



Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating

Fall 2019

Zhu, Songhao - SZ446

Calc II Math/phys - 01:640:152:01, 02, 03

Survey Form: *Standard SIRS

Enrollment: 68

Responses Received: 31

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 Songhao Zhu was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner.	0	0	4	10	17	31	4.42	4.36	4.36	4.35
The instructor Songhao Zhu responded effectively to student comments and questions.	1	0	4	11	15	31	4.26	4.20	4.25	4.23
The instructor Songhao Zhu generated interest in the course material.	1	2	7	9	12	31	3.94	4.02	4.10	4.07
The instructor Songhao Zhu had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material.	1	0	4	13	13	31	4.19	4.34	4.37	4.35
The instructor Songhao Zhu assigned grades fairly.	1	2	6	10	11	30	3.93	4.08	4.24	4.21
The instructional methods of Songhao Zhu encouraged student learning.	1	2	6	10	11	30	3.93	4.01	4.09	4.06

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 Songhao Zhu as:	1	2	7	7	14	31	4.00	4.02	4.09	4.07

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.	0	1	4	15	10	30	4.13	4.15	4.02	4.06
I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course.	2	4	8	8	8	30	3.53	3.69	3.40	3.53

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:	1	5	4	14	6	30	3.63	3.78	3.84	3.87

What do you like best about this course?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comments
I like how the instructors took the effort to break down concepts.
How the professor presents the info and helps students be successful in the course.
The development of what I learned from calc 1
I liked the enthusiasm both my instructors had for the course, as well as the organized notes that were provided each and every lecture.
I think the base idea of calculus 2 is developed very well.
Not much.
good professor and ta
Nothing.
We were given more than enough resources to help us prepare.
the integrals on steroids
I liked the slideshows that were presents, I believe Professor Soffer gave excellent notes that were very helpful in learning the material.
The professor and TA combined was a pleasure and I learned a lot about how to do math in this course.
At first I didn't like how the professor used PowerPoints for teaching but after a few classes I got used to it and liked it. I liked the recitation and how we asked problems we didn't understand.
I enjoyed learning new material.
Professor Soffer's tricks for solving problems, and Mr. Zhu's professional attitude and skill of teaching recitation.
Its preparations towards Calc 3.

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

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comments
I would have less sapling mandatory assignments and spend more lecture time focusing on things for the final
Nothing
Instead of discussing how horrendous everything can be: talk about embracing the challenge and staying positive all the way through
I would assign some quizzes in lecture so that students will be more inclined to attend lectures.
I would make the homework and workshops not be such a higher level than the actual class work.
Be a decent person when people don't do well on assignments.
homework optional
Nothing.
I would slow down a little bit and not rely on powerpoint examples as much, more so on going through problems step by step on the board so students can see procedurally how we got the result.
the workshop due date
I wouldn't do anything differently.
Nothing. It was fantastic.
I would change everything being copyrighted that's the one thing that I found the most annoying how I couldn't take pictures or the PowerPoint slides for my notes and I would never see the PowerPoint after the first day of taking notes. The professor gave plenty time to write down the slides but seeing it again would be helpful just in case I wrote something wrong. Also some of PowerPoints were kind of confusing when I copied it on to my notes.
I would make the course more personal by focusing on the workshop aspect of the class. In doing this I would find a TA who is friendly and engaging instead of cold and unsympathetic. In my experience, I learn the best in an environment where I feel comfortable and excited for class, which was not the case during my workshop in Calc II. If anything, I felt uncomfortable in class and felt that my TA, Songhao, had a problem with me ever since I brought up a question regarding the grading of one of my quizzes. I felt that the grading of my work was very harsh and noticed that when another student went to hand in a quiz that Songhao told her to check her work before proceeding. When I got my quizzes back I would find that I would get 30 or more points off due to a small notation error. In addition to this, on homework that I spent hours completing, I would receive grades below 50. I do not see how extremely harsh grading of homework encourages students to complete their work and perform well in the class. I think that the purpose of workshop and quizzes should be to increase understanding of material instead of lowering class averages with harsh grading and little to no leniency.
Maybe spending a little more time on how those theorems come from.
Invest more time helping with polars and parametrics as there can be people struggling with it.

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

These comments are unique to the instructor Songhao Zhu.

Comments
Songhao always presented the problems that allowed students to view them from different perspectives. Excellent explanations and presentation
Instructor Songhao Zhu encouraged me to study extremely hard for the exams and quizzes.
Helped in case any problems arised and clarified them.
Songhao was awesome. He was so kind and respectful. I went to Office Hours all the time, and he helped me soo much. Couldn't have done it without him. He derived for us euler's identity, proved that the harmonic series diverges for us, stayed late into the night to help us with or questions. Awesome TA!
Mr. Zhu was extremely helpful and kind.
his explanations of certain problems encourage critical thinking
Taught me how to study the material and take it serious.
tough grader
I love how encouraging he was with us. We would ask questions that were arguably "obvious" and he still answered them with respect and he was really good at teaching the material. Highly enjoyed having him as a TA.
When doing a problem on the board please use better chalk and please speaker slower because I sat towards the middle close to the front of the class. So it was hard for me to see and and understand the problem he was doing when learning a new topic
None.
Mr. Zhu is a great instructor. He is always well prepared for recitation and is also responsive to students. Without his help, I would not be confident in passing this course.
I like how relaxing he can be, as it reminds me that although Calc 2 may be hard, he (and Prof. Soffer) are there to help and help us relax before we stress out too much for an exam. Plus, he takes a good amount of his personal time off to set up review session to help us, which was really nice. I was unable to attend as a commuter and classes, but I really like the idea of having those.

Other comments or suggestions:

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comments
n/a
My favorite class this semester.
Give the job to Mr. Zhu instead of Professor Soffer.
too much homework credits
None
please be more lenient when grading the workshops
I overall enjoyed the class even with some I difficultly in understanding the whole concept since we only review the class topic once a week during recitation. However I was able to adapt and understand most of the concepts and get through the class. I feel bad for the professor since 50% of students stopped coming to class for some reason because she is a good professor and after learning the concepts with the text book and watching videos on how to answer the questions her notes we're a lot more clearer and easier to understand. I also would like if she could do more videos explaining problems that weren't copyrighted so I could watch at home at my own pace. But I want to emphasize how annoying everything being copyrighted is because makes it impossible to find an explanation online and taking notes. Please remove the copyright on the PowerPoints and the worksheets.
My instructors deserve a salary raise due to their wonderful performance in this course.