0.0%
3	3	1	7.1%
4	4	0	0.0%
5	5	1	7.1%
6-Very High	6	12	85.7%
Statistics			**Value**
Response Count			14
Mean			5.71
Median			6.00
Standard Deviation			0.83

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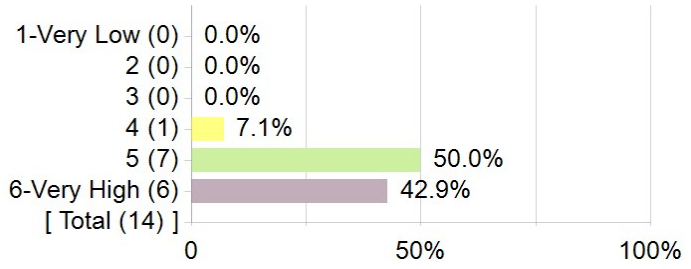
Rate the effectiveness with which the instructor communicated course content and ideas.

Rate the effectiveness with which the instructor communicated course content and ideas.

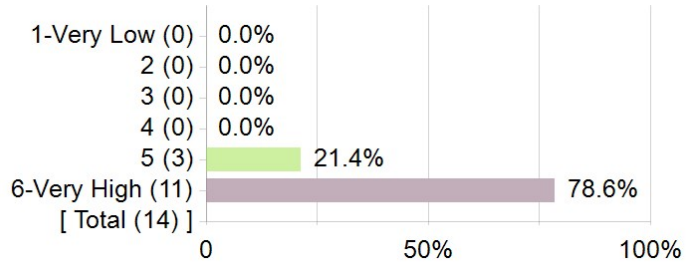


Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	0	0.0%
3	3	0	0.0%
4	4	1	7.1%
5	5	7	50.0%
6-Very High	6	6	42.9%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	14
Mean	5.36
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.63

Rate the instructor's enthusiasm in teaching this class.

Rate the instructor's enthusiasm in teaching this class.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	0	0.0%
3	3	0	0.0%
4	4	0	0.0%
5	5	3	21.4%
6-Very High	6	11	78.6%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	14
Mean	5.79
Median	6.00
Standard Deviation	0.43

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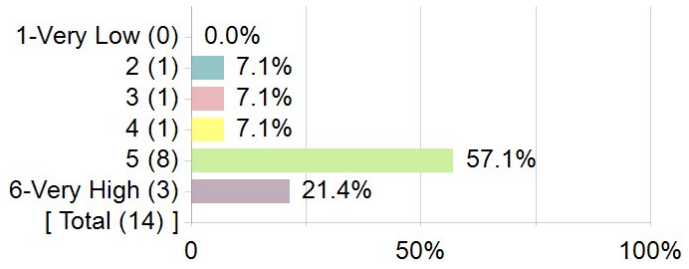
Usefulness of discussion sessions.

Usefulness of discussion sessions.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
1-Very Low	1	0	0.0%
2	2	1	7.1%
3	3	1	7.1%
4	4	1	7.1%
5	5	8	57.1%
6-Very High	6	3	21.4%
Statistics			Value
Response Count			14
Mean			4.79
Median			5.00
Standard Deviation			1.12

OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

Did the course help you learn? Why or why not?

Comments
This course was challenging, but the instruction made a difference. I really appreciated Apurva's use of practice problems in class because they allowed us to apply concepts, collaborate with classmates, and get live feedback.
Yes, the content was challenging especially the midterms and required an in–depth review.
The MENU sequence has always been intellectually challenging but extremely satisfying when solving problems. This quarter has probably been the most fun for me personally as all of us have spent the whole year together, and this quarter is more relaxed compared to the other quarters as well.
this course helped me learn how to study and learn how to challenge myself, but I already had gone over a lot of the basic material in high school.
The course challenged me intellectually, and gave me a lot of challenges and opportunities to apply the knowledge I learned from class lecture in assignments and exams.
Yes, it was a very in depth class that taught me a lot about multivariable calculus.
Yes; it helped me gain a deeper understanding of analyzing mathematical change in higher dimensions.
Yes, I feel like I learned a lot in the class.
Yes. It was a very instructional glimpse into integral calc 3 with both theory and application covered.

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Please summarize your reaction to this course focusing on the aspects that were most important to you.

Comments
Apurva is probably the best math teacher I've had, but this course was still pretty challenging. There were times when even he struggled to solve a certain integral. Working with classmates and going to office hours is really the way to go. Also, the exams were exceptionally intense this quarter compared to the past two BUT Apurva made an effort to take in our feedback and modify exams accordingly.
Very similar to the previous MENU classes the midterms are just much harder. The midterms are also very different than previous years.
I absolutely love this course. Not only do you learn a crazy amount (I feel like my problem–solving skills and critical–thinking skills have improved like crazy through the 290 sequence), but you get to form close connections and relationships with others through the sequence. Having the same group of people around you for three quarters (along with the professor) is a great way to find a small community.
This class, as the rest of the menu sequence, takes a lot of time. Exams were much more difficult this quarter compared to fall/winter. Weekly discussion worksheets were helpful for studying and a grade boost.
This was definitely the hardest class of the sequence, and exams felt much more challenging than in previous quarters. The content during lecture was not entirely challenging, but the homeworks, discussions, and exams were much more challenging than in past classes. If not for office hours and TAs, I would have done much worse.
Apurva is a god. He was a great professor throughout this year, and did a great job this last quarter too. That being said, this was probably the most difficult quarter of 290 for me. The exams seemed very hard, and I often didn't have enough time to finish the tests. As a general rule, if you've survived the first two quarters of 290, you can definitely make it through the last quarter, but just know it doesn't ease up at all.
Satisfying conclusion to the 290 sequence. If you show up to class, do the homework and do moderate review, you'll get through the class fine.
Good class! Apurva is a great lecturer, homework and discussion worksheets were helpful, midterms were tough.
In my personal opinion the hardest quarter of the 290 sequence. Had to spend a lot of time visualizing/conceptualizing things compared to previous quarters and had a tougher time. Still very interesting and great professor.
Unlike the other quarters of MENU, the content learning from this class was essentially just 230–2. However, the things we had to do were drastically harder than those in 230–2 did. It was definitely the hardest quarter of the sequence. The class average still was ab the same tho. Apurva is an excellent guy and professor. Very passionate about teaching. His lecture notes saved me countless times. The entire class will miss him

What are the primary teaching strengths of the instructor?

Comments
– OneNote is really well organized and very helpful – Really liked doing practice problems in class – Appreciated the opportunities to give feedback on exam format
You will always find me saying this if you know me, but Apurva is probably the best teacher I've ever had. His class was my first at Northwestern, and ever since then I've enjoyed building a connection to him and just simply talking with him during office hours or outside of class. He is extremely intelligent and supportive, and I've grown a lot as a student from simply solving problems with him. He brings out the best in students and I'm grateful I was able to a part of his class this year.
clear notes, organization, excitement for the subject, being open to giving help.
He had in depth lectures and well organized notes for each class. He was very helpful during office hours.
He's super smart, and has super organized notes that are easy to look back at. He always gave a ton of thought to student's questions, and was super helpful throughout the entire year.
Apurva is a strong communicator who teaches the course concepts clearly. He connects course concepts together very fluently, and frequently talks about the real world applications of the abstract information we learned. Also, he welcomes feedback on the class – he asked us how we felt on the midterms and adjusted subsequent exams based on that feedback.
Great at conveying complex ideas
Very personable and skilled at communicating difficult concepts while remaining relatable to students.

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What are the primary weaknesses, if any, of the instruction?

Comments
– Had difficulty explaining how to solve some integrals
None.
sometimes I think the tests didn't match up with what we were prepared to do based on class, but this seemed to only be an issue in third quarter.
Sometimes the lecturer would not be capable of solving certain problems, or spent a long time solving the problem, making it more challenging for the students to figure out.
None.
NA
None.
none

Can you offer suggestions for improvement?

Comments
Next year, although I didn't have classes planned with Apurva, I was going to attend his office hours to do homework with him and just to talk but he took a Senior Lecturer position at another top university, so my only suggestion would be that he comes back to Northwestern and teaches more math classes that we can take here.
nothing specific
Come with a more clear understanding of the practice problems, so that the course is less intimidating and moving through practice problems doesn't take as long.
None.
Make the midterms less stressful
None.

Suggest improvements to discussion sessions.

Comments
I've enjoyed the evolution of discussion sections over the past quarters. I very much like the fact that we have worksheets to do. Not only does it prove to be low–stakes in comparison to the quizzes in the first quarter, but it allows all the students to talk to each other and learn from each other. I've probably learned more from others regarding concepts in math than just me sitting down and studying.
I do wish everyone came to them because it felt like people were just not coming to class because they already knew how to do the discussions, so those who were left struggled extra. But, it was nice to get the extra more 1 on 1 help with the TAs!
None
No need to make groups with rng, since we just work in our own anyway.
None. Great format currently!
Just get better TAs and just make the discussions based on completion

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