



Rutgers University Midcourse Surveys

Fall 2020

Guadagni, Joseph - JG1314

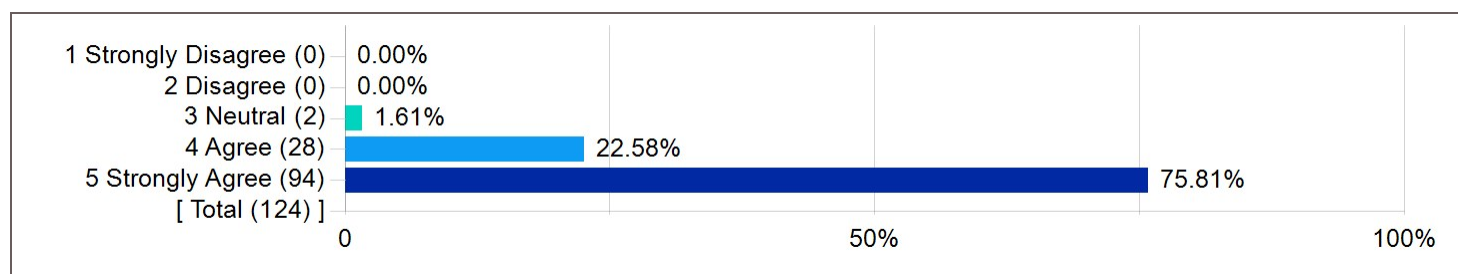
Calc I Life&soc Sci - 01:640:135:19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

Enrollment: 177

Responses Received: 127

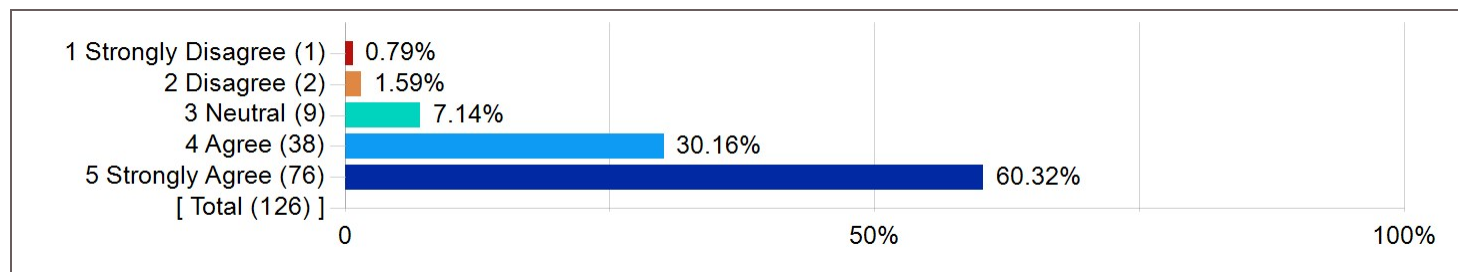
Instructor Questions

The instructor Joseph Guadagni was prepared for class and presents material in an organized manner.



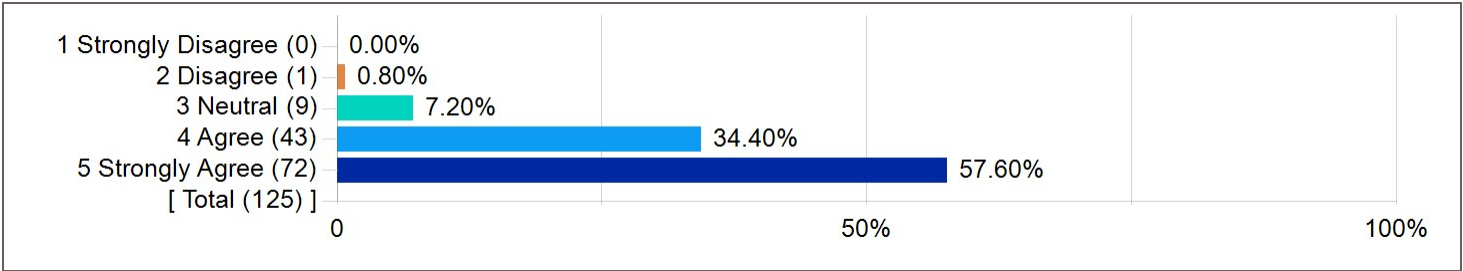
Strongly Disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Neutral (3)	Agree (4)	Strongly Agree (5)	Total Responses	Section Mean
0	0	2	28	94	124	4.74

The instructor Joseph Guadagni responds effectively to student comments and questions.



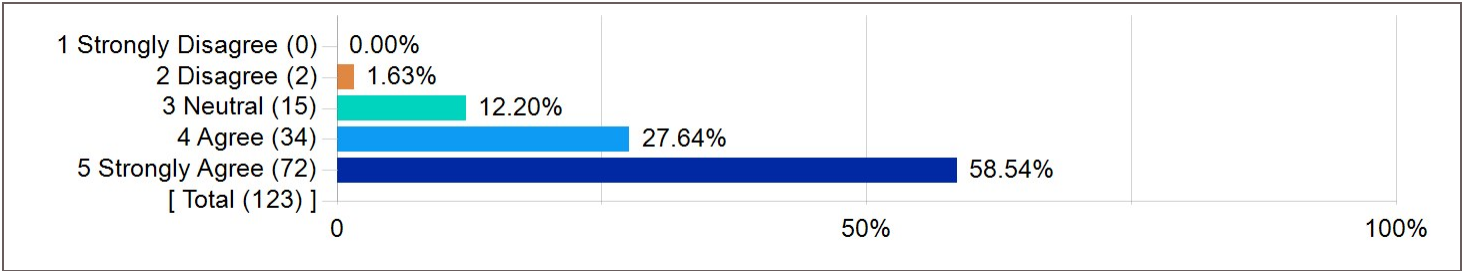
Strongly Disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Neutral (3)	Agree (4)	Strongly Agree (5)	Total Responses	Section Mean
1	2	9	38	76	126	4.48

The instructor Joseph Guadagni posted content that helped me understand the topics covered by the course.



Strongly Disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Neutral (3)	Agree (4)	Strongly Agree (5)	Total Responses	Section Mean
0	1	9	43	72	125	4.49

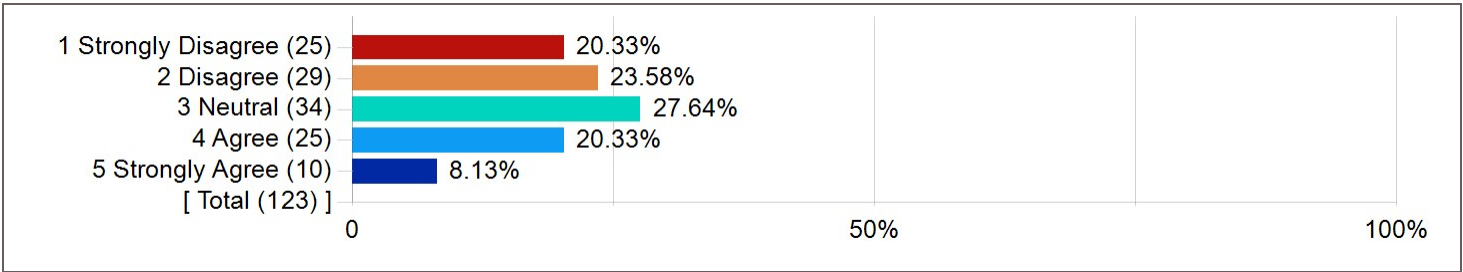
The instructor Joseph Guadagni has taught effectively in the course so far.



Strongly Disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Neutral (3)	Agree (4)	Strongly Agree (5)	Total Responses	Section Mean
0	2	15	34	72	123	4.43

Course Questions

I was glad to take this course in an online format; for me it is the preferred format for this course.



Strongly Disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Neutral (3)	Agree (4)	Strongly Agree (5)	Total Responses	Section Mean
25	29	34	25	10	123	2.72

What do you like most about this course?

Comments
Dr. G, thoroughly explains his answers. He doesn't allow his students to give up!
I like way that Dr. G teaches and explains things really well.
I love the teaching page and the fact that Dr. G is very available to help students with material.

Comments
The canvas homework
I like that way the material is taught
I like being able to learn about subjects in lecture but still being able to discuss and work with them in smaller groups during recitation.
I like the fact that my professor takes the time to reexplain a topic if necessary and that there are so many learning resources.
I like that everything is straightforward. There usually isn't any confusion.
I like how thorough the professor and recitation instructors are. They make sure to give us difficult problems on purpose so that we feel prepared for the exam. I appreciate the thoroughness.
I enjoy how Dr. G and Tamar breakdown different concepts and respond to questions. This makes it much easier to learn calculus than with teachers who leave their students to their own devices.
I think Dr. G is really knowledgeable and encourages us to ask why we do things which helps us learn them more comprehensively.
Notes provided
Videos are always there.
Dr.G make many sttudy resources
The topics are explained well in class, and there are a lot of resources for extra practice.
Easy websites to navigate, good organization, and great teachers
How straightforward and clear the information is.
Not too fast, easy to catch up
nothing
Dr. G is an amazing professor and I learn very easily with his lectures.
I like Dr. G's website and youtube channel.
Dr. G is really nice and answers all my questions. He is really invested in his student's success and it shows.
I like how there are many things that we complete to help our grades. For example, the recitation quizzes, recitation homework, and the Mylabs.
Dr. G is really helpful and explains content well
The plentiful amount of resources provided by the course coordinator, Dr. G
Not sure, this course is pretty hard
Lots of examples and fast pace learning
I like how the class is taught and how everything is organized.
I like that lectures are recorded so that students can go back and review to study before an exam. The professor also goes over difficult problems with the students which helps too.
The homework assignments because they really tell me what part I need to focus on.
He actually teaches us concepts and helps us understand concepts of math, not like in high school where you just try to remember the type of questions from the review.
Dr.G's lectures are informative and fun to attend its a good mix of teaching and interacting with the class.
I like the fact that the professor himself effectively get the material across and is interactive with the students. By doing so he makes the students are understanding the material and are able to ask any questions.
I like how organized the course is. I also really appreciate the fact that we not only learn how to solve calculus problems, but we understand the why's and how's in every lesson. The more in-depth teaching has helped me understand calculus better.
The professor provided more than enough resources online to broaden my understanding of calculus and to be prepared enough for the exams.
The lectures and the easy access to the lecture videos on Professor G's youtube channel
The professor is extremely helpful. He answers questions effectively and is always willing to help. He posts lots of material for us to practice on our own with as well. He also makes class very fun.
I like the helpful materials posted to do better in the course and my instructors are helpful too.
Dr. G's dedication to teaching online.
the professor
how dr g keeps the class engaged while doing the notes
I like there is a focus on going over all the different types of problems one may encounter in the HW or tests.

Comments
I like how during the lecture, we go through many example problems of the material that is supposed to be covered, which is good because it helps reinforce what we're learning and show how certain concepts can be applied to problems in different ways.
I like how during lecture he goes over many examples and explains why behind the problems.
I like how lectures are also posted online.
The professor and the notes given to study from.
I like how the videos posted on youtube are just as helpful as being in the lecture.
In this course, I really like that the teacher handles tough problems in class and assigns challenging homework assignments/recitation activities to get a better grasp of the information being taught. I found that in my high school they would teach how to complete the easy problems in class and then assume we would know how to solve the challenging problems on the test.
Challenging while still being manageable.
Dr. G's notes are super clear cut and helpful. He also posts a lot of materials online for practice which is very convenient
I like the set up. Lectures, homework then exam. I think it's a very easy and helpful way to learn new information
I love how Dr. G teaches this course and how he explains everything in detail and gives us more examples and practice which helps me a lot.
I like that this class offers lots of extra practice work.
I love math in general so calc is always going to be a course that I'd be glad to take.
I like the number of resources available to us
Everything is easily accessible.
I like our teacher Joseph a lot. He organizes his notes for us on zoom really neatly and explains everything thoroughly. it really helps me better understand the topics we cover.
When our professor teaches it is very hard to misunderstand what he is saying, he makes everything clear.
I like the fact that I am taking a challenging course.
I like that there are a lot of resources to help us.
That the lectures are recorded and Dr. G has a website that has all the extra help that is needed to succeed in the class
It is a complete new knowledge for me, and it is interesting sometimes.
How everything is planned out.
Dr. G's lectures are great. Not only do we understand what we learn but also the class isn't boring
The lectures that are posted online are extremely helpful and I go to them often
I like how organized the course is like on canvas, and also Dr. G's youtube channel is very well formatted which helps a lot.
I like how everything is very organized and there are so many resources for us to choose from. It seems like it's not even something new for the Math department because of how well teachers (especially dr.G) are teaching.
The 6 midterms
I like this course because it is a requirement that I need to complete and pass.
I like that even though the lectures are live, we still have access to previous lecture videos.
Learning more advanced mathematics
nothing really, its mandatory
I personally hate math classes but when I have a good math teacher who knows what they're doing and have a good personality and way of doing things, I end up liking the class and that is what Dr.G is for me. He is a good teacher who knows exactly how to teach calculus.
This class clarifies and reteaches me in a more effective way than in High school.
I honestly like how we have 6 midterms instead of 3 midterms. If we did poorly on one of the exams, we are still able to bring up our grades in our next exam. Calculus itself is a difficult and challenging course. Being able to understand the concept and not just memorizing the steps to solve the question is important.
I like the jokes that Dr G says during class which brightens the lecture and how Dr G would explaining the problem more clearer if anyone had trouble
I like how Dr. G clearly lays out the course and takes the time to organize an entire website dedicated to practice material for the exam. He is genuinely passionate about what he teaches and he cares about all of his students' ability to establish a foundation of calculus skills in this class.
I like that I'm not required to keep my camera on, because it allows me to really pay attention without feeling like I have a chance of eyes on me. I also like the structure of the lectures, they're very organized.

Comments
I like how although its online, all of the professors are trying to make it as educational as possible and are very informative.
I really like the homework assignments and how it shows the problems step by step, it really helps me overall.
I like recitation because it gives me more opportunities to work on the topics that we learn that week.
I like that there are a lot of resources to help me understand concepts better and get help when I am confused, specifically, Dr. G's teaching page.
I like how all of his resources are on his website so that we can always go back and look at videos, worksheets, and notes. Nothing is kept a secret, and I love how his notes are always so clear and easy to understand because usually math teachers do not spend this much time color coding and helping us understand. I really appreciate how the answer keys are provided to help us check our work.
Midterms have less of an impact on our final grades, which means messing up on one isn't that bad.
beginning of class
The pace anyone can go out
Sometimes I understand what's happening, other times, not so much. It's always fun trying to figure out which side I'm at on any given day...
The professor understands the students questions and is always prepared to answer. He also teaches with the right amount of examples.
The resources made available by Dr G.
I love this class, it is my favorite. The professor is engaging.
youtube videos that go over the lectures
There are a lot of resources for assistance outside of lecture.
It is interesting and Dr. Guadagni does a good job teaching the material in an understandable way.
Dr. G has great notes and flawless lectures.
I like the ways that the istructures teach the course material, I think they do it very well!
I really liked how professor provided us with the notes ahead of class time but still went over them in the lecture
I enjoy the method the teachers use to teach, and the combination of the large, overarching lectures with the small recitations,
I am gay, I am bad at math. I dont like anything.
Dr G takes a difficult and simplifies it to have our understanding of the topic, which is something I really appreciate.
This is my first college level math course, but the pace is fast enough to keep me on my toes but slow enough to actually let me learn the material, the lessons are structured well in that the explanations are clear and the practices are helpful. The class is as expected difficult, but difficult as a result of the subject itself, not made any more so difficult by the professor, but rather facilitated by his teaching and willingness to address questions and concerns, no matter how small or obvious they may seem, which enables anyone to voice their concerns with no obstacle of fear, allowing us to more effectively learn the lesson.
Dr. G is an excellent lecturer. Clear and concise presentation of the material along with supplementary study tools such as online notes, past exams with solutions, and worksheets.

What do you think needs improvement and how should these improvements be made?

Comments
The recitations don't offer much help in the sense that they can't really address the question because they can't give the answer and how they got to it.
The use of conceptual questions on the exams, which can cover some things that were not covered in class.
I think it would be helpful to be able to access the multiple choice homework (view only) after the due date has passed because I think it would really help with studying for the midterms.
Extend office hours
None
I don't really know how to improve anything that can actually be changed.
There should be more explanation and examples in the hw problems.
I think the exams should be closer to what we do in class.
N/a
I cannot think of anything.

Comments
I think the course became harder going online which I don't love.
N/A.
ly is good
Having more student-to-student interaction during recitation would be nice, but that would be difficult to do online. Maybe creating larger recitation groups/breakout rooms or allowing for students to form their own groups (if they wanted to) would help.
N/A
Nothing really to improve on, really makes the best of online learning in my opinion
Too much Midterm
nothing
I think we should be learning more conceptual topics, as those are the ones covered by the exams. In class, we could easily learn the topic itself and practice with conceptual questions instead of easy equations.
I don't think anything needs improvement in particular, I just wished we were in person because it may have made it easier to connect with Dr. G and the TA. Other than that, I think the course translated well online.
Everything seems good the way it is from my end.
I don't think anything needs improvement
I feel like we need more time for the tests, I don't end up finishing — increase the amount of time we are given
make the recitation activities a little bit easier
Better recitations
If there is a continuation of the online classes I think there needs to be something fixed with the midterm testing. I feel like I do not have enough time, especially when the timer starts when I am not even loaded in yet.
no improvements
Reviews and assignments that accurately get you ready for a test or quiz
I think this course is good where it is.
The Recitation needs to be changed, for my experience its me in a room of 6 people where no one speaks and its just me doing the assigned question and waiting for the instructor to go over the answers at the end. It just feels like a waste of time.
I think Recitation can be improved. It is supposed to be used for group work, which can be stressed more. Also, I think that the lectures can be altered a little bit in where the questions are structured similar to the exam questions. Of course not the same exact questions, but the level of difficulty from the homework or most of the textbook problems do not match the difficulty of the exam. While, I am able to understand the concept and challenge myself by watching all of DR. G's lectures, pre-lecture videos, and doing all the problems in the textbook, the test format and questions are more difficult the review for the exam.
I think that along with definitions and examples, lectures could include one or two problems that are as advanced as (or more advanced than) the problems found on exams, and a step-by-step solution for them. This might help people learn how to apply their knowledge to more complex problems.
Lecture material needs to cover more topics.
The questions we practice in class should be as hard as those that are presented to us during the midterms. We should be going over a lot more conceptual aspects if the midterm is going to be conceptual.
Often times the workshop quizzes are based on things that I have not covered yet in lecture. I recently was quizzed on something in which I was taught the day after. Also during the workshops, the TA does not have time to explain stuff to us and does not effectively answer each student's questions.
The instructor Joseph Guagandi needs to be more thorough when he is replying emails.
The recitations are not too helpful to me.
the exam formats
recitation questions are sometimes really hard because some are really different then the examples we did in class
Sometimes, the problems in recitation are on things that have not yet been discussed in the regular lectures, and this is not very helpful. I think the recitation problems should supplement the lectures, not introduce new material.
I think more time should be spent on one topic instead of learning a new topic each time there is a class scheduled. This can happen if we spend two lecture classes on each topic instead of just one.
I think it's good!
I feel like the homework and class examples don't help us for the exams enough, and the exams give too little time.
Make the material easier to understand and have more group discussions.

Comments
I think homework should be spread out more and not have two assignments due at the same time
The class is overall taught extremely well, but the only factor I would change is the online portion of the class. I find myself being able to focus and concentrate more in a classroom setting. However, I understand that this is not ideal at the moment due to the COVID-19 situation.
The exam points are a bit too extreme. For example, some questions are worth 8 points. That is a bit too much in my opinion.
This course in itself is already very difficult for many students and the online format personally doesn't help in learning the material, but I don't see the need to purposely made the course so hard for students especially in terms of the exams that are very different that what is reviewed and taught in class.
The midterms are not anything like class or midterms from previous years. They are a lot harder and the things we learn in class don't cover what is on the midterm I know that the class is online but the midterms aren't a fair representation of what we know.
N/a
The instructor for recitation should be able to provide clear examples on how to solve a problem and not just hint at a few minor ways to approach it. The whole point of recitation is to relearn and practice what was taught in class right? It just feels like I'm doing ineffective practice.
The exam is much more difficult than the work learned in class and requires additional skills to complete most of the problems, other than those skills learned in class. The average grades for the exams further my argument.
I think that the exams should have questions we cover in class.
I think recitations can be made more interactive, because right now we're just dropped into breakout rooms and told to work. Maybe we can go over test problems or hold a question=answer session.
The times of the midterm exams.
I really dislike how the exams are much more difficult than examples we do during lecture and homework. if we did more difficult examples in class, the exams wouldn't be that hard. there's clearly an issue with difficulty on exams when passing grades are considered 60s. there should be a curve at this point.
We should better understand the material conceptually, which should help us be more suited for tests and the final exam.
Students who don't cheat and do their work should not be struggling to get good grades on exams because of the possibility that other students might cheat
Nothing needs to be improved
Teacher should give more time for students to practice and understand each chapter well.
If he could teach the topics a little slower.
During recitation, i dont fully understand what is explained
More examples for exam preparation
as difficult as this class is, they're doing their best to make a good learning experience. The multiple exams are nice because you don't get overwhelmed with so much material. It's a much better curriculum than the horrid system used when there were only 3 exams
I think the recitation quizzes and exams are harder than expected, and the recitation activities/homework can perhaps go a little deeper to possibly help us prepare more.
I wish recitations could be a little more helpful in the sense that you chose to work alone or with people from another section and provided proof that you worked together. I honestly never see any benefit from working with my group and I asked my friend for help once and got the idea immediately after. There seems to be an imbalance of motivation for some people and it's why one or two people are teaching the rest while they themselves don't have time to ask about the next problem.
More extra credit assignments
The midterms need improvement as they are too difficult compared to the materials learned in class for the limited time given.
A little more preparation for the material that we'll see on exams during lecture rather than just the basic material.
I think recitations could be improved a lot more. Everytime I go, I'm always the one with the camera on trying to talk and actually learn from the work, and everyone else in my group isn't. Out of 5 total people, 3 people have their cameras off don't say a word and I'm always stuck just talking to myself. That makes me really not gain anything from Recitation and it's just frustrating for me in all honesty. I want to learn, I want to work with other people but I can't do that if it feels like no one else is there.
N/A
I dislike the online recitation, especially group work. Maybe we can discuss as a whole class instead of assigning breakout rooms. No one talks in the breakout rooms and sometimes students aren't comfortable in asking questions. We should go over the problems on the worksheet together, therefore we will understand the materials better and do well on the quiz.
none needed

Comments
I think there needs to be changes in the way that exams are administered. There should be backup exams in the case of technical glitches already prepared beforehand and that should be the same level of difficulty as the initial version of exams. I would also like to see a better source of practice problems that clearly familiarize us with a plethora of problems that could be on the exam.
I think that better study habits as per the exams should be taught to us. Many people don't do too well on the exams and I think it would be really helpful if we were better prepared for the exams.
The only way it could improve is if it were in person but obviously that isn't possible right now.
I think the exams are a little short on time and we should not have to type in our work on the computer, it should either be we write it out on paper and submit it or multiple choice or just type in the answer (not all the work).
I feel that the tests are too short, maybe give us 60–65 minutes instead of 50.
I think the recitation sessions need more improvement. We spend time doing problems in small groups for the entire session, which help, but only to an extent. I do not think we are getting enough help from the recitation leader, and think more time rather than the last few minutes of the meeting should be discussing the problems as a whole.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – I want us to review more questions that are formatted the same way on the test. Yes, we know the information, but we get stuck on the wording and types of questions because we are not always used to it. – In recitation, myself and others are always confused to the problems, so we should spend more time going over these questions because then we never know how to do them especially after attempting them with our whole group. – The TA needs to help explain things better because we don't understand them. I know she doesn't want to give away the answer, but after the whole recitation trying to figure some of the problems out, her explanations are still confusing and we do not know how to solve the problem in which doing the problem with the whole class and telling us the answer would really benefit – the recitation quizzes on My Lab are a lot harder than the material covered in recitation and I feel that those are impacting my grade but it is unfair because it is material I had questions about in recitation, but they were never fully answered.
There needs to be more practice with theoretical questions, and a little bit more time on the exams
na
The way recitation activities take place: no one talks and the recitation director does little work
I think the professor should stop adding questions to the homework that we did not go over yet or at least extend the deadline to a date where he is sure we covered it in class. The recitation instructor should stop having us in breakout rooms every class and instead explain any questions we have and go over the material.
The way the midterm grades are posted tends to be confusing, especially with the 2 separate sites for the all sections site vs the individual section site.
I do not think there needs to be any improvement.
understanding the material seems to be more difficult than it would be in person.
Easier midterms
The tests and recitation quizzes are harder than the practice problems and I often find myself struggling. There is also only one practice test that I can use that only has about 10 problems, and I wish I had more practice for the tests.
Recitation was really bad. The teacher did not teach and no one would talk in breakout rooms.
I think that it would be easier if all the assignments would be in one website.
I honestly think the only things that needs to improve is giving us a little more information on how to prepare for the exams. Some of the information that we learn in class is totally different from the review sheets that we get for the exams and it can be a little bit confusing.
I think there should be a little more focus on how to solve problems, if only to make sure that students understand the concept. Learning a little more about the conceptual rules, as opposed to examples I sometimes have to try and extrapolate more information from, would be nice.
I think the recitation as a whole needs to be improved because in the breakout rooms, there are some students who don't even participate and that isn't fair, especially when the purpose of the breakout room is to collaborate on certain problems.
I do not have enough experience with college courses to say anything