



### Course Experience for math6311.001.19s - Abstract Algebra I

| Evaluation Scale is<br><a href="#">5 Level Likert Item</a> | SD  | D  | N  | A   | SA  | %/# | SD | D | N  | A   | SA  | TOT  | Summary Statistics |             |
|--|---|----|----|-----|-----|-----|----|---|----|-----|-----|------|--------------------|-------------|
|  | The course objectives were clearly defined. | 0% | 0% | 0%  | 27% | 73% | %  | - | -  | -   | 27% | 73%  | 100%               | M           |
|  |   |    |    |     |     | #   | -  | - | -  | 4   | 11  | 15   | $\mu$              | 4.73        |
|  |   |    |    |     |     |     |    |   |    |     |     |      | $\sigma$           | 0.46        |
|  |   |    |    |     |     |     |    |   |    |     |     |      | N                  | 15          |
| The course was well organized.                             | 0%  | 0% | 7% | 40% | 53% | %   | -  | - | 7% | 40% | 53% | 100% | M                  | <b>4.56</b> |
|  |   |    |    |     |     | #   | -  | - | 1  | 6   | 8   | 15   | $\mu$              | 4.47        |
|  |   |    |    |     |     |     |    |   |    |     |     |      | $\sigma$           | 0.64        |
|  |   |    |    |     |     |     |    |   |    |     |     |      | N                  | 15          |
| Overall, the course was excellent.                         | 0%  | 0% | 7% | 53% | 40% | %   | -  | - | 7% | 53% | 40% | 100% | M                  | <b>4.31</b> |
|  |   |    |    |     |     | #   | -  | - | 1  | 8   | 6   | 15   | $\mu$              | 4.33        |
|  |   |    |    |     |     |     |    |   |    |     |     |      | $\sigma$           | 0.62        |
|  |   |    |    |     |     |     |    |   |    |     |     |      | N                  | 15          |

### Instructor Nathan Williams (math6311.001.19s)

| Evaluation Scale is<br><a href="#">5 Level Likert Item</a> | 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%  | 20% | 80% | %  | -   | -  | -   | 20% | 80%  | 100%               | M           |
|  |   |     |    |     |     | #   | -  | -   | -  | 3   | 12  | 15   | $\mu$              | 4.80        |
|  |   |     |    |     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |      | $\sigma$           | 0.41        |
|  |   |     |    |     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |      | N                  | 15          |
| The instructor communicated information effectively.       | 0%  | 7%  | 0% | 40% | 53% | %   | -  | 7%  | -  | 40% | 53% | 100% | M                  | <b>4.56</b> |
|  |   |     |    |     |     | #   | -  | 1   | -  | 6   | 8   | 15   | $\mu$              | 4.40        |
|  |   |     |    |     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |      | $\sigma$           | 0.83        |
|  |   |     |    |     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |      | N                  | 15          |
| The instructor seemed genuinely interested in teaching.    | 0%  | 0%  | 0% | 7%  | 93% | %   | -  | -   | -  | 7%  | 93% | 100% | M                  | <b>4.96</b> |
|  |   |     |    |     |     | #   | -  | -   | -  | 1   | 14  | 15   | $\mu$              | 4.93        |
|  |   |     |    |     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |      | $\sigma$           | 0.26        |
|  |   |     |    |     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |      | N                  | 15          |
| The instructor provided timely feedback.                   | 0%  | 20% | 0% | 47% | 33% | %   | -  | 20% | -  | 47% | 33% | 100% | M                  | <b>4.14</b> |
|  |   |     |    |     |     | #   | -  | 3   | -  | 7   | 5   | 15   | $\mu$              | 3.93        |
|  |   |     |    |     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |      | $\sigma$           | 1.10        |
|  |   |     |    |     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |      | N                  | 15          |
| The instructor was accessible outside of class.            | 0%  | 0%  | 7% | 7%  | 87% | %   | -  | -   | 7% | 7%  | 87% | 100% | M                  | <b>4.92</b> |
|  |   |     |    |     |     | #   | -  | -   | 1  | 1   | 13  | 15   | $\mu$              | 4.80        |
|  |   |     |    |     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |      | $\sigma$           | 0.56        |
|  |   |     |    |     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |      | N                  | 15          |

|   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |     |      |      |   |             |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|-----|------|------|---|-------------|
| The instructor evaluated students fairly. |  |  |  |  |  | % | - | - | - | 20% | 80%  | 100% | M | <b>4.88</b> |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | # | - | - | - | 3   | 12   | 15   | μ | 4.80        |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   | σ   | 0.41 |      |   |             |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   | N   | 15   |      |   |             |

|   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |     |      |      |   |             |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|-----|------|------|---|-------------|
| Overall, this instructor was excellent. |  |  |  |  |  | % | - | - | - | 27% | 73%  | 100% | M | <b>4.82</b> |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | # | - | - | - | 4   | 11   | 15   | μ | 4.73        |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   | σ   | 0.46 |      |   |             |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   | N   | 15   |      |   |             |

### Student Experience for math6311.001.19s - Abstract Algebra I

| Evaluation Scale is<br><a href="#">5 Level Likert Item</a> | 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. |  |  |  |  |  | % | - | - | - | 20% | 80%  | 100% | M | <b>4.88</b> |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | # | - | - | - | 3   | 12   | 15   | μ | 4.80        |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   | σ   | 0.41 |      |   |             |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   | N   | 15   |      |   |             |

|                                      |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |     |      |      |   |             |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|-----|------|------|---|-------------|
| My performance was evaluated fairly. |  |  |  |  |  | % | - | - | - | 27% | 73%  | 100% | M | <b>4.82</b> |
|                                      |  |  |  |  |  | # | - | - | - | 4   | 11   | 15   | μ | 4.73        |
|                                      |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   | σ   | 0.46 |      |   |             |
|                                      |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   | N   | 15   |      |   |             |

|   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |     |   |     |      |      |   |             |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|-----|---|-----|------|------|---|-------------|
| I discussed ideas from this course with others outside the classroom. |  |  |  |  |  | % | - | 13% | - | 40% | 47%  | 100% | M | <b>4.42</b> |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | # | - | 2   | - | 6   | 7    | 15   | μ | 4.20        |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |     |   | σ   | 1.01 |      |   |             |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |     |   | N   | 15   |      |   |             |

|   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |     |     |      |      |   |             |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|-----|-----|------|------|---|-------------|
| This course has been (or will be) of value to me. |  |  |  |  |  | % | - | - | 13% | 40% | 47%  | 100% | M | <b>4.42</b> |
|   |  |  |  |  |  | # | - | - | 2   | 6   | 7    | 15   | μ | 4.33        |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |     | σ   | 0.72 |      |   |             |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |     | N   | 15   |      |   |             |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |    |     |      |      |   |             |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|----|-----|------|------|---|-------------|
| This course inspired me to learn more. |  |  |  |  |  | % | - | - | 7% | 53% | 40%  | 100% | M | <b>4.31</b> |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | # | - | - | 1  | 8   | 6    | 15   | μ | 4.33        |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |    | σ   | 0.62 |      |   |             |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |    | N   | 15   |      |   |             |

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

|   |   |
|---|---|
| What aspects of this course should remain the same? | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Publishing the Notes.</li> <li>2. Professor is enthusiastic and very welcoming of questions; he works hard to make sure everyone understands what's going on. That is the mark of an excellent teacher.</li> <li>3. Syllabus is good, It gives very good knowledge on Abstract Algebra. Professor interacted with whole class and tried to answer all the queries</li> <li>4. Notes were amazing.</li> <li>5. The structure of the course was great, and it had easily the greatest final exam of all time. Never before have I seen a take-home final that was interesting and genuinely thought provoking before.</li> <li>6. The overall organization of material was excellent. Dr. Williams' teaching style is very engaging and his enthusiasm for the material is infectious.</li> <li>7. Problems are well. First classes was fantastically good, Dr. Williams gave us problem, which statement can be explained for kids and then we solved it by new material.</li> <li>8. The nontrivial amount of representation theory covered at the end of the course was very fun and interesting.</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

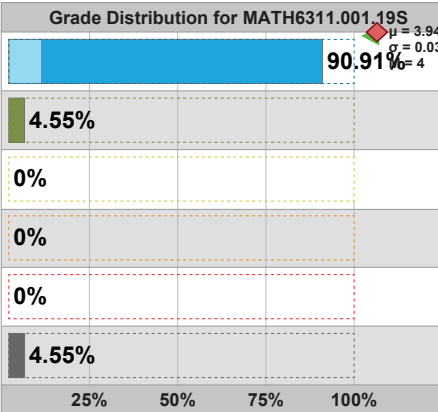
What aspects of this course need improvement?

1. The notes needs to be better organized, especially at the end with Representation theory.
2. Perhaps a one year course would be better instead of a single semester.
3. More time or classes to cover character table and end chapters of the syllabus. Few relevant solved examples should be added to Lecture notes so that it can give us more clear idea and we can imply the same for solving HW questions.
4. Should provide more frequent/shorter homework. Sub should be more effective or not brought in at all.
5. The overall pace of the course was far too slow. A graduate algebra class should be just that: an algebra course at a graduate level. It should not have to introduce the idea of a group and work up through all of group theory, then define rings and proceed similarly. There was literally zero mention of category theory, when a graduate algebra class should be the first class that introduces categories. It did not go into any higher level algebraic ideas except for representation theory at the end. It was almost identical to the undergrad 3312 algebra course.
6. I wish more time could have been spent on representation theory toward the end of the course.
7. It will be better if homework will be graded early.
8. The course should be pared down somewhat in consideration for students who have a limited math background.

Additional comments:

1. I really liked the puzzles the professor asks in the beginning of class.
2. Lecture notes need improvement. Tests are very well designed
3. I don't think Dummit and Foote is appropriate for a graduate class; it is more of an undergrad book. Maybe Lang, Hungerford or Jacobson volume 2.
4. Note taking should be actively encouraged in class, not discouraged. Many students learn through effective note-taking. The online notes posted by the instructor can be too terse and are not enough on their own for an effective review of the subject after class. A take-home final should not require the student to actively research an unrelated area of mathematics. This can be especially burdensome for students with a limited math background.

### Class Grade Distribution (MATH6311.001.19S)

|                        | - | •  | + | #  |   |
|------------------------|---|----|---|----|---|
| <b>A</b>               | 2 | 18 | 0 | 20 | <b>Grade Distribution for MATH6311.001.19S</b><br> |
| <b>B</b>               | 0 | 0  | 1 | 1  |   |
| <b>C</b>               | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0  |   |
| <b>D</b>               | 0 | 0  | 0 | 0  |   |
| <b>F</b>               | - | 0  | - | 0  |   |
| <b>W*</b>              | - | 1  | - | 1  |   |
| Letter Grade Count: 21 |   |    |   |    | 25% 50% 75% 100%  |

class  
GPA

**3.94**

DF %

**0%**

WDF %

**4.55%**

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 Enrollment: 22  
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