UT DALLAS

Student ratings are valuable and irreplaceable contributions to a much larger understanding of the quality of teaching and the learning experience. However, teaching effectiveness can only be understood in its context, which means that interpretations are subjective and _comparisons of numerical ratings_ across instructors, classes, or schools are not necessarily valid. Ratings are affected by multiple factors outside of instructor control, are subject to implicit and explicit bias, and may reveal more "customer satisfaction" than informed evaluation of teaching performance or quality of student learning. We must view student ratings of how they experienced learning in a particular class in the context of all available information about that course and instructor. Users of the data provided here are encouraged to consider multiple indicators of teaching contributions and effectiveness.

Course Experience for math3315.001.23s - Discrete Mathematics and Combinatorics

Evaluation Scale is 5 Level Likert Item	SD	D	N	A	SA	%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
The course objectives were clearly defined.	0%	6%	0%	44%	50%	%	-	6%	-	44%	50%	100%	M	**4.50**
													µ	4.38
						#	-	1	-	7	8	16	σ	0.81
													N	16
The course was well organized.	0%	0%	0%	38%	63%	%	-	-	-	38%	63%	100%	M	**4.70**
													µ	4.63
						#	-	-	-	6	10	16	σ	0.50
													N	16
Overall, the course was excellent.	0%	0%	0%	31%	69%	%	-	-	-	31%	69%	100%	M	**4.77**
													µ	4.69
						#	-	-	-	5	11	16	σ	0.48
													N	16

Instructor Nathan Williams (math3315.001.23s)

Evaluation Scale is 5 Level Likert Item	SD	D	N	A	SA	%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
The instructor was well prepared in the subject area.	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	%	-	-	-	-	100%	100%	M	**5.00**
													µ	5.00
						#	-	-	-	-	16	16	σ	0.00
													N	16
The instructor communicated information effectively.	0%	0%	0%	13%	88%	%	-	-	-	13%	88%	100%	M	**4.93**
													µ	4.88
						#	-	-	-	2	14	16	σ	0.34
													N	16
The instructor seemed genuinely interested in teaching.	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	%	-	-	-	-	100%	100%	M	**5.00**
													µ	5.00
						#	-	-	-	-	16	16	σ	0.00
													N	16

Evaluation Scale is 5 Level Likert Item	SD	D	N	A	SA	%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
The instructor provided timely feedback.	0%	0%	0%	6%	94%	%	-	-	-	6%	94%	100%	M	4.97
													μ	4.94
													σ	0.25
						#	-	-	-	1	15	16	N	16
The instructor was accessible outside of class.	0%	0%	0%	19%	81%	%	-	-	-	19%	81%	100%	M	4.88
													μ	4.81
													σ	0.40
						#	-	-	-	3	13	16	N	16
The instructor evaluated students fairly.	0%	0%	0%	6%	94%	%	-	-	-	6%	94%	100%	M	4.97
													μ	4.94
													σ	0.25
						#	-	-	-	1	15	16	N	16
Overall, this instructor was excellent.	0%	0%	0%	6%	94%	%	-	-	-	6%	94%	100%	M	4.97
													μ	4.94
													σ	0.25
						#	-	-	-	1	15	16	N	16

Student Experience for math3315.001.23s - Discrete Mathematics and Combinatorics

Evaluation Scale is 5 Level Likert Item	SD	D	N	A	SA	%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
I was free to ask questions and express my opinions and ideas.	0%	0%	0%	19%	81%	%	-	-	-	19%	81%	100%	M	4.88
													μ	4.81
													σ	0.40
						#	-	-	-	3	13	16	N	16
My performance was evaluated fairly.	0%	0%	0%	13%	88%	%	-	-	-	13%	88%	100%	M	4.93
													μ	4.88
													σ	0.34
						#	-	-	-	2	14	16	N	16
I discussed ideas from this course with others outside the classroom.	0%	0%	0%	19%	81%	%	-	-	-	19%	81%	100%	M	4.88
													μ	4.81
													σ	0.40
						#	-	-	-	3	13	16	N	16
This course has been (or will be) of value to me.	6%	0%	6%	19%	69%	%	6%	-	6%	19%	69%	100%	M	4.77
													μ	4.44
													σ	1.09
						#	1	-	1	3	11	16	N	16
This course inspired me to learn more.	6%	0%	6%	6%	81%	%	6%	-	6%	6%	81%	100%	M	4.88
													μ	4.56
													σ	1.09
						#	1	-	1	1	13	16	N	16

Comments - *Access to comments is restricted. You have permission to view comments*

What aspects of this course should remain the same?

1. I really enjoyed the puzzles and word problems we started class off with. It made the class really engaging and I was genuinely interested in learning more. I would have loved to do more especially towards the end of the semester.

2. I enjoyed the interactive lectures and how chill Dr. Williams was :)

3. Everything. Dr.Williams is very knowledgeable in the course and extremely proficient in the teaching of the course.

4. I liked how we were inventivized to learn the material well In order to do well on exams and test and that homeworks were relevant and reinforced subject matter learned in lecture.

5. This course was my first serious math course. It was the first math class I have taken that taught me to think like a mathematician. That is less memorizing tricks and methods and more studying patterns and analyzing situations. I can confidently say I am a better mathematician after this class. The homework was hard, but they were there to make sure you really understood the material.

6. everything except the material for the last 2-3 weeks of the class.

7. Most things. Loved this class and Dr. Williams

What aspects of this course need improvement?	1. The pacing at the end of the semester (last 1-2 weeks) was a little fast.
	2. More puzzles and "fun" (contest-style) questions perhaps? This is more so on the TA, but I wish I had received my HW back in less than three days because I sometimes had a hw due the day of the test which is unfortunate because I would've wanted input on my solutions. If the future TAs continue to not give HWs back as quick, I'd like if the homework solutions were posted right after the homework was due.
	3. Nothing
	4. Nothing that I can think of.
	5. Overall, I really enjoyed this course (as much as one could enjoy a college math course) and I am certain the concepts I learned will stay with me. The only thing I wish I had during this course was homework answers. The homework was very important for gauging my own understanding of the material, and after I turned in my homework, there was not much of an emphasis on understanding what was incorrect/what was the right way to get the solution. Other classes like calc 2419 post the homework solutions, and I wish this class did as well.
	6. Post homework solutions after the assignments are due. Also maybe cover the material towards the end of the class slower I guess because it got really confusing.
Additional comments:	1. I would add the homework answer sheets to eLearning after the assignment due date passes that way it is easy to access and understand the concepts when reviewing them.
	2. It was a fun course - Dr. Williams is very engaging and knowledgeable and can connect with students very well. He teaches the intuition behind each topic which is really nice. Having competed in math competitions in high school, the course initially seemed to be a repetition of what I had learned while preparing for AMC/AIME but I liked that we branched out towards the end of the semester and learned other topics as well!
	3. Nathan Williams was genuinely the best professor I have had at UTD, and has inspired me to explore my passion for mathematics further.
	4. I really liked Dr. Williams. He was funny at times, lectured well, and it seemed like he really cared about lecturing, but sometimes he did things that made me feel bad about myself. I doubt he realizes it, but it happened in two ways. Often times he would be going through a concept and would refer to it as "wrong" or "garbage" and a lot of the time that was funny. However, when I was struggling with the class material, and I knew I had homework coming up that was going to take me quite a while to get through, hearing him call the topic I didn't understand "nonsense" made me feel bad. This could probably just be me though, and I don't think less of Dr. Williams because of it. There was one other thing that got to me a little more. There was a topic I had a fundamental misunderstanding of, so I went to his office hours to ask him questions about it. When I asked how to complete the problem, he would respond with "What is there to do? You just do it." I continued to struggle, and there were other kids asking him questions during the same office hours. At one point, he laughed at someone's question. I couldn't tell if it was a nervous laugh or a judgemental laugh, but it made me feel really stupid nonetheless. After being in that office hours stuck on a trivial problem and hearing what felt like the "oh my gosh they're hopeless" laugh, I was scared to ask questions for quite a while. I still only ask him questions if I am pretty sure I already know the answer or if it is a simple clarifying question. I know I'm a sensitive person, so I might be overreacting, but these are just my honest feelings. I wonder if anyone actually reads these anyways...
	5. Honestly, Prof Williams is such a chad. He is one of the great teachers here at UTD and really wants his students to. understand concepts the way he understands. He will not stop until everyone understands or is on the same page.
	6. Best class for data science majors. I'll miss Dr. Williams

Class Grade Distribution (MATH3315.001.23S)

	−	•	+	#
A	12	9	10	31
B	1	3	4	8
C	0	2	0	2
D	0	0	0	0
F	-	0	-	0
W*	-	0	-	1
			Letter Grade Count:	41

Grade Distribution for MATH3315.001.23S

Grade	Percent
A	73.81%
B	19.04%
C	4.76%
D	0%
F	0%
W*	2.38%

$\mu = 3.63$
$\sigma = 0.25$
$M = 3.67$

25% 50% 75% 100%

class GPA **3.63**

DF% **0%**

WDF% **2.38%**