



# MATH 16210 20 - Honors Calculus II (IBL) - Instructor(s): Oron Propp

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Winter 2024**

Number Enrolled: **12**

Number of Responses: **7**

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## Report Comments

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

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Creation Date: **Thursday, March 28, 2024**

**What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.**

Comments
Compactness, limits, fields, and even a little differentiation. Tons of great stuff this quarter.
The most important concepts were constructing the real numbers with dedekind cuts, topological continuity and compactness. We built on what we did last quarter and I grew a lot in presenting proofs after getting comfortable constructing them first quarter.
I feel like I've learned so much in this course. My ability to write proofs has really improved.
Dedekind cuts, density, Ordered fields, intervals, continuity, compactness, and delta-epsilon continuity
The fundamentals of calculus, mixed in with some real analysis – we defined real numbers, intervals, operations like addition and multiplication, continuous functions, compact sets, and limits. We learned a lot of things about proofs, presentations, and derivations.
I think the most valuable skill I gained from this class is improving my ability to think logically. Studying proofs helped me think a lot more rigorously to make sure that all of the steps of the proof fit together, that I'm not skipping any steps, making assumptions or missing edge cases. The class also helped me think abstractly by visualizing and comprehending some initially very strange definitions and terms. I hopefully also improved my ability to think creatively, but I really struggled to come up with proofs on my own instead of just studying proofs presented by the professor or my classmates so I'm not sure how much I grew there. But the class certainly deepened my understanding of math a lot.

**Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.**

Comments
Lectures were much better than what I had last quarter.
I really like the IBL format. It has definitely been super helpful to my learning.
The classes themselves were really the heart of the class even more so than for other courses. There's a lot of community in the class and it's where you'll share the understanding that you've gotten from working through the script so far and learn from others. The office hours were important as a time where it was more on the professor to answer questions about things that the class didn't get to or maybe you didn't get the first time. Although professor Propp did have an active role to play in class itself, guiding the discussion and overseeing the proofs on the board to make sure things were on track.
Classtime and class discussion of proofs were very helpful. Office hours were always really helpful.
Each class helps you grasp the concept better. Since, its in the IBL format you're always collaborating with your peers. Also, your homework is the best/all you'll study. This means that there's a lot more of it but it is definitely useful.
The lectures were very useful in helping me become more confident with mathematics and creating a collaborative atmosphere amongst all the students. The assignments were great ways to exercise our proof skills and familiarize us with the content.
I like the IBL format. It's a cool idea to attempt to solve all the proofs on your own before class, then come to class and take turns presenting and discussing the problems. Often this ended up being frustrating because I would struggle to solve any of the questions, or else run out of time to get through the entire assigned reading since solving the problems takes me a really long time. But generally this was a really cool experience, I enjoyed getting to present proofs and my classmates did a great job presenting their proofs so I could follow along as well as though it was a regular lecture class. I especially liked office hours because Professor Propp and Jalen really worked hard to help me understand the ideas and stay caught up with the class when I was struggling.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	85.71%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	14.29%	71.43%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	71.43%
I felt respected in this class.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	85.71%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
It is a hard course that takes a lot of time. Without putting in the time it becomes a nightmare, so don't take it if you're not willing to put a solid 20+ hours per week.
This course requires a lot of work, but it pays off.
The final is and will inevitably be really really hard. (it does get curved).
It's the best math course I've ever taken!
On the one hand, I'm kind of bummed that we didn't really do much "actual calculus" in two quarters of calculus, only getting to limits at the end of the quarter and not doing any derivatives or integrals yet. But on the other hand, I still felt like the class moved really fast. I wish the class was about 50–75% of its current pace because it is so interesting but also so difficult.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	71.43%	28.57%

## Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
Propp is very motivating, helpful, and respecting. I really appreciate how he encourages everyone, which is essential to breaking taboos in mathematical education.
Oron Propp was incredibly helpful. His in class presentations helped clarify new topics, and I felt that he interjected just the right amount to correct/point out a flaw in a proof.
The guidance during classes helped clarify difficult topics when we saw them for the first time and make sure that our proofs were on the right track at least. Professor Propp is an incredible teacher and also really good at this unorthodox way of teaching. He does a great job of encouraging curiosity and helping to lead you to the right answer without giving it to you so that you still fully understand the thought process behind it. This really helps in being able to construct more proofs similar to a certain proof later since I'd walk away not only knowing how to prove something but why it is proved that way and why each step follows the previous one.
I found office hours to be super helpful for clarifying concepts and proofs. Propp was also very good at redirecting class discussion if our in class proofs weren't quite correct.
Professor's interjections when he clarified proofs with pictures.
He was very good at using the blackboard and guiding class discussions in a clear, focused manner. He was very open to hearing alternative proofs and creating collaboration amongst the students.
Prof Propp is really good at explaining complex topics in a clear and intuitive way. I'm glad he started doing short lectures at the start of each unit, that helped me a lot with comprehending the concepts and definitions. Probably the thing that helped most was going to office hours. He is very patient and empathetic, and he was really good at helping me work through problems when I get stuck without just giving me the answer. He really worked hard to prepare high quality review sessions as well to prepare for finals, which helped me a lot.

## What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Nothing really.
Nothing, professor Propp is really great.
Nothing!
Provide more interjections clarifying proofs with pictures.
He was perfect – no comments!
I just wish the pace of the class was slower or the workload was less demanding, but due to the structure of the class and the content we need to cover that isn't really an option. I feel like he made some really good adjustments between the first and second quarter that helped me quite a bit with learning better.

## The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	57.14%	28.57%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	85.71%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%

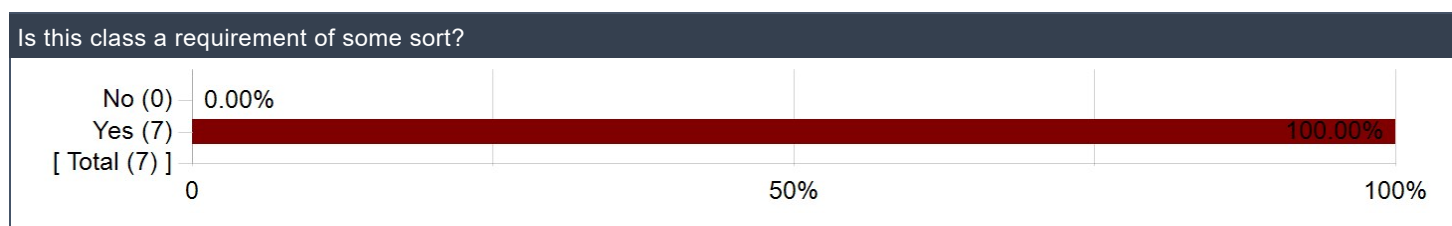
**Please include the name of the TA/CA/Intern you are evaluating. What aspects of the TA's teaching contributed most to your learning? What could the TA modify to help you learn more? Please include any additional feedback for the TA/CA/Intern.**

Comments
Jalen Chrysos. I never went to Jalen's office hours since I had a conflict, but I think those who went found them helpful.
Jalen Chrysos. Jalen contributed a few interesting bits to the discussion throughout the quarter but mostly his contribution was in grading. I thought the grading was good and clear on what was wrong, although at times I did not think gradescope was easy to decipher. I think this problem is on gradescope's end rather than his however. Jalen also had office hours but I never went to his only professor Propp's so I won't comment on them.
Jalen
Jalen Chrysos
Jalen Chrysos – he provided great feedback on all the assignments and some very helpful comments during classes and office hours!
My TA is Jalen Chrysos. I really enjoyed going to his office hours. Office hours for Professor Propp was usually pretty crowded, so it was nice to go to Jalen's office hours to get some help one on one. He did a great job explaining confusing concepts and helping me work through tough questions. I also appreciated how he gave detailed feedback on my assignments so I knew how I could improve.

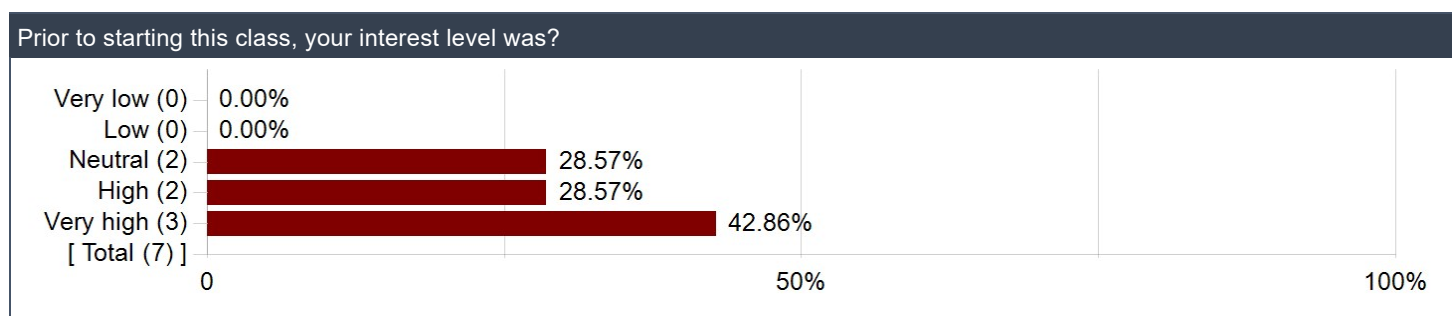
## The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	16.67%	50.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.20	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	33.33%	33.33%	16.67%
Challenged you to learn.	4.40	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	50.00%	16.67%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	66.67%	16.67%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.33	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	33.33%	50.00%	0.00%

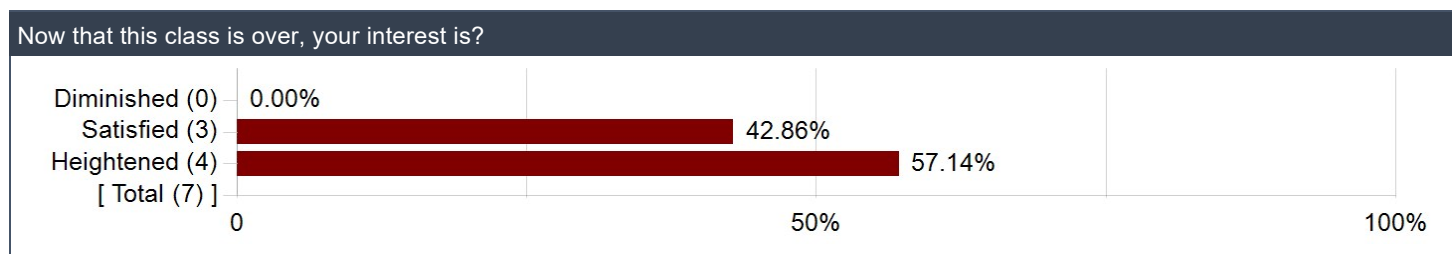
## Is this class a requirement of some sort?



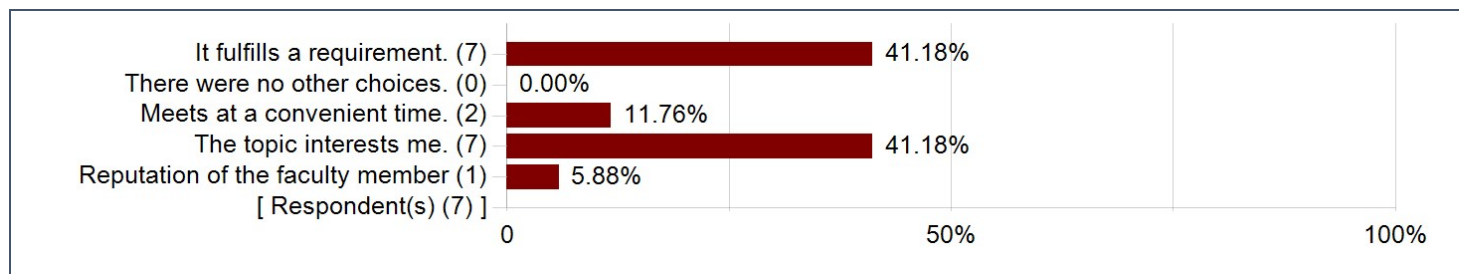
## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



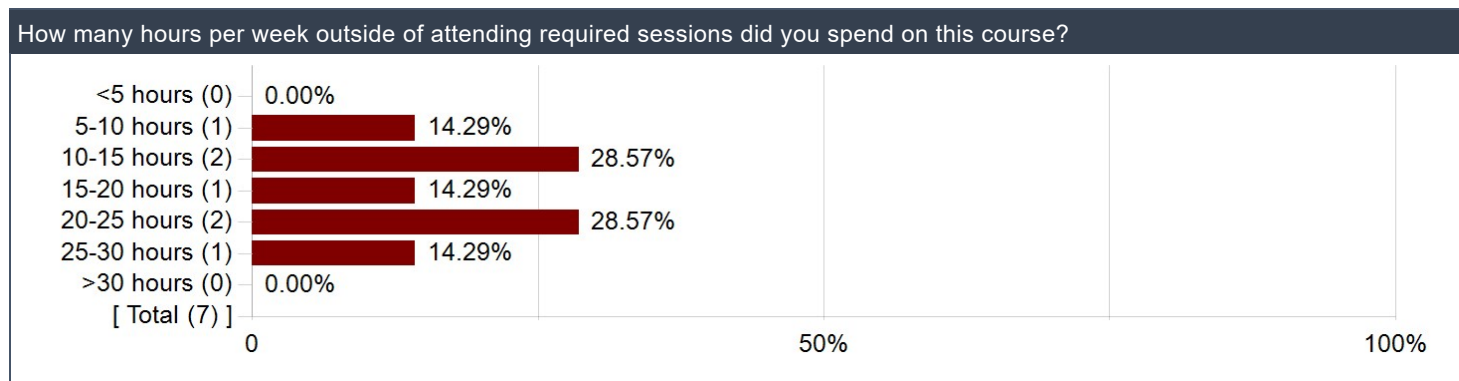
## Now that this class is over, your interest is?



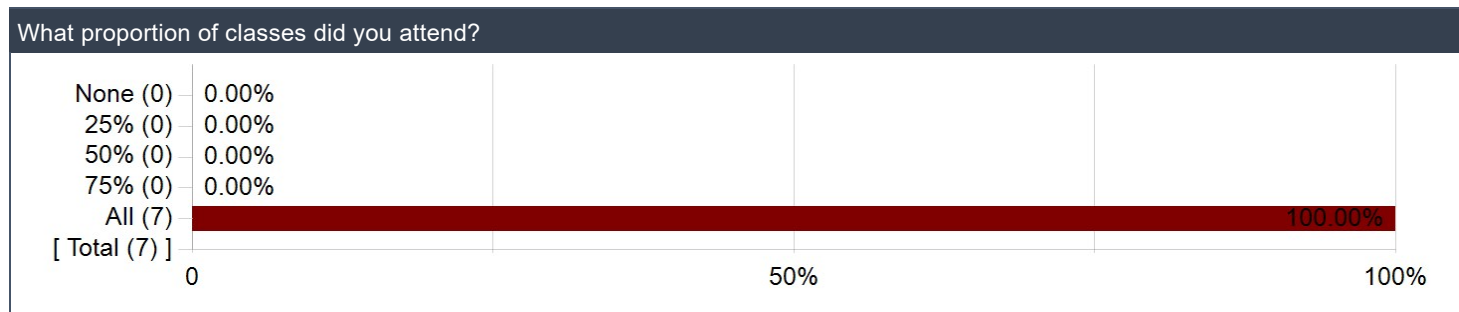
### Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



### How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



### What proportion of classes did you attend?



### Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
This is an objectively challenging course no matter your background.
Maybe a tiny bit more difficult than first quarter, but I was more used to proofs so it compensated.
This was a difficult course. The material itself was harder than the first quarter but I did feel prepared for it. In some ways it was easier since I was more used to the format and to writing proofs. We covered scripts 6–11 and I felt scripts 6 and 7 were the most challenging so far, they covered constructing the real numbers with dedekind cuts and were somewhat tedious and also pretty difficult.
This was a very difficult class. I felt more confident in proof writing than last quarter, but the pace of the class increased this quarter so it took more time.
Very hard. But that's expected.
The course was definitely difficult but it gradually got more manageable.
Very difficult, probably the most difficult class I've ever taken. Although after 161 I have had some experience now and I knew what to expect, so it felt a bit more manageable than first quarter

