

**Instructional Assistant Student Evaluation of Teaching for Sawyer Jack Robertson
Department of Mathematics**

MATH 180A - Introduction to Probability (Schweinsberg, Jason)
Winter 2025

Number of Evaluations Submitted: 25
Number of Students Enrolled: 189

1. The Instructional Assistant used instructional methods in section and/or office hours that helped me learn and engage with the course material.

23 (92.0%): Strongly Agree
1 (4.0%): Agree
0 (0.0%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
1 (4.0%): Not Applicable

2. The sections led by this Instructional Assistant were well-coordinated with other components of this class (e.g., lecture, lab, assignments, etc.).

23 (92.0%): Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%): Agree
0 (0.0%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
2 (8.0%): Not Applicable

3. The Instructional Assistant communicated effectively.

23 (92.0%): Strongly Agree
1 (4.0%): Agree
0 (0.0%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
1 (4.0%): Not Applicable

4. The Instructional Assistant provided constructive feedback on my work.

18 (72.0%):	Strongly Agree
3 (12.0%):	Agree
1 (4.0%):	Neither Agree Nor Disagree
1 (4.0%):	Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
2 (8.0%):	Not Applicable

5. The Instructional Assistant created a welcoming and supportive learning environment.

23 (92.0%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Agree
0 (0.0%):	Neither Agree Nor Disagree
1 (4.0%):	Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
1 (4.0%):	Not Applicable

6. The Instructional Assistant generally began and ended section/lab/office hours on time.

23 (92.0%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Agree
0 (0.0%):	Neither Agree Nor Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
2 (8.0%):	Not Applicable

7. Please describe any practices that the Instructional Assistant specifically used that created or interfered with a welcoming and supportive learning environment.

- He made it easy for people to participate when they wanted and was open to all suggestions.
- He made sure to answer questions completely and thoroughly. He was also very fair in how he went around the room and didn't give partial treatment to any student, and in the process, gave all students equal treatment and attention.
- He was friendly at all times, and at the beginning of each discussion section, he would ask us about our day
- If you're right in answering a question posed by him, then he'll give you praise. However, if you're incorrect or you're consistently incorrect he will seem mildly frustrated which causes the student to no longer want to ask questions. He could be a bit nicer with feedback.
- Interactive discussion sections and office hours. Kept material engaging while providing slightly different perspectives/approaches to Professor's, while keeping in line with lecture material.

8. Please describe any practices that the Instructional Assistant specifically used that particularly helped you to learn the material and/or encouraged you to feel that you could succeed in the course.

- Asking questions and receiving helpful answers
- He gave us examples closely related to the homework material, which really helped me address some difficult problems more easily.
- He is one of the most knowledgeable instructors I've ever had and it is clear he is very well versed in math and because of that, he is able to explain things extremely well by taking every problem and stripping it down to its roots, so that I can build it back up again and really learn the inner workings of the content.
- I had a bad experience with him that caused him to tell me that I should have memorized something when it was barely taught prior. I don't think he offers attitude that leads to one believing they will succeed in the course, at least in office hours.
- I liked how detailed concise discussion sections were in the event that lecture could sometimes be overly packed. But the discussion sections kept me on track
- I really liked the structured form of discussion so we'd have problems that actually helped expand on the concepts during lecture.
- I think the instructor was really good at rephrasing/explaining questions in a more clear way. I also think the way he taught discussion was very useful since there was some call and response, so we had time to really think.
- I went to discussion almost every week and office hours a few times, and they were both extremely helpful. Although my TA wasn't able to get to 3 example problems (haha), he would thoroughly explain the two that we did go over very thoroughly and in a way that made so much sense to me. I struggled a lot in this class, especially the first 5 weeks or so, but once I started attending Office Hours with this TA my grades and understanding significantly improved. He was so helpful and kind when explaining and I was so appreciative of all of his feedback in Office Hours as well as how thorough he was in his explanations! I struggled a lot with lecture material and the homework in general, so discussions + office hours made me feel like I could succeed in this class. My scores have since significantly improved, both with the homework and the midterm.
- Provided excellent examples in the discussion section
- Provided questions that helped with our understanding of the material
- Very good at explaining and had clear approaches towards solving problems that helped me learn and encouraged me to attend every section.

9. Please offer constructive suggestions that might help the Instructional Assistant improve their contribution to your learning of the course material.

- Don't treat everyone like this class is their first priority in life because they don't view it the way you view it. Conduct office hours having more empathy and be less disrespectful to students when they are wrong.
- Not really any fault of the TA, but I think the time constraint of discussion sections sometimes restricts how much we cover in a single session

10. Is there anything else you would like to share about your experience with this Instructional Assistant?

- He was so kind and patient! All of his explanations were very helpful and he guided me to the answer rather than just telling me outright what would be helpful. Overall a wonderful experience and he was super helpful!
- He's not helpful when it comes to answering homework questions. Either he'll excuse himself real quick so that he can see the instructor's solutions (which showcases a lack of knowledge) or he'll let you stay stuck on the same question for 2 hours which isn't productive. He'll offer little hints instead of larger hints that will allow for successive progress.
- Nothing in particular! Awesome TA, very helpful
- Really good TA who's discussions were really helpful in understanding the concepts.

11. What was/were your reason(s) for taking this course?

22 (71.0%):	Major/Program Requirement
2 (6.5%):	Minor
0 (0.0%):	College General Education
3 (9.7%):	Elective
4 (12.9%):	Interest
0 (0.0%):	American History and Institutions (AHI) Requirement
0 (0.0%):	Undergraduate Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Requirement (DEI) Requirement
0 (0.0%):	Jane Teranes Climate Change Education Requirement (JTCCER)
0 (0.0%):	Graduate Program Requirement
0 (0.0%):	Other

12. How frequently did you interact with the Instructional Assistant **IN THE SECTION**?

10 (41.7%):	Frequently
10 (41.7%):	Sometimes
2 (8.3%):	Seldom
0 (0.0%):	Never
2 (8.3%):	Not Applicable
1:	[No Response]

13. How frequently did you interact with the Instructional Assistant **DURING OFFICE HOURS**?

9 (36.0%):	Frequently
4 (16.0%):	Sometimes
1 (4.0%):	Seldom
8 (32.0%):	Never
3 (12.0%):	Not Applicable

14. How frequently did you interact with the Instructional Assistant **VIA EMAIL?**

2 (8.0%):	Frequently
3 (12.0%):	Sometimes
5 (20.0%):	Seldom
10 (40.0%):	Never
5 (20.0%):	Not Applicable

15. How frequently did you interact with the Instructional Assistant **VIA THE COURSE DISCUSSION BOARD?**

2 (8.0%):	Frequently
2 (8.0%):	Sometimes
0 (0.0%):	Seldom
9 (36.0%):	Never
12 (48.0%):	Not Applicable

16. How often did you receive feedback from this instructional assistant on assignments/exams/papers?

13 (52.0%):	Frequently
4 (16.0%):	Sometimes
1 (4.0%):	Seldom
3 (12.0%):	Never
4 (16.0%):	Not Applicable

The data and comments provided in this report are unfiltered and unedited, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of instructors, the teaching department, Academic Affairs, or UC San Diego. Responses and comments are made available without auditing or editing, and they may not be modified or deleted, to ensure that each evaluator has an opportunity to express their opinion.

Confidential support for reading and interpreting student feedback is available through the Teaching and Learning Commons. [Click here](#) to schedule a one-on-one consultation, or email engagedteaching@ucsd.edu.

If you feel that comments constitute harassment or discrimination, then please file a report with the Office for the Prevention of Harassment and Discrimination (OPHD). Because these comments are provided anonymously, it is unlikely that any action can be taken. However, OPHD will record and review these reports in order to assess whether SET comments are a cause for concern.