MATH 16110 40 - Honors Calculus I (IBL) - Instructor(s): Howard Masur

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2023**

Number Enrolled: **18**
Number of Responses: **14**

Report Comments

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

Creation Date: **Friday, February 2, 2024**

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

Comments
– Theorems of natural, integers, real, and rational numbers – Set Theory – How to write proofs – How to write scripts (with latex or md or etc.)
How to write proofs and work collaboratively.
I learned how to write formal proofs and understand on a more fundamental level why mathematics is the way that it is, rather than just accepting it to be a certain way.
Set theory, construction of the reals
Calculus topics, set theory, how to do proofs, new approaches to thinking/ tackling difficult and new material
How to write proofs and see math in a very different way from high school. Presentation skills and confidence improved.
The development of proof techniques was the most integral part of this quarter, even beyond the presented concepts. I found my knowledge of what proving entails helped me just as much as the definitions and theorems themselves. Otherwise, the terms of mathematics, like induction, well–defined, and construction, were also really significant.
I believe the most important thing I learned in this course was the effective presentation and communication of a mathematical proof to a group of peers.
How to do rigorous mathematical proofs and how to construct real numbers.
construction of the real numbers, set theory, open/closed sets, limit points
Everything proofs–above and beyond. Elementary set theory.
I learned how to do proofs.

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

Comments
– In–class proofs: all of class time was spent on this. This was good for going over concepts in the HW and asking any questions – Scripts: This was where most of the learning came from, it's p–sets
In class discussions about the scripts were helpful to fine–tune our proofs.
They were all useful.
Because it's an IBL class, all of the course is taught through student presentations. It's helpful to see other people's solutions when they present, but also good practice for writing proofs/giving presentations in general.
Classes were always great and very relaxed, office hours were useful, and prof Masur's tips were always helpful
The presentation methodology of this class is great! It forces you to really know what you are talking about, and by doing so, forces you to learn your proof well enough so that you can teach it to your peers.
I found the ability to understand what was happening in class was dependent on actually trying the proofs before class. Without a lecture, it is very easy to just write stuff in a journal without knowing what happens. Additionally, depending on which student goes up the proof is either more or less clear.
I believe that the idea that we learn for ourselves, being that we are forced to solve on our own all of the problems given to us with little input from the teacher has enabled us to develop far greater problem solving skills.
The scripts and class time were really good and helpful.
discussion during class helped me understand a lot of the proofs of this course
Office hours are very helpful, go to every office hour you can attend.
The classes were useful in getting a sense of the precision required.

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.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	7.14%	0.00%	35.71%	57.14%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.29	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	21.43%	28.57%	50.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	21.43%	71.43%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.79	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	21.43%	78.57%
I felt respected in this class.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	28.57%	57.14%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	28.57%	64.29%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I liked it
Mazur was great!
IBL is a great experience and I recommend it even if you don't have much experience with proofs
Amazing course!!
This course is really about sticking it out. The first two to three weeks will be super demanding if you have no background in proofs. However, if you don't drop this course by week three, things start to improve as your ability to construct proofs improves.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	8.33%	91.67%
Anyone interested in the topic	28.57%	71.43%

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

Comments
– answering questions and commenting on scripts
This is IBL
Office hours
His comments during presentations
Masur was great at asking good questions to the class and facilitating discussion.
I think that Dr. Masur's examples were the most useful. While the theorems and lemmas are useful, it is hard to see what happens without some examples, and certain examples in the class carried on throughout the course, giving a grounding point even with the new concepts.
Our class was an IBL class, so our professor was less there to teach us and more there to supervise us teaching ourselves. However, I would say that our professor intervened when necessary and provided helpful explanations of topics we had trouble understanding.
The way that Professor Masur conducted class was very helpful.
being available after class to ask questions; professor masur is really helpful with clarifying questions

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
I think the first couple of classes should be spent learning about how to write proper proofs.
I think a little bit more instruction could be helpful
Nothing. As long as you go to office hours (assuming it doesn't conflict with other classes), you should be able to do pretty well.
Nothing
I understand that this is a reverse classroom style classroom, but not engaging with the students/ teaching anything kind of defeats the purpose of taking a class.
N/A
I think there needed to be more emphasis on making information stick for students. This could be accomplished by more examples, but I also think that office hours would have helped for this, albeit I only went a few times for the quarter.
I believe that the format of the course is already ideal, needing little change.
covering the basics more so that we understand the fundamental concepts of the course, instead of just having us argue with one another

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	38.46%	61.54%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.17	4.50	0.00%	7.69%	0.00%	15.38%	23.08%	53.85%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	15.38%	61.54%	15.38%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.77	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	23.08%	76.92%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.77	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	23.08%	76.92%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	7.69%	0.00%	23.08%	69.23%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	15.38%	69.23%	7.69%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	38.46%	61.54%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.42	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	8.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	30.77%	61.54%	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
Victor. He graded scripts and led some office hours. His comments on scripts were very helpful and the grading was fair.
Victor
Victor Hernandez – his office hours were very helpful. I wouldn't really ask him to change anything.
Victor. He is great and always available.
Victor Hugo Almendra Hernandez Victor CARRIED this class for me. His office hours were excellent and his ability to explain topics/ work with students to come to conclusions without giving them the answers was incredible.
Victor Hernandez. He is awesome and very helpful! His grading is fair and he gives great feedback on the homework.
Victor Hugo Almendra Hernandez
victor
Victor Hugo Almendra Hernandez was an excellent TA. I wouldn't be able to enjoy this class to this extent if it weren't for him. He's like a second professor to the class that not only helps you with the assignments but also teaches the content.

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	40.00%	30.00%	20.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	90.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.44	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	10.00%	60.00%	10.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	70.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	70.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	10.00%	70.00%	0.00%

Is this class a requirement of some sort?

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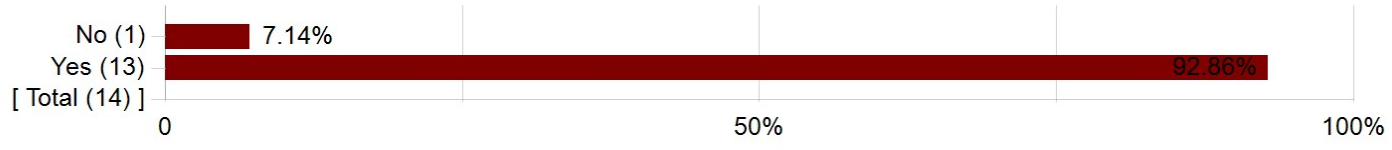
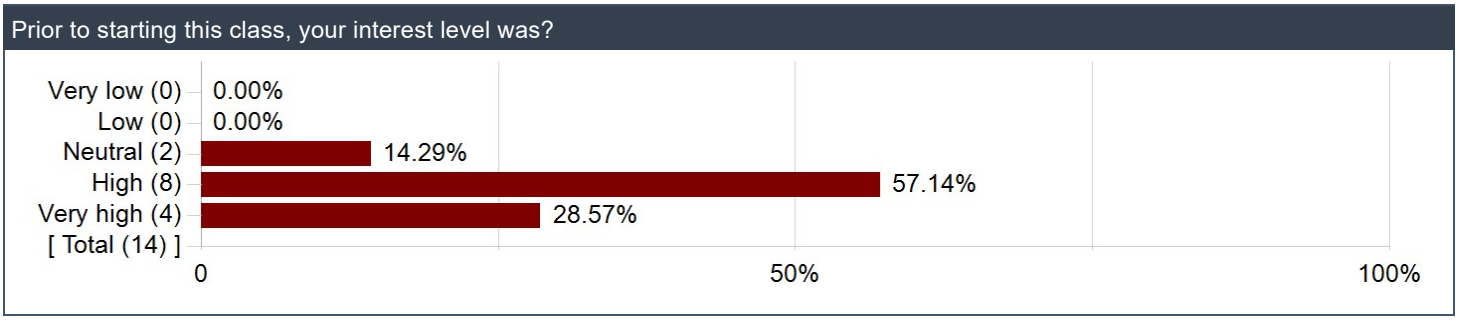
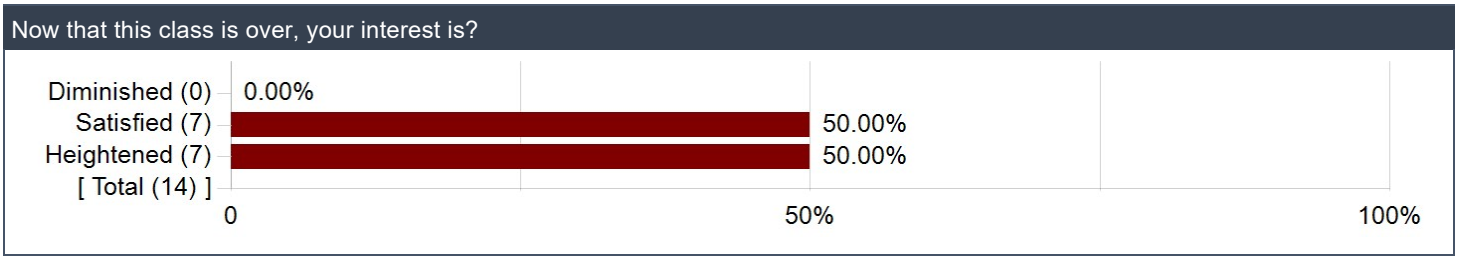


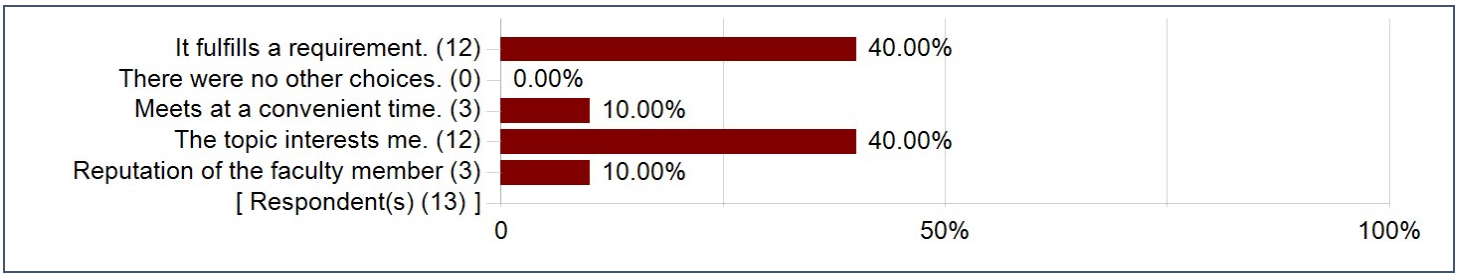
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



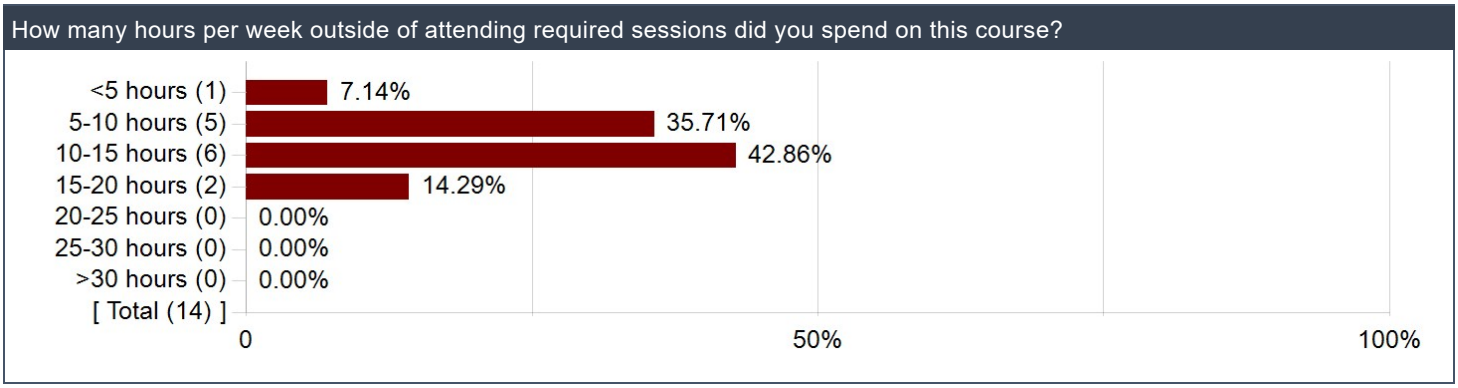
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



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?

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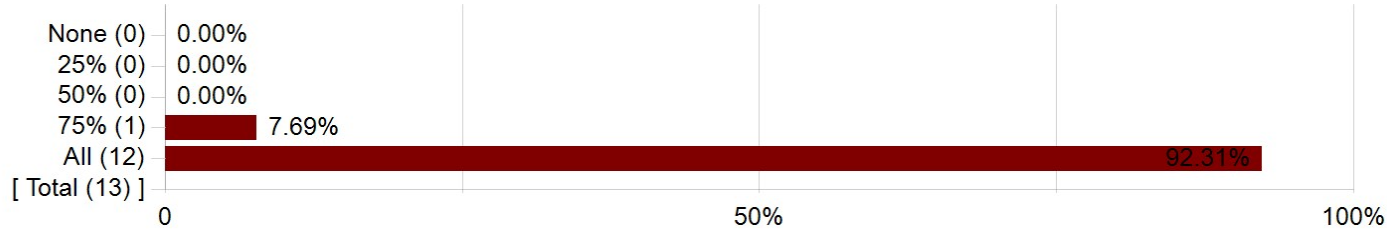

Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
I had taken AP calc, multivariable, and linear algebra before this, but those did not help that much because it was very much a problem solving class that is very foundational.
about right
It's difficult at first if you haven't done proofs before. While the proofs themselves get harder over the course of the quarter, I felt that they became easier as I became more comfortable writing proofs.
I did not have much practice writing proofs but this course wasn't too difficult
As someone who never took proof–based math in high school, there was definitely a learning curve for me in this class. Luckily, most of the other students also had to overcome this curve. Attending office hours and working with other students is the key to success.
None. You do not have to have any proof knowledge before starting this class. Be prepared to not know all the proofs but if you go to office hours, work with peers, and spend your time, this course is very doable for anyone!
I found this course to be really difficult with just the knowledge from high school/AP calculus, I think some basic set theory should be looked over before starting the course. Going over some of this helped me not fall behind on script 1.
Prior to this class I had never taken a class where material was expected to be learned entirely through the efforts of only the students.
The first few weeks were very challenging but after that it was fairly easy.
it was pretty difficult and the highest level of math I took was calc bc
It is not hard if you spend enough time on it and if you are interested in proof based mathematics.