



# UC RIVERSIDE - Student Comments of Instructor, Discussion Courses - Fall 2019

Course: MATH 009B Section: 013 - FIRST-YEAR CALCULUS  
Instructor: Michael Pierce

**Question # 18:** YOUR CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS ON YOUR GRADUATE STUDENT INSTRUCTOR'S TEACHING SKILLS ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. PLEASE WRITE YOUR COMMENTS IN THE TEXTBOX BELOW. PLEASE LIMIT YOUR COMMENTS TO 2000 CHARACTERS.

- The way you teach the discussion is great. The pace you work at is appropriate and the energy you have in class helps keep us all awake. What was really helpful was you asking us what we wanted to focus on for review.
- The instructor was definitely very helpful in reexplaining and reviewing in class concepts in different and easier ways. I really enjoyed going to the class and the practice problems always helped me catch up to things we were learning in lecture. His perspective on math was useful as sometimes the way our professor explained certain concepts was a little confusing. Overall, his teaching skills are excellent and effective for improving student understanding of 1st year calculus.
- Michael Pierce is a wonderful discussion leader, who has helped me prepare both academically for the course as well as mentally in terms of personal growth. He is effective in using his knowledge in teaching and helping students learn and understand the necessary math skills.
- He was one of the greats. He efficiently explained concepts while also giving the students more opportunities to try to expand on the concepts by themselves. Personally, this helped me understand certain theorems instead of just memorizing them. You could clearly see his love for math and how one could do so many things with it. An excellent teacher and a great help.
- Very good TA, exceptional in teaching and in inciting student response. Would like if class was quicker in the sense that all questions on the board would be answered instead of most.
- Very knowledgeable in the subject of the course. Very efficient in teaching and is able to teach in a manner that makes the concepts easier to absorb and understand.
- He is an extremely good teacher and is able to effectively teach the material to others. I appreciated how he encourages students to try and remember how to execute the problem instead of looking at their notes. If I'm stuck, he provides hints and helps me learn to solve the problem on my own. His explanations make the material easier to understand. He is very patient with students and can read the class environment very well.
- The instructor was enthusiastic about teaching students the material, which is essential to keep the students engaged in a morning class. He provided practice problems that helped to better understand the topic at hand, but sometimes failed to provide the answer to the problem given.
- Thank You for clarifying the material we learned in class! There are some sections that were unclear in lecture and solidified in discussion. Our section is energetic and fun for so early in the morning.



# UC RIVERSIDE - Student Evaluation of Instructor, Discussion Courses - Fall 2019

Course: MATH 009B Section: 013 - FIRST-YEAR  
CALCULUS  
Instructor: Michael Pierce

Enrollment: 25  
Respondents: 17  
Response Rate: 68%

Enrollment: 5185  
Respondents: 2226  
Response Rate: 43%

Enrollment: 52260  
Respondents: 22340  
Response Rate: 43%

Questions	Course								Department			Campus				
	<u>7</u> High	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> Low	<u>N/A</u>	Mean	SD	% tile	Mean	SD	% tile	Mean	SD
1 Provides goals and objectives in presentations.	9	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	6.24	1.0	57.50	5.99	1.4	63.73	6.17	1.3
2 Is well prepared and clearly organized.	13	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	6.59	0.9	80.63	6.04	1.4	81.45	6.20	1.3
3 Thoroughly understands the subject matter.	15	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	6.71	0.8	80.56	6.31	1.2	83.16	6.36	1.1
4 Explains the relevancy of the material.	13	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	6.59	0.9	80.10	6.05	1.4	82.02	6.20	1.3
5 Clarifies lecture and readings	15	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	6.71	0.8	84.29	6.05	1.4	87.90	6.16	1.3
6 Encourages me to participate and/or ask questions.	14	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	6.59	0.9	81.36	5.94	1.5	83.09	6.16	1.3
7 Uses language appropriate to the level of the course.	14	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	6.65	0.9	78.65	6.32	1.2	80.96	6.38	1.1
8 Gives useful feedback on assignments and exams.	13	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	6.53	0.9	77.31	6.02	1.4	80.21	6.10	1.4
9 Effectively manages the classroom environment	14	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	6.65	0.9	82.84	6.09	1.4	84.60	6.21	1.3
10 Motivates me to do my best.	12	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	6.53	0.9	78.83	5.87	1.5	82.15	6.05	1.4
11 Is accessible and helpful during office hours.	14	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	6.65	0.9	78.42	6.25	1.2	80.91	6.32	1.2
12 Is approachable - has a demeanor that encourages interaction.	13	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	6.47	1.0	72.77	6.14	1.4	71.27	6.28	1.3
13 Encourages and respects diverse perspectives.	13	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	6.67	0.9	78.80	6.30	1.2	78.38	6.41	1.1
14 Appropriately handles sensitive situations and/or inappropriate student comments.	11	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	6.57	0.9	69.48	6.27	1.2	72.61	6.39	1.1
15 Creates and maintains a tolerant learning environment.	12	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	6.60	0.9	73.37	6.30	1.1	76.86	6.40	1.1
16 Command of English language does not impede my learning the material. (This question is not applicable in foreign language sections.)	14	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	6.69	0.9	67.76	6.40	1.2	79.89	6.43	1.1
17 Overall, is an effective teacher.	14	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	6.65	0.9	77.84	6.12	1.3	82.10	6.22	1.3

\* The number of N/A is not included in the Mean and S.D. calculation.