



MATH 13100 44 - Elem Functions And Calculus-1 (Autumn 2017) - Instructor(s): Ronno Das

Number Enrolled: **34**

Number of Responses: **16**

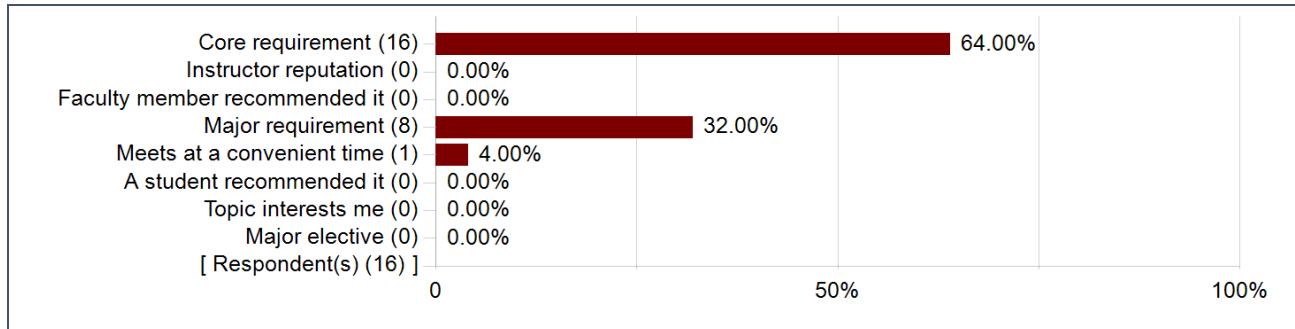
Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Wednesday, April 7, 2021**

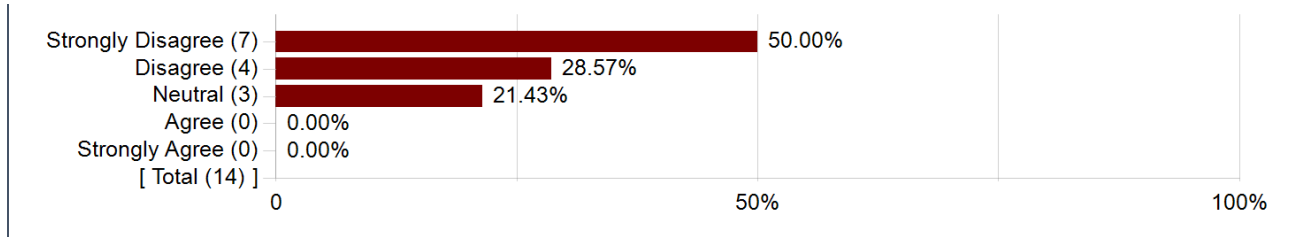
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Why did you take this course?



In summary, I had a strong desire to take this course.

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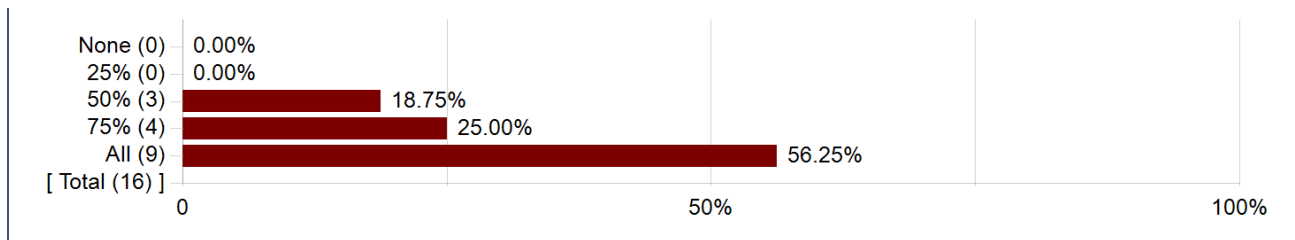


How many hours per week did you spend on this course?

Low Answer	Average Answer	High Answer
2.00	6.31	10.00

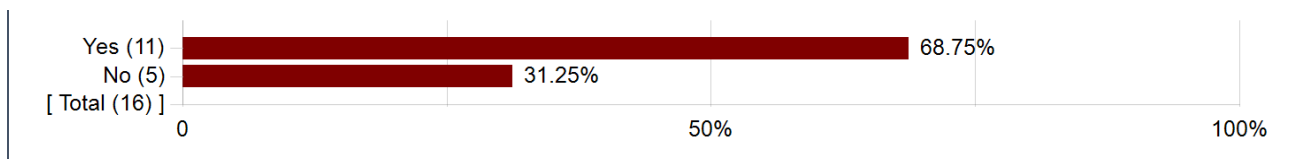
What proportion of classes did you attend?

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Were the time demands of this course reasonable?

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The Instructor

	Mean	Median	N/A	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
The instructor was organized	3.50	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	43.75%	25.00%	18.75%
His/her lectures were clear and understandable	2.00	2.00	0.00%	31.25%	50.00%	6.25%	12.50%	0.00%
His/her lectures were interesting	2.19	2.00	0.00%	25.00%	37.50%	31.25%	6.25%	0.00%
The instructor exhibited a positive attitude toward student	3.56	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	6.25%	37.50%	50.00%	6.25%
The instructor was accessible outside of class	4.07	4.00	12.50%	0.00%	0.00%	6.25%	68.75%	12.50%
I would recommend this instructor to others	2.44	2.00	0.00%	25.00%	31.25%	25.00%	12.50%	6.25%

What were the instructor's strong points?

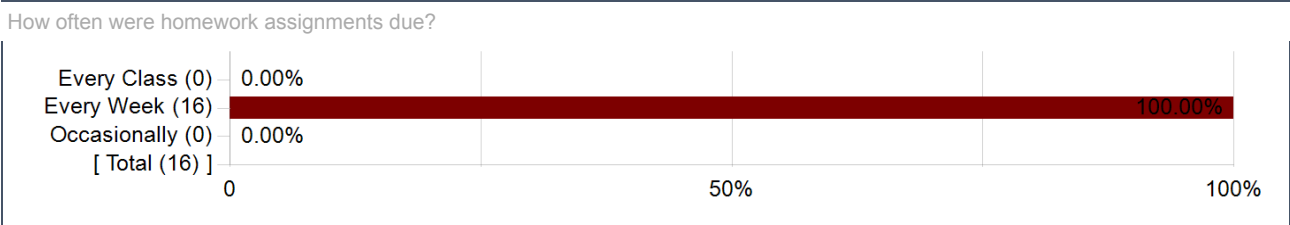
Comments
knew the math very well
He knew the stuff very well.
He was available outside of office hours to accommodate students.
He is almost too good at math.
Accessible, clearly knowledgable, funny, organized
He was very knowledgable of the subject matter and gave lots of good examples during lecture
None. I'm dead serious, none.
He really cared about what he was teaching and wanted to help us succeed.
Willing to work with students to meet exam accommodation needs, clearly interested in calculus
He was nice and meant well, passionate about math
Very knowledgeable of the calculus he teaches and has a passion for mathematics.

What were the instructor's weak points?

Comments
makes large logical jumps, tests material that is beyond the level of 130s
Not very good at explaining and had a cocky attitude.
He rambled during class lectures about things that were so theoretical to the point where it made no sense and didn't apply at all to the actual examples that we would see on the quizzes and midterms/final. Rather than giving examples of what we would need to actually complete our homework, he just gave us theorems half of the time with no way to know how to solve the actual problems that we were later given.
He would just throw concepts at us and move on to the next too quickly
Because he's so good at math, it's difficult for him to explain concepts to people who are less good at math.
Covered too much in too little time, hard to follow because he didn't explain far enough, just gave equations etc. and did sample problems, no reasoning
Tests were often way too difficult for this level; work was excessive outside of class; sometimes lectures were difficult to understand
His accent was not too bad, but he would get to the end of a sentence and my brain would just "?!?!&?#!" because the way the words were strung together and applied to the math just didn't make sense. He really could not understand beyond a surface level that some people had never seen a derivative before and that no one there was a math or physics major. The examples he used to "teach" were "hard examples" (he said so himself) and many were based in physics. I'm a humanities major who had never seen a derivative before this class, I can't gain any sort of valuable learning from a "hard example" and making it "real world" by using physics to "explain" did not work at all I was just more discouraged and confused. Also, his homework was just insane. This is supposed to be the bottom level and an intro; Calc is hard and needs to be taught from the ground up, this was like standing in front of a firehose. Ronno will make a great mathematician, but he is just a terrible teacher if you have never taken calc before.
His lectures were not very clear. He should have moved at a slower pace. The exams were difficult compared with other 131 teachers.
Lectures confusing, exams disproportionately difficult and not reflective of class content
Terrible at explaining things.
Lectures went too fast, quizzes were graded inconsistently, and exams were far too difficult and sometimes tested things not covered.

Assignments and Tests

How often were homework assignments due?



	Mean	Median	N/A	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
The homework assignments were useful, appopriate, reasonable	3.25	3.50	0.00%	12.50%	6.25%	31.25%	43.75%	6.25%
The exams were appropriate/reasonable	2.25	2.00	0.00%	37.50%	25.00%	18.75%	12.50%	6.25%

What did homework assignments involve? (Problems, proofs, computation, explanations, etc.)

Comments
proofs, about 20 questions per week
Problems, proofs, computation
Problems, proofs, computation, explanations.
Problems and proofs
Lots of algebra and some proofs.
All of the above
They were pretty 50/50 book problems and instructor-created problems. Many included proofs or additional explanation.
Problems, proofs, computation, PHYSICS, it was crazy
The homework involved computation, proofs, and explanations.
problems/proofs/computations/some explanations, some from book, some the professor wrote.
problems.
Involved all of the four in fairly reasonable amounts.

How useful were the texts? (Please give author and title)

Comments
rarely used the textbook, Ronno usually wrote his own problems
N/A
I barely ever used it and don't recall what it is called.
Not useful
Not at all - I just used it for some study problems.
Calculus (Ninth Edition) by Varberg, Purcell and Rigdon was helpful especially during exam purposes. It explained clearly what was could have been confusing for authors but a lot of the homework problems were very confusing and weren't covered by examples from the book.
The textbook covered what we discussed in lectures very well
I did not use the text
I didn't use the texts.
Calculus (9th edition) Varberg, Purcell, Rigdon. Good explanations overall. Moderately helpful on exams. Would recommend purchasing.
Not extremely useful.
Somewhat useful to study for quizzes

How many exams were there? What did they involve?

Comments
2 midterms and a final
3 exams: 2 midterms (from the past few weeks of content we had learned) and a final (I'm assuming just for the last few weeks, not the entire class content)
Two midterms and one final.
3, they involved the concepts taught in class
Two midterms and a final. Midterms were about seven questions and final was eleven.
2 midterms 1 final; 3 exams. Proofs, theorems/definitions, true/false, equations, applications of theorems etc., graph-based problems, word problems
We had two midterms and quizzes each week, covering what we learned in lecture and tutorial.
3 - 2 midterms, 1 final. The hardest problems, some stuff we hadn't seen
There were 2 midterms and one final. Every week, there was a short quiz.
3 (2 midterms, 1 final) involving all homework, class, and review content provided. Extremely difficult.
Three exams, problems and explanations
Three exams that were cumulative on what we learned to that point. Exam questions were often abstract and did not give students enough time to complete appropriately and completely.

Laboratories (if applicable):**How well were the labs coordinated with the rest of the course?**

Comments
N/A
N/A
N/A

Did the experiments help you understand the course material? Did the experiments teach you useful lab techniques?

Comments
N/A
N/A
N/A

How well did the lab manual present the theory behind the experiments? How well did it explain experimental procedure?

Comments
N/A
N/A
N/A

How effective and helpful were your discussion leader and/or lab assistant? (Please include their names)

Comments
my TA Marlin was very encouraging and always willing to help. Honestly Marlin and the class time is the only reasons I stayed in this section
The TA named Natalie Leonard was AMAZING! She basically taught the class for me instead of Ronno.
Yuta was very helpful and wanted the best for us in the class.
My TA Jonas Ciplickas was helpful due to the tutorial sections
My TA, Marlin, is the best - he is why I passed this class.
Jonas C. was fantastic! Super eager to help and friendly. Very kind. 11/10
Yuta was a great resource outside of class. He spent a lot of extra time explaining material and making sure we knew what we were doing
My TA, Marlin Figgins, is my honest to goodness savior in this course. In tutorial, he was able to 1) re-teach Ronno's entire lesson 2) get us to understand it (yes, even me) 3) run through example problems that he made up 4) help us with Ronno's crazy idea of what homework is
Yuta was helpful and was always patient with our questions. He was flexible and let us guide the tutorial section according to our needs.
TA Marlin Figgins is the best. Don't have a negative thing to say. He helped our group succeed and we wouldn't have done half as well without him.
Jonas was really incredible, don't know how I could have done it without his help.
Natalie Leonard was an excellent and helpful assistant. Her tutorials taught usually me more than lecture.

General Information:

What aspects of the course should be changed?

Comments
make it easier
Its Calc 131. We are the people who struggle in math, so teaching harder than the 151 class doesn't make any sense.
It's 13100 - everyone probably shouldn't be getting 60s on midterms. I think it needs to be made easier (or, at least, the exams do).
More "why" not just "how"
The difficulty of the exams and homework needs to be reevaluated and reduced
Don't let people who have taken calculus take this course! They should be in 151 or something Slim the course down to just essentials - the people who should take this course do not need to know how this connects to physics
He needs to slow down and explain the material more thoroughly.
Easier exams to match pace/content of course
Exams should be made far more reasonable like other Calc 13100 sections.

What aspects of the course should be retained?

Comments
The mandatory tutorial sections
The tutorial sessions.
The TA sessions are really helpful.
Tutorials!
Tutorials were extremely helpful
Calculus
I appreciated the weekly quizzes.
TA groups
Tutorial sessions twice a week were helpful

Would you recommend this course to others? Why?

Comments
No - Ronno is an unreasonable teacher. But the course content was great, and my TA helped me realize that I love math.
NO. I don't think the way in which we were taught was done well and I don't think the lectures were helpful AT ALL.
Well, you can fill your math requirement.
Exams and homework were super hard so it depends
Probably not. I didn't like the excessive amount of work
No. Take stats if you're looking to get the requirement over with
No-I don't like math in general and this course was too fast paced for me to feel like I've really understood the material.
Overall yes. It was very difficult for me and the exams didn't help at all, but I can say I genuinely learned which is the point of it all. It's not for the faint of heart, but if you put in the effort you will learn.
No, because the exams were unfairly difficult and involved problems far more abstract than the review sheets suggested.