



THE STUDENT ASSESSMENT OF INSTRUCTION SYSTEM THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE			
Mathematics 130	Sec # 28107	Benjamin A Levy	
Precalculus I (CLAS)	Spring 2012	Form G	# of Students: 20



Questions	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	Item Mean
1. Course as a whole	10 (50%)	4 (20%)	4 (20%)	2 (10%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.10
2. Course content	8 (40%)	5 (25%)	7 (35%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.05
3. Instructor overall	12 (60%)	5 (25%)	1 (5%)	1 (5%)	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	4.30
4. Instructor's contribution to students' understanding of concepts	13 (65%)	3 (15%)	2 (10%)	2 (10%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.35
5. Course organization	7 (35%)	6 (30%)	5 (25%)	2 (10%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3.90
6. Opportunity to ask questions	14 (70%)	3 (15%)	3 (15%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.55
7. Explanations by instructor	9 (45%)	6 (30%)	4 (20%)	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.15
8. Contribution to student's ability to solve problems	9 (45%)	7 (35%)	1 (5%)	3 (15%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.10
9. Use of examples and illustrations	10 (50%)	6 (30%)	2 (10%)	2 (10%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.20
10. Length/difficulty of homework assignments	5 (25%)	6 (30%)	8 (40%)	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3.75
11. Exams' contribution to understanding content	8 (40%)	7 (35%)	5 (25%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.15
12. Instructor's enthusiasm	12 (60%)	5 (25%)	2 (10%)	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.40
13. Textbook overall was	1 (5%)	1 (5%)	7 (37%)	9 (47%)	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	2.58
14. Answers to students' questions	7 (37%)	6 (32%)	5 (26%)	0 (0%)	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	3.95
15. Relationship between lectures and text	6 (30%)	6 (30%)	3 (15%)	3 (15%)	1 (5%)	1 (5%)	3.50
16. Availability of extra help when needed	14 (70%)	5 (25%)	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.65
17. Interest in whether students learned	14 (70%)	5 (25%)	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.65
18. Amount you learned in the course	11 (55%)	5 (25%)	3 (15%)	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.30
19. Relevance and usefulness of course content	9 (45%)	8 (40%)	1 (5%)	1 (5%)	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	4.15
20. Relevance and usefulness of assignments	9 (45%)	9 (45%)	0 (0%)	2 (10%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.25
21. Reasonableness of assigned work	10 (53%)	8 (42%)	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.47
22. Relationship of exams to material emphasized	10 (50%)	8 (40%)	2 (10%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.40

Relative to other colleges courses you have taken	Much Higher		Average				Much Lower	
23. Do you expect your grade in this course to be:	7 (40%)	6 (30%)	4 (20%)	2 (10%)	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
24. The intellectual challenge presented was:	4 (20%)	6 (30%)	6 (30%)	4 (20%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
25. The amount of effort you put into this course was:	4 (20%)	7 (40%)	3 (20%)	4 (20%)	1 (0%)	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
26. The amount of effort to succeed in the course was:	5 (20%)	6 (30%)	4 (20%)	5 (20%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
27. Your involvement in this course (asgn, atnd, etc) was:	9 (40%)	5 (20%)	1 (0%)	4 (20%)	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

28. On average, how many hours per week have you spent on this course, including attending classes, readings, reviewing notes, writing papers, and any other course related work?

Under 2	0 (0%)
3-4	1 (6%)
5-6	4 (22%)
7-8	7 (39%)
9-10	1 (6%)
11-12	4 (22%)
13-14	1 (6%)
15-16	0 (0%)
17-18	0 (0%)
19-20	0 (0%)
21-22	0 (0%)
22 or >	0 (0%)

29. From the total average hours above, how many do you consider were valuable in advancing your education?

Under 2	2 (10%)
3-4	1 (5%)
5-6	7 (35%)
7-8	4 (20%)
9-10	1 (5%)
11-12	4 (20%)
13-14	1 (5%)
15-16	0 (0%)
17-18	0 (0%)
19-20	0 (0%)
21-22	0 (0%)
22 or >	0 (0%)

30. Expected Grade

A	10 (50%)
B+	5 (25%)
B	3 (15%)
C+	1 (5%)
C	1 (5%)
D	0 (0%)
F	0 (0%)
S	0 (0%)
NC	0 (0%)
Other	0 (0%)

32. Class Composition

Fresh	13 (65%)
Soph	3 (15%)
Junior	1 (5%)
Senior	3 (15%)
Grad	0 (0%)
Other	0 (0%)

33. Wanted to take course

Yes	14 (70%)
No	3 (15%)
Neutral	3 (15%)

31. Course Was

In major	12 (60%)
In minor	1 (5%)
Dist. Req.	4 (20%)
Elective	2 (10%)
Other	1 (5%)

Student Responses to Open Ended Questions

Question #1: Was this class intellectually stimulating? Did it stretch your thinking?

- Yes-Because causes a student to think whether they like it or not
- Yes-I had to pay close attention or risk missing material.
- No-This class was dull and uninteresting, and the explanations were much too drawn out. Taking it in the morning did not help.
- Yes-Some of the content requires a bit of abstract thought and problem solving to exceed.
- Yes-Explained through different avenues.
- Yes-This class was no walk in the park. I definitely had to study and work at it to understand some of the material.

Question #2: What aspects of this class contributed most to your learning?

- Homework and lecture note and quizzes
- The use of examples and various ways provided to solve a problem. Also I liked how some of the material was related to real life and he talked about how we use the math outside of the class.
- It taught me what I can get away with based on minimal effort (which is actually very valuable).
- I would say two things: 1) the teacher did a really great job at presenting the material and offering assistance when needed. He was absolutely adamant about making sure everyone knew what was going on. 2)The web assigns, I really liked using this program to do homework with. It is much better than using a book, and allows for experimentation and genuine learning of the material.
- The professor was interested in our learning and wanted to make sure we were prepared.
- I believe the teaching strategy used in this class was excellent and really contributed to my learning abilities.
- In the approach of the way the material was presented.
- I learned a lot from meeting with the instructor in office hours. Also, webassign, while not enjoyable, did help to piece some of the concepts together.
- The in-class work and explanations from Ben.
- The professor was excellent. he cared deeply about my growth in the class.

Question #3: What aspects of this class detracted from your learning?

- Sometimes the homework
- nothing
- Some of the organization of the material was wonky. Linear equations should come before functions - always.
- I really enjoyed learning how to calculate problems in my head without a calculator, but I would have also liked to do more complex problems with a calculator, because sometimes I believe it is just as difficult to do some problems in your head as it is to input problems correctly in a calculator.
- None
- There was a pretty large amount of material to learn in this course. Especially towards the end of the semester.
- maybe web assign the most. It was monotonous and not very helpful.
- A majority of the material provided will never be used again once I enter into the real world.

Question #4: What suggestions do you have for improving the class?

- Homework to be more like test questions
- More student involvement maybe. Everything seems pretty legit though.
- Do more examples and find an easier way to explain concepts. Be more straightforward. We are not in pre-school anymore.
- Linear equations should come before functions. Always...
- There is really only one thing that I didn't like about the class and that is the mandatory text book. I did not really use the text that often. I mostly learned from the notes and the webassign. I believe the text book should be optional.
- None
- When I signed up for the class the catalog showed the Thursday class as a recitation. I feel like that would have helped out a lot, but instead we used this period to learn new material.
- Improving/removing webassign. Thanks Ben! You rock!!
- Focus more on content that i will use in my life and less on things that i will not need to know once i have left the class.