



Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating
Spring 2023

Zhu, Songhao - SZ446

Multivariable Calculus - 01:640:251:11, 12, 13
Survey Form: *Standard SIRS

Enrollment: 76

Responses Received: 28

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	2	3	22	27	4.74	4.40	4.34	4.31
The instructor Songhao Zhu responded effectively to student comments and questions.	0	2	2	6	18	28	4.43	4.21	4.24	4.25
The instructor Songhao Zhu generated interest in the course material.	0	2	4	9	13	28	4.18	4.13	4.14	4.13
The instructor Songhao Zhu had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material.	0	3	3	4	18	28	4.32	4.19	4.30	4.34
The instructor Songhao Zhu assigned grades fairly.	0	2	1	8	17	28	4.43	4.23	4.28	4.26
The instructional methods of Songhao Zhu encouraged student learning.	0	2	3	7	16	28	4.32	4.13	4.20	4.19

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	1	2	4	20	28	4.46	4.22	4.24	4.20

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	1	12	14	28	4.39	4.35	4.30	4.16
I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course.	3	2	3	13	7	28	3.68	3.92	3.80	3.50

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	1	3	9	14	28	4.21	4.13	4.20	4.04

What do you like best about this course?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comments
The professor and the pacing.
I like math in general
The course acted as a good introduction to higher level math.
The subject material is pretty interesting.
I liked the professor's and the TA's readiness to come to class and teach in an enthusiastic way. Even during the strike, they were willing to answer emails and didn't want to jeopardize the students' learning.
The teaching
nothing
I liked how the prof taught it. He simplified all the concepts and that made them easy to understand and remember. Also he encourages asking questions and made the class as engaging as possible.
I think the content is very applicable and useful and I found it very interesting.

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

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comments
I think these midterms and finals are wayyyy too all over the place. I go over one thing in class only to see something I've never seen before appear on an exam. I wish the calculus classes had exams created by the teachers not a combination of teachers or supervisors. I feel like I'm taking a standardized test that expects me to know certain things that haven't come up in class. But this is how I feel about all the calc classes I've taken not just this one in particular.
I would use more concept-based examples in recitations and lectures.
I would have more conceptual homework assignments.
Even with material being cut, I feel like we went too fast towards the end and some things weren't really explained properly. Not necessarily their fault because of the strike, but it still wasn't great.
I would try to add a participation grade in recitations as people would be more willing to ask questions or answer the TA.
Less MyLab homework which instead would be replaced with online worksheet-style homework. I also felt at the beginning when we discussed vectors that the instructors assumed the students had prior knowledge of the material presented. Since I had never gone that in-depth with that material before, I felt lost at the beginning of the course. I figured it out eventually, thanks in part to the excellent teaching, but I feel that that material at the beginning of the course could be presented more digestibly.
slow down the speed or split class into 2 semester
I would give out more conceptual problems and harder exam level practice problems in class. Because sometimes just knowing the concept is not enough and it would be nice to be exposed to harder and involved problems.
I would teach the course in a more intuitive way when it comes to the formulas. There are many formulas and I feel as though most people do not understand what these formulas are doing, this seems to be an issue with the curriculum rather than the teacher.

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
He was very strict, rude almost. However, if you respected him, he respected you. He was also very prepared and organized. His slides and explanations were very clear and helpful. I'd say he did a pretty good job of being a recitation TA.
Songhao was very helpful in recitations and answered all questions I had in office hours.
Songhao Zhu is very thorough on making sure that the students understand the material before moving on and is always willing to answer questions.
Songhao is also very good at his job. He makes the problems presented in recitation easy to understand, which makes doing them enjoyable
Incredible TA!
Maintained a learning environment where students aren't too distracted and made sure to answer as many question as possible
He was passionate and very helpful when it came to students asking questions, very understanding and patient.

Other comments or suggestions:

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comments
N/A