Term: Spring 2021
Enrollment: 34
Eligible to Respond: 34
Response Count: 15
Response Rate: 44.12%

Class ID: MATH3315.001.21S
Title: Discrete Mathematics and Combinatorics
School: School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
Instructor: Nathan Williams

Course Experience for math3315.001.21s - 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%	0%	0%	40%	60%	%	-	-	-	40%	60%	100%	M	**4.67**
													μ	4.60
						#	-	-	-	6	9	15	σ	0.51
													N	15
The course was well organized.	0%	0%	0%	60%	40%	%	-	-	-	60%	40%	100%	M	**4.33**
													μ	4.40
						#	-	-	-	9	6	15	σ	0.51
													N	15
Overall, the course was excellent.	0%	0%	13%	27%	60%	%	-	-	13%	27%	60%	100%	M	**4.67**
													μ	4.47
						#	-	-	2	4	9	15	σ	0.74
													N	15

Instructor Nathan Williams (math3315.001.21s)

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%	7%	93%	%	-	-	-	7%	93%	100%	M	**4.96**
													μ	4.93
						#	-	-	-	1	14	15	σ	0.26
													N	15
The instructor communicated information effectively.	0%	0%	0%	33%	67%	%	-	-	-	33%	67%	100%	M	**4.75**
													μ	4.67
						#	-	-	-	5	10	15	σ	0.49
													N	15
The instructor seemed genuinely interested in teaching.	0%	0%	0%	20%	80%	%	-	-	-	20%	80%	100%	M	**4.88**
													μ	4.80
						#	-	-	-	3	12	15	σ	0.41
													N	15
The instructor provided timely feedback.	0%	0%	7%	33%	60%	%	-	-	7%	33%	60%	100%	M	**4.67**
													μ	4.53
						#	-	-	1	5	9	15	σ	0.64
													N	15
The instructor was accessible outside of class.	0%	0%	0%	40%	60%	%	-	-	-	40%	60%	100%	M	**4.67**
													μ	4.60
						#	-	-	-	6	9	15	σ	0.51
													N	15

The instructor evaluated students fairly.						%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
	0%	0%	0%	40%	60%	%	-	-	-	40%	60%	100%	M	**4.67**
													μ	4.60
						#	-	-	-	6	9	15	σ	0.51
													N	15

M = 4.67, μ = 4.60, σ = 0.51

Overall, this instructor was excellent.						%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
	0%	7%	0%	7%	87%	%	-	7%	-	7%	87%	100%	M	**4.92**
													μ	4.73
						#	-	1	-	1	13	15	σ	0.80
													N	15

M = 4, μ = 4, σ = 0.

Student Experience for math3315.001.21s - 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%	47%	53%	%	-	-	-	47%	53%	100%	M	**4.56**
													μ	4.53
						#	-	-	-	7	8	15	σ	0.52
													N	15
My performance was evaluated fairly.	0%	0%	0%	47%	53%	%	-	-	-	47%	53%	100%	M	**4.56**
													μ	4.53
						#	-	-	-	7	8	15	σ	0.52
													N	15
I discussed ideas from this course with others outside the classroom.	0%	0%	13%	60%	27%	%	-	-	13%	60%	27%	100%	M	**4.11**
													μ	4.13
						#	-	-	2	9	4	15	σ	0.64
													N	15
This course has been (or will be) of value to me.	0%	7%	7%	60%	27%	%	-	7%	7%	60%	27%	100%	M	**4.11**
													μ	4.07
						#	-	1	1	9	4	15	σ	0.80
													N	15
This course inspired me to learn more.	0%	13%	13%	40%	33%	%	-	13%	13%	40%	33%	100%	M	**4.08**
													μ	3.93
						#	-	2	2	6	5	15	σ	1.03
													N	15

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

What aspects of this course should remain the same?

1. I enjoyed the examples in the course and the understanding from the professor that the material he teaches is indeed difficult.

2. The level of difficulty of the problems on the exams and homeworks was perfect - difficult enough to be interesting and a fun challenge, but not so hard as to be discouraging.

3. no changes

4. Dr. Williams is amazing. I have seriously never met a more engaged, interesting, and genuinely supportive and kind professor. I was very fortunate that my schedule allowed me to attend office hours regularly - he was always extremely helpful and willing to work through problems and examples as much as necessary both in class and in office hours. I really appreciated having lots of time to work through assignments and exams, and not having constant back-to-back homework. There was a lot of room in the class to really be understanding the content and doing your best work instead of just worrying about surviving. I've had a difficult time with more theoretical math in the past but I found this class had the resources I needed to succeed and that Dr. Williams genuinely wanted me to do well and was willing to help however he could to make sure we all succeeded. I wish Dr. Williams taught every math class I need to take

5. Layout, Organization, and overall everything was wonderful. The course was difficult and the instructor went at a pace that made things easier to understand. Professor adapted as much as possible with the virtual

environment.

6. The teaching style and the curve should remain.

7. All of them. Especially having the OneNote notes available online, that was the most helpful feature to me.

8. The amount of homework

9. I think the course work and grading criteria should stay the same because it never felt like I was being overloaded with work for this class. I liked how the exams were take home because it took a lot of stress away from being timed to get the work done and felt more maintable compared to my other classes.

10. Test and Homeworks format.

11. Teaching method. Professor Williams uses great amount of examples to help us understand theorems. I personally believe visual examples help students get a better understanding of concepts and professor does exactly that. Always open to questions and even repeats the explanation.

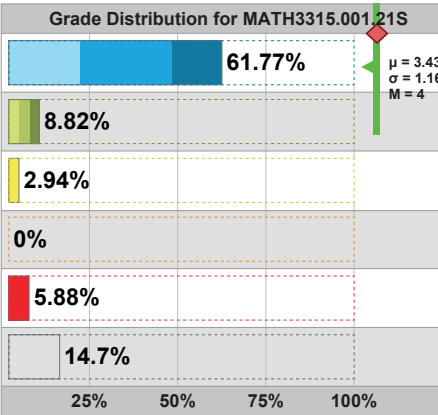| What aspects of this course need improvement?	
	1. Can't think of anything. Keep doing what you're doing!
	2. no recommendations
	3. I found the grading scale frustrating. Although I appreciate the idea, I wish the grading scheme had been more clearly described from the beginning so that I didn't panic when I was failing the first assignments and exams. I also felt like at times there was poor communication with the TA (things like Dr. Williams saying in class that pseudocode was fine, but the TA marking it as wrong if we didn't attach code). However that's a very small problem, overall I loved this class and wouldn't really change anything
	4. Course was wonderful. Nothing-
	5. Easier course materials. I think the difficulty is too high for freshman data science students.
	6. The only thing I can really think of is for some of the coding problems on the homeworks, we pretty much got the exact answer in class. On the one hand I appreciate this because it saves me a lot of time as someone that didn't know any python going into the course, but on the other hand I would have liked to have to rely on my own work more for the experience. This wasn't really a bad thing, though, it's just the only suggestion I have at all.
	7. Nothing
	8. More examples that possibly involve coding are always good. More connections to real-world applications especially for the more difficult material are also always helpful.
	9. I think it would've been great if solutions to HWs and exams were posted once they're graded. Since many exam questions are derived from HW, if we didn't get those correct there, it is quite difficult to figure out where we went wrong.

Additional comments:	
	1. Dr. Williams has an excellent course layout and delivers the material well. The homework can be challenging, but he makes himself available and is more than willing to discuss problems in class. Dr. Williams demands interaction and communication, overall an excellent course.
	2. I think many people might find it helpful if there was a more used textbook or other resource to reference for additional understanding outside of class. I know some people are like me and might benefit from more traditional perspectives and descriptions of the content in addition to Dr. Williams very approachable representations and examples. Since the textbook wasn't used it was difficult to get a background in the concepts before attending lectures, and I think it would be beneficial to have some kind of resource (even just a 10 minute youtube video emailed out a few days before class) so that we weren't entirely reliant on the lectures and could get a basic understanding before going to class. One thing that was extremely useful was having the OneNote shared - even though I took my own notes, I also used the ones created during class and found them invaluable in working on the homework etc. I hope that is something he also provides during in-person classes because it really was incredibly useful to have as a reference and review
	3. I thought my experience in this course was excellent. The professor was flexible and very resourceful for students who were struggling, which made the semester's learning experience more enjoyable and valuable.
	4. Professor was extremely understanding and adapted lessons and due dates to students. Second semester I have had Dr. Williams and would definitely recommend having him as a professor to friends. Hope to have another class with him in the near future in an in person environment. Thank you for a wonderful freshman year. -KZ
	5. I think it is good so far.
	6. Thank you so much for actually doing lectures during the covid-19 lockdown. Having a fixed time to work and structured notes to take helps me immensely as someone that struggles with ADHD. Of all of my classes this semester, you were the only professor that actually did live lectures & did them the usual

number of times that we students have paid for. I hope you and all the other professors that actually did real classes get some kind of recognition for it from the university because it is, in my experience, a rare thing during this lockdown! The lectures and teaching style were also fantastic quality! You kept classes very engaging, especially with the kind of in-class problems we'd work. I wish more professors did that sort of thing because it helps the students with learning differences a lot!

7. None

8. Great class. Thank you professor for being generous and extending hw deadlines often. Despite its difficulty, you were very helpful and I'd definitely take another class with you. Have a great summer!

Class Grade Distribution (MATH3315.001.21S)

	−	•	+	#
A	7	9	5	21
B	1	1	1	3
C	0	1	0	1
D	0	0	0	0
F	-	2	-	2
W*	-	0	-	5
			Letter Grade Count:	27

Grade Distribution for MATH3315.001.21S

- A: 61.77% — $\mu = 3.43$, $\sigma = 1.16$, $M = 4$
- B: 8.82%
- C: 2.94%
- D: 0%
- F: 5.88%
- W*: 14.7%

(25% 50% 75% 100%)

class GPA **3.43**

DF% **7.41%**

WDF% **21.88%**

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Enrollment: **34**
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