

Texas A&M University, College Station

Spring 2013

MATH 417 500

Murtazo Nazarov

Total number of evaluations submitted: 16

Total number of students enrolled in class: 34

Percentage of students who submitted an evaluation: 47.1

Likely grade in this class:

B

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

followed along well with the textbook, which made it easier to study for tests
the definitions and examples during class were very helpful
quizzes and grading was fair
the midterm was a little long and no one was expecting a proof since he said the test would be very similar to the quizzes
I liked how he would give us hints on the matlab code that we were working on in lab

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

good class overall
currently we are working on Gaussian elimination and I think we could have skipped over some of this because I think the majority of the class knows how to do matrix addition, multiplication, etc.

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

Yes. I think he was a good professor but I would change just a few simple things on his teaching style. For example, allow calculators on quizzes/tests, and sometimes he would stand in front of the board right after writing down an example. I think he went at a good pace during class so that everyone had time to understand what he was teaching. I know this was his first time teaching in America so it was kind of an experimental semester for him. Overall, I think he did a good job in teaching this class and I would take another class from him.

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

I liked the textbook as it was easy to follow.

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

A calculator was not allowed on quizzes or tests. This was a problem because I would spend valuable time on simple math that a scientific calculator could easily do. He said that we couldn't use calculators because they were distracting. However I strongly disagree because we are a class full of senior level math majors and we are used to hearing them during quizzes/tests since we have been allowed to use them in a majority of our other math classes. I know many other students felt the same way about this.

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that

was respectful of all students.

Yes he was very respectful to all students. He was always very willing to answer questions and made sure that students understood the material. I think he did a good job of explaining the material.

Likely grade in this class:

B

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

A lot of the examples he provided were from the book, and that was good that he explained them, but I would prefer even more examples. I feel like he also was not very clear on what he was looking for from time to time.

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

The MatLab assignments were somewhat useful, but overall they did not teach me anything.

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

Yes, he is very nice and more than willing to help you with any questions that you may have.

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

The book was alright, but I feel like I was not sure what it was asking some of the time.

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

Keep the programming assignments, but find a way to make them more practical and useful. I mean rewriting a program that someone has already written is not really useful. But having students go through a program that someone else wrote and comment on what they think is going on might be more stimulating.

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

He did, he was always punctual and very kind.

Likely grade in this class:

B

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

(No Response)

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

(No Response)

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

(No Response)

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

(No Response)

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

(No Response)

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

(No Response)

Likely grade in this class:

B

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

He worked through examples slowly.

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

I think the programming assignments should count as a higher portion of one's grade because they take up so much time. Also I do not think the Midterm exam tested us over the main material covered up to that point, it covered more ambiguous topics.

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

Overall I would recommend him because this was his first semester teaching here, and he definitely has potential to be a good instructor. This semester was not too great because he did everything STRAIGHT from the book with very little of his own touch to the material.

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

The book was not bad.

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

(No Response)

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

(No Response)

Likely grade in this class:

A

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain

the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

I thought the homework and quizzes went well together in helping explain the material.

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

I would keep the programming assignments the same. I wouldn't change anything.

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

Yes. Especially, for his first time, I thought he was very fair in how he handled the course.

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

Book was not my favorite, especially with the type of problems it offered.

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

As far as programming assignments, I would keep them the same in using Matlab.

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

He did.

Likely grade in this class:

B

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

I appreciated that the professor gave suggested homework problems and example exam type questions to work on.

There isn't anything I would change on his teaching style.

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you

change?

(No Response)

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

Yes, I would recommend this professor. He is very thorough in his lectures and provides ample examples. He does not go too fast, which is enjoyable. He's always willing to work over problems that students have difficulty with.

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

The book has lots of errors, which makes it difficult when studying.

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

I liked that program exercises were given a heavy weight for the grading -- they took a long time to do and therefore deserve a heavy weight.

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

Yes, he did. He was willing to go over problems in class and answer questions. He also made himself available outside of class.

Likely grade in this class:

B

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

He did examples straight from the box instead of his own examples ALL THE TIME. I don't think he ever did a unique example and none of which were anything like the questions on the test. He spent a whole day on the simpler things like linear algebra concepts and would spend no time at all on the more complex ideas even when we asked questions about them.

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

The programming assignments were far too long. Have shorter programming assignments that are due more often. That way we can get more help on a distinct problem.

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

No, I would not. I am going to leave this course having learned very little and what I did learn was straight from the book.

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

The book was alright, but didn't help too much with his tests.

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

(No Response)

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

He didn't answer many of our questions when asked and couldn't come up with examples on his own.

Likely grade in this class:

A

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

He was very straight forward with his expectations and I felt that it was fairly balanced.

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

I liked it overall but I might like some more challenging content.

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

Yes and no. This is the first time Dr. Nazarov has taught in the US and he seems to think we're

not very smart. I think he dumbed down the course because of it. That makes it easier to pass and so I would recommend him to students that only care about grades but I wouldn't recommend him to students that want to learn.

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

(No Response)

**Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:
What would you keep the same? What would you change?**

(No Response)

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

I think so. He always seemed available for questions and answered them completely.

Likely grade in this class:

Select a grade

**Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?
What did (s)he do that you would change?**

He needed to provide more examples less theory. More of what we needed to know for the exam and less everything else. He knows what he is taking about but half of the time I have a very hard time understanding what he is trying to tell me.

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

The programming component of the course was very unhelpful in my understanding of the material. I would have been better served being able to use that time for studying. So I would recommend maybe ditch the programming and use the lab time as a recitation period instead.

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

No. He does not teach well or convey what we need to know for exams. While I truly believe he knows his stuff it does not help me if I can't absorb the material.

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

Book was good. Has lots of helpful examples. However, some of the back of the book answers are wrong which is very confusing.

**Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:
What would you keep the same? What would you change?**

The computer lab was sufficient for the programming work the class required. He didn't allow calculators.

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

He was respectful to the students.

Likely grade in this class:

A

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

(No Response)

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

The instructor repeated a lot of materials that has already been taught in other classes, such as linear algebra or differential equation.

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

(No Response)

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

(No Response)

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

(No Response)

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

(No Response)

Likely grade in this class:

C

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

I would encourage him to add one more exam. Two exams are not enough for a math course, in my experience.

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

I liked the semi weakly quizzes and programming assignments. However , i would also include a written homework component, since the optional homework was not encouraged without a grade

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

Yes, hes a good lecturer and a fair grader.

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

(No Response)

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

Use of computers and programming was a great component. It was great to learn how to solve actual math problems with my programming knowledge rather than generic programming

problems.

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

Absolutely, he is a great guy and I think he has a great future ahead of him as a lecturer.

Likely grade in this class:

B

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

I like that he followed along with the textbook. I would prefer if the examples we did in class were different from the ones in the textbook, so we have more resources to study. I like that we could do the lab assignment in groups.

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

I didn't like the course, but I don't think there's anything to change.

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

Yes, very understanding, helpful, and cared if we learned.

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

The book was good, thorough and good examples.

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

I don't like programming, but having the option to use whatever language to do the programs seemed good.

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

Yes, very respectful, encouraged and appreciated our input concerning due dates, and focusing/reviewing on material we needed more help understanding.

Likely grade in this class:

B

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

I had never seen some of the problems on the first midterm. The review problems did not cover them as well. As a result the class average was a 65. Only wish is that the exams are more similar to the quiz problems

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

Keep it the same way. Matlab necessary is good practice.

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

Yes, Good instructor terribly at setting exams. But his quizzes were easier and he liked teaching this class

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

The book is terrible and priced unreasonably at \$315. Luckily the professor allowed us to use the previous editions which were cheaper.

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

We should be allowed to use calculators for this course. Lack of calculators makes this course trivial

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

Yes. Great professor and I wish the best in the future

Likely grade in this class:

B

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

(No Response)

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

Overall it was a fine class. Subject matter was interesting and it was taught well. Prof did a fine job. He showed some signs of inexperience, but was always quick to realize and attempt to correct them.

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

(No Response)

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

(No Response)

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

(No Response)

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

(No Response)

Likely grade in this class:

C

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

I submitted my course evaluation and the page just reloaded. I'm not sure if it went through.

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

(No Response)

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

(No Response)

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

(No Response)

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

(No Response)

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

(No Response)

Likely grade in this class:

B

Please comment about the instructor: What did (s)he do that you would want to remain the same?

What did (s)he do that you would change?

Consistently good use of examples to illustrate processes. Fairly easy to follow along with. Programming assignments were good at enforcing understanding of important concepts.

Did not always clearly motivate the topic (i.e., sometimes I had no idea what was going on even though I was paying attention, but usually was able to follow along.) While speech was

usually clear, language was sometimes a barrier. Did not engage the class as much as some of my other professors, which would have made the course more enjoyable. While he asked for questions sometimes, sometimes a student would have a question and he wouldn't notice them for a long time.

We were expected to memorize way too many formulas and processes for the midterm, which (in addition to being very broad in scope) was disproportionately difficult compared to the quizzes. Even though there was optional homework to prepare you for the exam, the wide number of problems made it very difficult to study for it. The quizzes did not adequately prepare anyone. The focus of much of the course was on memorization of formulas, which in my mind is pointless.

Would not allow calculators on exams, but expected us to be able to compute (or estimate, but that wasn't stated) to a couple of digits fairly complicated divisions or even square roots..

Please comment about the course: What would you keep the same? What would you change?

The fundamental idea of the course is to show from a mathematical standpoint how computers can be used to calculate solutions to problems, how they introduce error, etc., and to show from a computing standpoint how to calculate those solutions. These might be important things to know as a math major. The programming assignments enforced that well.

Unfortunately, much of the rest of the effort in the class was spent memorizing formulas and processes that today could be found online in less than a minute. To me, that's a complete waste of time, because I'm going to forget all but the most basic ones anyway, and it won't matter because I can always look it up again. What's way more important is the fundamental concepts and ideas that are the foundation of those formulas and processes.

Do you recommend your instructor? Why or why not?

No, mainly because I didn't feel the course was consistent in terms of difficulty, and the teaching wasn't too engaging. Also because of the focus on memorizing.

Please comment on the book, help session and week-in review as it pertains to your course.

The book was so-so. In many places I found it thick and difficult to follow. That may be because I wasn't very interested in the topic for much of the semester.

Please comment on the use, if any, of technology (computers, graphing calculators, online homework system, etc.) in this course:

What would you keep the same? What would you change?

I would keep the Matlab use the same. I would encourage the prof/TA to use an online turnin system instead of printing all of our code.

Please comment on whether or not your instructor fostered a learning environment that was respectful of all students.

Yes he did.
