



UC RIVERSIDE - Faculty Instruction Evaluation (iEval)

Summer Session A 2019

Course: MATH 131 Section: A01 - LINEAR ALGEBRA I
Instructor: Ryan Ta

Question # 20: Please comment on how the instructor's teaching helped your learning of the material in this course. Please give serious thought to your comments. Your comments will be studied by the professor after the grade and performance evaluation of your work have been submitted and may be used in changing future offerings of the course. In addition, these comments are placed in the instructor's file and may be used for purposes of evaluating the instructor's teaching. The information collected will remain anonymous.

- I like how there's extra credit opportunities so please do keep them if continue to teach. The only problem is that we do not have a final exam study guide as this is your first upper div class in teaching if I heard correctly.
- Ryan is definitely one of the best lecturer I have ever met, who is willing to write detailed lecture notes on the board. I really appreciate his teaching style. He tried to cover as much material as possible, rather than cut off materials due to time limit. He tried his best to stick with the syllabus course plan, which I think is really good. Also, giving out extra credit for lecture notes encourages us to take hand writing notes. While we are writing down the notes with hands, we can actually understand it better. Since I am not a math major, I am taking this upper math course to learn more about math for my future study in grad school. I benefited a lot from this summer class.
- I like how you strictly stick to the textbook, and how much you care about teaching us. I do have a couple suggestions for you, so you could improve on teaching moving forward. First, know the material a bit better. I understand that you probably took this class a long time ago as a student and this is the first time you are teaching it. Knowing the materials better would make you more confident and more authoritative as a teacher. I am sure the next time you teach this class, you would already know the materials much better than now. Secondly, as a teacher, you don't need to go into extreme details on a lot of the proves we did in class. For example, in the third chapter, you really don't have to take the time to prove something to be a vector space which is taught in chapter 1. Doing so, is significantly time consuming, yet we learned nothing from. By the third chapter, most students should know how to do that or they can ask after class during office hours. This is just one example, I understand you were probably trying to make sure EVERYONE gets it. But you are not considering the time you used on those subjects are probably not educational for most of the class. And this raised the third problem which is a major one, and that is time-planning. Although I know this is short period of time to break down all the materials, always going over the time just shows the lack of planning and organizing. Maybe cutting some of those unnecessary (too easy or too similar that students can read of the textbook) proofs would help. You could simply ask students to look over the book and refresh themselves. All and all, I deeply appreciate what you have taught me. You have done a great job! Anyone could tell that you have put a lot of thought into teaching, and that you care much about your students' performances. You have my best wishes!
- The professor would often readjust his notes on the board because he would create his notes straight from the book. Therefore professor relied on the book rather than his own notes. Professor was also too fast paced and would often go over class time.
- The only thing I did not like was going over the scheduled time multiple days to finish covering certain material. There also was basically no breaks during class to go to the restroom or give our hands a break. It was constant writing. I suggest having fill-in-the-blank notes available for the future. He was not there to teach the first 2 lectures and was a huge adjustment and also unexpected when he came the 3rd day with higher expectations. Overall very understanding of the students by giving opportunities for extra credit and listening to suggestions.