



Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating

Fall 2020

Guadagni, Joseph - JG1314

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

Survey Form: *Standard SIRS

Enrollment: 164

Responses Received: 99

Special University-wide Questions for Fall 2020

Due to the challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic, three additional questions were added to the Fall 2020 survey.

Weight of responses: 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
Given the content and level of the course, the course workload was manageable.	1	9	18	47	24	99	3.85	3.58	3.69	3.81
The course site used for this course, whether in Canvas, Sakai, or Blackboard, was well organized.	0	1	8	41	48	98	4.39	4.06	4.06	4.06
The instructions given for assignments, exams, quizzes, and other course activities were clear and easy to understand.	1	6	14	46	32	99	4.03	3.66	3.77	3.84

University-wide Instructor Questions

Weight of responses: 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
The instructor Joseph Guadagni was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner.	0	0	6	32	61	99	4.56	4.29	4.22	4.22
The instructor Joseph Guadagni responded effectively to student comments and questions.	0	4	11	32	52	99	4.33	4.30	4.22	4.21
The instructor Joseph Guadagni generated interest in the course material.	0	3	11	41	44	99	4.27	4.09	4.03	4.02
The instructor Joseph Guadagni had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material.	1	4	10	42	41	99	4.20	4.42	4.33	4.32
The instructor Joseph Guadagni assigned grades fairly.	0	5	18	43	33	99	4.05	4.21	4.15	4.15
The instructional methods of Joseph Guadagni encouraged student learning.	0	1	20	41	36	98	4.14	4.12	4.04	4.02

Teaching Effectiveness

Weight of responses: 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses

Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	P	F	A	G	E	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor Joseph Guadagni as:	0	2	10	41	45	98	4.32	4.11	4.04	4.03

University-wide Course Questions

Weight of responses: 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
I learned a great deal in this course.	1	3	17	42	33	96	4.07	3.71	3.78	3.88
I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course.	7	20	33	26	13	99	3.18	3.00	3.17	3.37

Course Quality

Weight of responses: 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses

Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	P	F	A	G	E	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
I rate the overall quality of the course as:	2	8	23	44	22	99	3.77	3.39	3.56	3.66

What do you like best about this course?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comments
Gave me an inclusive view of calculus.
I liked that we focused more on the conceptual idea rather than just plugging and chugging
The teacher
The structure of lecture
I liked attending recitation towards the second half of the semester/end better than before because I felt the sessions greatly improved which helped me learn on a more individual level and cover problems I was struggling on.
It is very interesting and informative
The recitations
The homework. I was able to review my homework after the due date.
The lectures
the mylab homework assignments were helpful
The order in which it is taught makes sense.
lots of structure and organization, chances to recover from poor exams, graded practice assignments spread evenly throughout the semester instead of just three big exams.
The notes are posted online
Eh
Dr G's teaching page
I really appreciated all the resources available for studying and extra practice, such as the MyLabs and the previous exams/worksheets for each unit. I also learned a lot from Dr. G's teaching style.
The material covered
It was super engaging.
I always enjoyed math
The teaching methods and explanations on the concepts we learned and the professor's humor.
6 midterms to bring our grades up.
I loved Dr. G and his helpful and enthusiastic assistance to make math less scary for me and providing me confidence to strive for the better in this class
I learned a lot of different ways to solve the same types of problems.
I enjoyed my class with Dr. G. He was very understanding, energetic, and answered my problems.
I really struggled in this class so I really cant tell you what was best about this course.
I liked how lectures were split between learning the background material and doing many exercises related to the material being taught. I also liked how we were essentially taught something new each lecture which meant that we had to take initiative and make sure we understand everything and don't fall behind.
I liked how much I actually learned. I took calc in high school and learned the basics of it but this class really taught you the hardest concepts.
The homework
I liked the way my teacher taught the material and liked him a lot in general, normally I detest calculus but he was so chill that it made the material more tolerable.
The way the lectures and schedule were structured. It was very well organized.
Surprisingly, the conceptual exams are far more appealing to me than exams involving pages of unnecessary algebra. We were

Comments
tested on whether or not we really knew the topics, not how well we could plug in numbers into a calculator.
The lectures it was like a lecture with classwork along with the fun of interacting with teacher/classmates
The lectures
the homework and rurt exam which took up a minority of the grade book
I enjoy Dr. G's lectures, Tamar's assistance and both instructors' willingness to answer students and adjust the class to their needs.
The tests followed what was taught in lecture, there was no surprising content.
I liked explanations of how to solve the problems step by step and as to how he came to his answers.
It was very hard to misunderstand anything that being taught to us during lecture.
It is challenging at times, but not impossible, which I find enjoyable.
I liked the availability of the instructional material (specifically Dr.G's site).
many resources are available
Dr. G's lectures.
content
I liked the set up, lectures, hw and exams every other week
Most of the lectures and problems are posted online for students to see and allows them to learn from their mistakes.
I like when Dr. G teaches us (reviews) the material in lecture, especially those times when he has some informal conversations with us.
The instructors, they were great and I learned a lot from them
I liked that all the units were organized into sections.
I liked how Calculus related to my other classes so I had a better understanding of the material.
organized notes, easy to access resources
The instructors
the staff is helpful
The organization especially with the resources. Dr. G's website helped me immensely.
tamar
The professors teach and explain the material as best as possible.
I like me Dr. G he made the course enjoyable. He was always making jokes, etc.. he really is a good teacher and knows a lot of calc
the instructor, he was very interested in all the material and made the students feel welcomed
It challenges me to do better
I liked recitation and working with other classmates

If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comments
Have the tests reflect the content reviewed in class more.
I wont do anything differently other than giving more hw
Nothing
If I were teaching this course, I would create review sheets for the exams that were more similar to what the exams would cover and also make the exams a little easier. I also would provide more time on the exams or shorten them.
I would administer proctored tests
Nothing
The course load is incredibly stressful. I would spend 10+ hours a week trying to comprehend the lessons. Online learning has made this course extremely difficult.
Make the exams more based off of what we learn in class instead of making it very difficult
go over more complex questions during recitation or lectures so students are prepared for more challenging questions in the exam

Comments
I would not make the tests at 9:40pm. I do not do my best work late at night, and making tests that late on a Monday has been far less than helpful. I feel I could have done much better if the tests were earlier in the day.
nothing. the curriculum's come a long way from the hypercondensed exams with less partial credit in spring 2020. the class actually feels fair. of course the workload is rather intense at times but I doubt anything can be done about that.
I would separate homework on different days
Not make the exam painstakingly intense even though cheaters exist and have to ruin everything for everyone.
Make it nice and easy
I would probably ask for fewer midterms and instead of midterms, have us take short quizzes at the end of each unit.
Nothing Dr. G is a cool guy
There wouldn't be anything I would do differently
Having the exams based on the content we learn
I would reply to my student's emails much quicker and I wouldn't force the use of cameras by extra credit bribing.
Nothing. Dr. G is killing it!!
Nothing
I would practice problems that will be reflected in the exam. I understand what we do in class will not be the same on the exam, but we are learning online. The class is difficult enough, let alone, and now we have to learn the material ourselves only to discover the test is nothing we did.
I wouldn't change anything differently that much
I would not do anything differently because I think the current method of teaching is very effectively and really helps students improve and succeed in their own way.
Instead of having the exams late at night, when some student do not preform as well, I would give the exams during a class or earlier in the night.
I would go over the more harder problems in class, rather than the simpler ones, considering they were going to be very difficult on the exams.
give more extra credit or drop more exams
I would not give 6 whole huge midterms but instead multiple smaller quizzes.
Nothing at all.
– provide reviews that actually help us on the exam
nothing
I would keep in mind that not all students taking this course have seen the content before. This was completely new content for a lot of us.
I would make the homework and quiz grades worth more in the course, im sorry but it was just way too low for such a difficult course
I probably would take out all type-in math questions on the exams, they take too much time.
I would make recitations a bit more engaging but not too much. In the beginning, there was no participation then when things were adjusted then it felt like every step of every problem was overexplained.
make exam questions about what we were taught and not expect more
nothing
explain better and show steps easier
No exams on Monday nights at 10 p.m
Teach some of the more challenging questions in the lecture, and then use those questions to enable us to think outside the box and challenge ourselves.
If I was teaching this course, for starters I would not have given 6 midterms. I would have made sure that all of coworkers are teaching similar material, so the test is fair to all. I would have made the tests more reasonable for the point of an exam is to test the material not how well you can take an exam on questions that are a 1000 times more challenging. I would have been understanding that since everyone is home tests should not be given at night time. For other members of the house also live there and are maybe coming back from work thus it is hetic and distracting. Overall, I would have been just more understanding about the workload considering the situation everyone is currently in.
I would not do anything differently.
I would move through the material more slowly and thoroughly. Some classmates had never experienced this kind of material before so I think it's more fair to them while other students had already been exposed to calculus.

Comments
teach more questions that were designed on the exams OR change the format of the exams in a better way for students to demonstrate their understanding of the material.
Nothing
i would make the midterms easier
I would make recitations different. I would have students complete their work and come to class but have multiple slots open so they could work in groups of friends or just people they wanted to be with.
go slower
Make everyone participate during recitation and have the T.A explain more problems.
Nothing
I would give less work and construct the grading differently
Maybe not learn new material the class before the test, but I really don't think that made a difference
make tests more manageable

In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor Joseph Guadagni encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?

These comments are unique to the instructor Joseph Guadagni.

Comments
An adequate amount of extra materials in addition to the lectures was provided, which was very helpful.
He provided good examples and made sure that people understood the concepts
Dr. G is the goat. Just an amazing teacher and great guy. He expects a lot but it pushes you to work hard.
Although he had many materials prepared, he did not encourage my intellectual growth and progress.
N/A
He is a very good teacher and knows what he's talking about always.
The exams and homework were very helpful in my learning.
It has regressed my intellectual growth. This class has caused me so much stress this entire semester, and I have had to learn everything by myself.
he was prepared to teach
great memes during lecture
None
Despite the massive difficulty of exams, was always open to teach and go over material and gave a welcoming environment whether you failed the last exam or not
N/a
Dr. G is probably the best teacher/professor of mathematics I have ever had. He is extremely clear in his lectures and does example problems that are challenging, but end up facilitating my intellectual growth in the subject as a whole. He teaches us the practical implications of calculus which has really helped me put things into perspective. Before taking this class, for example, I could never really see where calculus fit into my future career. After taking this class, however, I have realized that this class has helped me increase my focus, become a problem-solver, and think more clearly. This class was a big step in my career.
Joseph seems very interested in the topic, more specifically, how the pieces came together (in math). Although I did not do so well in this class, I was motivated to learn because of how he portrayed those pieces and how cool/interesting it was when they came together.
He was super motivated and happy during lectures, it was never boring which made things really helpful.
Taught me new concepts in the subject.
He encouraged me to work harder in his class and really try to understand the material. His assistance went a long way for me to perform decent in the class.
His teaching style was very effective and he encouraged student questions.
Encouraged me to teach myself.
This course has helped me take my time while I am taking tests and not overthink.
The instructor encouraged intellectual growth and progress with his method of teaching because he teaches the concepts and

Comments
provides many examples of the material, which then allows students to actually apply the material taught to homework and exams instead of just copying the exercises that were done during lectures.
Dr. G was very enthusiastic and always willing to answer student's questions. He was very invested in making sure student understand the material rather than just copy the work down.
I helped me realize I know more math than I thought. I could look at a problem and instead of giving up right away , I would look at the problem from a different way and come up with an answer.
Very funny
He always encouraged people to ask questions and did everything he could to make sure we understood what he taught.
Professor G was a great one! During lectures, he would go over the material very well, and make sure we understand. He also answered our questions and explained why we may be right or wrong. In addition, he would prepare for the exams well. The workload wasn't bad, and he is a great and fair professor.
Dr. G.'s exams were heavily concept-based and challenged me to seriously think about each problem. While adding some stress to the semester, I honestly felt like I learned more math in four months with him than in four years of high school. Dr. G. is a fantastic professor who wants you to learn. As a junior, I can honestly say that his class is one of the highlights of my Rutgers experience.
To keep practicing.
He's made math more manageable and fun to learn for me. I genuinely look forward to his class, even though I hate the course work.
He made classes incredibly fun while still effectively teaching us. Math can be a bit intimidating but the way the examples were explained in a gradual progression of difficulty ensured that we learned what was taught very well. Hand down one of the best math teachers I have ever had!
not much
Dr. G is one of the best teachers I have ever had
Dr. G was an amazing professor and I recommend him to all of my friends that plan to take calc. This was the only class I looked forward to logging into on zoom.
reviews
He helped a lot in the aspect of responding to professors with proper terminology
Dr. G has forced me to do some studying on my own. Coming from high school to college isn't easy, but his expectations have simultaneously shifted my expectations on how I do well for not only this class, but college, in general.
The way the course was taught really encouraged me to do well
none
Professor Guadagni provided several resources to ensure success in this course, which I found very helpful.
very organized notes and lectures
Through his positive attitude throughout the class and his willingness to help others
i learned to do stuff easier
He helped me find my work ethic, and overall understand the material better. Going to his lectures really helped me.
He made class enjoyable. If I ever had a problem I was never afraid to ask him.
I learned the I need to think about calculus in its roots, and not just learn how to complete problems.

Other comments or suggestions:

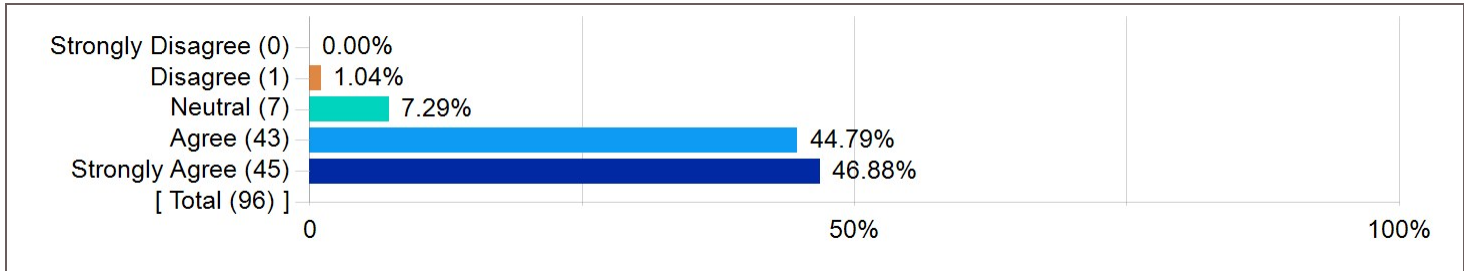
These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comments
none
N/A
the recitation was not challenging enough for me, I often left very confused and didn't have enough time for questions since it was a tight schedule
Things are far from perfect, but you can tell the department is trying. And in its own way, that's good enough.
Thank you for the semester, I probably failed but with what I learned and understand, I will 10000% pass as long as I can take this class in person.
n/a
This was a great class!
I didn't do that well in your class, but I definitely learned more than I ever had in a math class. I don't know if it's because I put in the work or because the material was interesting, but I defiantly enjoyed it and learned many life lessons from this class.
This was a great course.
The first math class I've genuinely enjoyed after a while
N/A
In this class, there are multiple opportunities to learn and get help when you need it whether it's through office hours or recitation or lecture notes, I felt like there were a lot of resources available to me which was great.
Dr.G is a nice person, but, he has a side to him (just like everyone). But on this so called "side" is a Dr.G who thinks that it is not god for him to see many students getting an A on his exams after they study a lot. He had said "Too many people got an A on this exam" and that he "needs to make them harder". It was not at all that he made the exams easy, they were actually difficult and we had studied our butts off for this class, and it is not fair that he makes exams harder based off of our hard work studying, if students study hard and get an A, that does not mean that the next exam should be harder, us students are not full of free time and we have many classes to deal with, do not test us like this as it is not fair, please consider making the curriculum easier for the future students or you will get many more negative reviews.
N/A
Dr. G was the only person that taught in way that made me actually understand math and somewhat enjoy the subject.
Great course
N/A
Just simply to any upcoming freshmen avoid taking calc online. It is not worth the stress, try and wait till you are on campus. However, if this is the only class you are taking, then calc online could be manageable. Also, calc in person seems to be more easier for the professors are okay at teaching the material and with the other sources on campus you have a higher chance of success.
N/A
N/A
make the midterms easier
N/A

Questions added for: *Standard SIRS

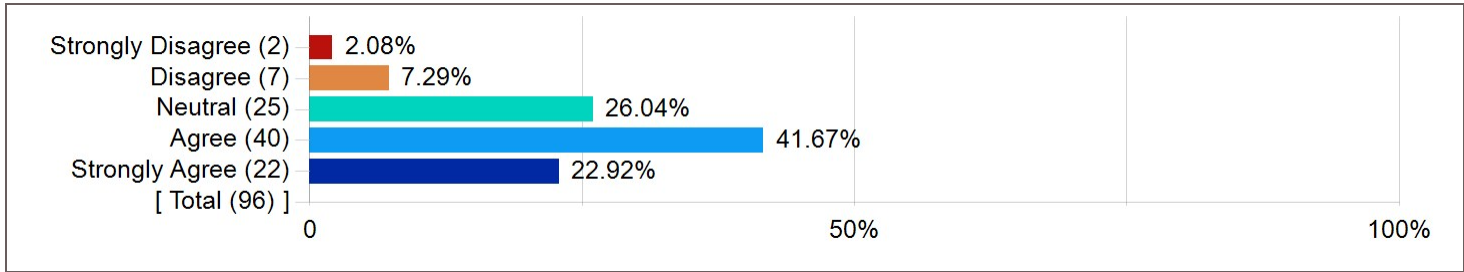
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

The lecturer posted content that helped me understand the topics covered in the online lectures.



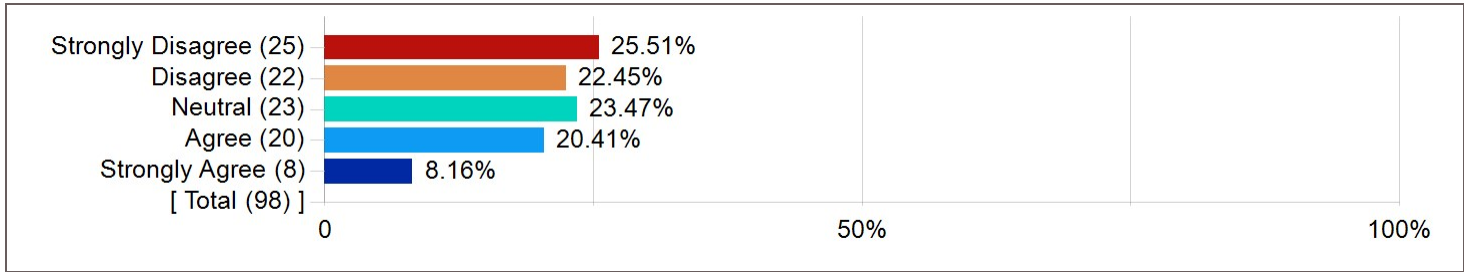
Section	Course	Level	Dept
4.38	3.99	3.94	3.97

The recitation/workshop instructor posted content that helped me understand the topics covered in the online recitations/workshops.



Section	Course	Level	Dept
3.76	3.91	3.85	3.85

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



Section	Course	Level	Dept
2.63	2.65	2.72	2.78