



Instructor Course Feedback for MATH 2271-001 Enhanced Linear Algebra Fall 2023 (Timothy Tribone)

Project Title: **Student Course Feedback**

Courses Audience: **23**

Responses Received: **22**

Response Ratio: **95.7%**

Report Comments

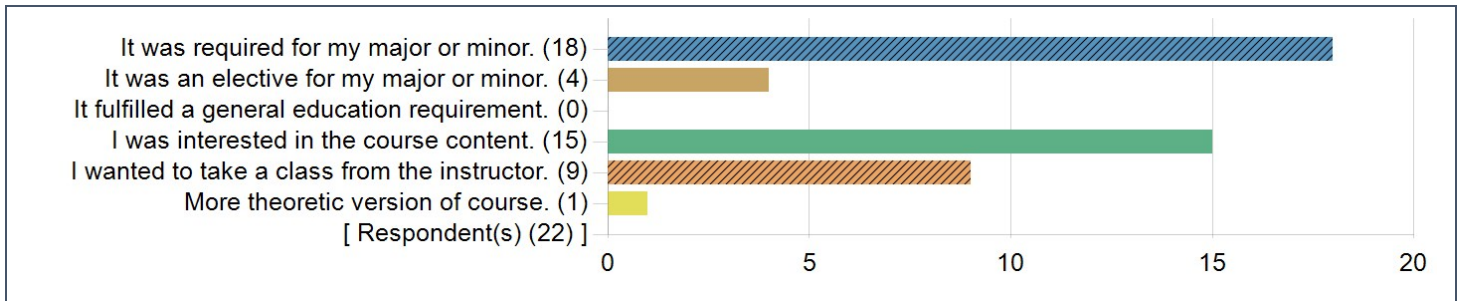
This is a standardized Student Course Feedback report approved by the Senate Advisory Committee on Student Course Feedback (SACSCF).

Visit ctle.utah.edu/scf/reports/instructor for help with this report.

Creation Date: **Saturday, December 30, 2023**

Student Demographics

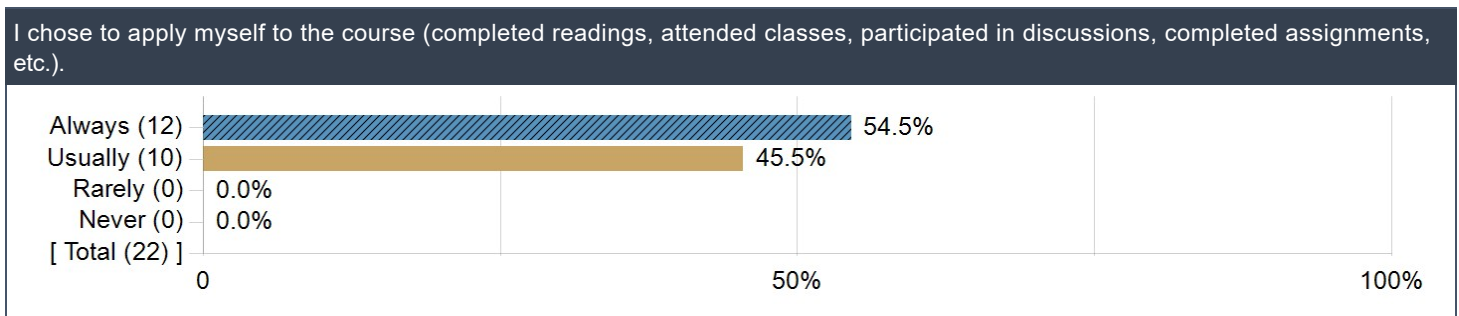
Why did you enroll in this course?



Please explain:

Comments
2270 was required and 2271 had a smaller class size and a great instructor.
I took this course because it fulfills the mathematics requirement for both of my majors (mathematics and physics). However, the primary purpose of me taking this course was because it was the most advanced mathematics course I could take at the University of Utah since they are such sticklers regarding prerequisites. Too bad we don't have a Math 55 like Harvard does.
I am a math major and also wanted to learn more about linear algebra.
I got an email and Prof. Tribone looked like a really good professor One of my friends recommended him too
Planned entire semester around this version of the course—the theory-based presentation is much appreciated over the standard course.
Really Good professor
I needed to take linear algebra but I also wanted to fulfill an honors credit.
Physics major, Math minor
Required for degree, also like the subject matter.

I chose to apply myself to the course (completed readings, attended classes, participated in discussions, completed assignments, etc.).

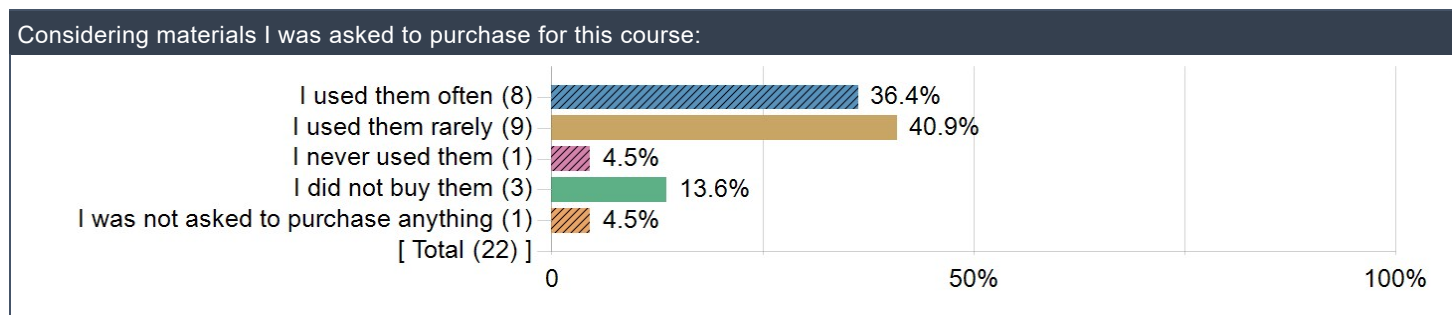


Please explain:

Comments
Missed more class than I intended, but read the textbook often
Once I finally got my driver's license and was able to drive in order to get to school, I attended classes virtually every time. I read the textbook, but to be honest, it was seldom helpful at all; the lectures were much clearer to me. I was usually reluctant to participate in discussions because I didn't want to look like a showoff who got humbled if I responded with the incorrect answer.
I made sure to actively participate in class and show up to office hours.
The topics are interesting and easy to stay interested in.
I loved this course content so I always tried to engage with the learning.
Only missed class if I was sick. I completed assignments on time. Didn't always read the textbook – I tried at the beginning of the semester, but I didn't have enough time for it most weeks.
Class attendance was limited due to personal illness and family issues; however, despite not being able to engage fully externally, this was by far the most engaging course this semester (& in the top for most engaging overall).
I tried to participate in the class and this class allowed discussion due to the smaller size
Not as much as I wish I did. Missed class sometimes and slacked on the homeworks.
I didn't always go to class, but I did every assignment, and stayed up-to-date on what was going on in the course.

Course Materials

Considering materials I was asked to purchase for this course:

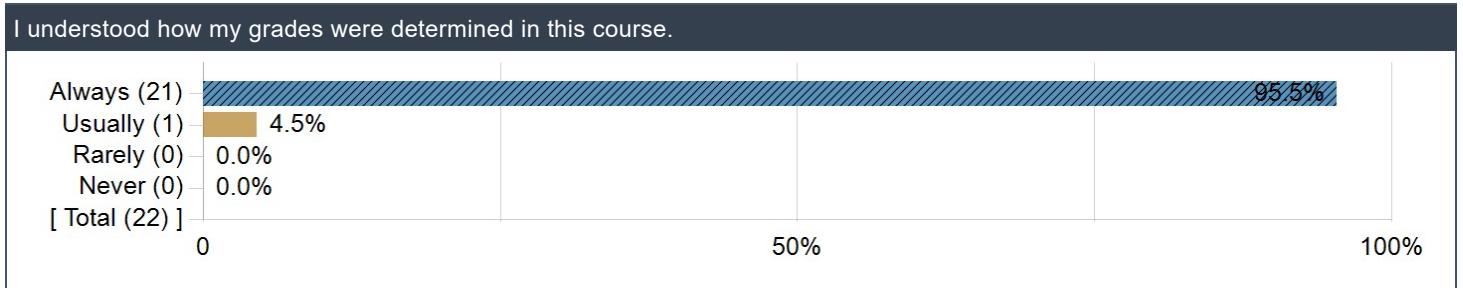


Please explain:

Comments
I read the book but rarely referred to it.
The textbook was seldom helpful and the homework problems were given directly on the homework packet/sheet instead of just referenced to the book.
I read the textbook when I needed extra assistance. In hindsight, I would have benefited from reading the textbook more frequently. I plan on reading parts of it even after the course ends to gain a further/deeper understand of the content.
I only used the textbook once every two weeks or so.
I don't have much spare money, so I decided to get through the class without the textbook.
I used the textbook on occasion to help with homework.
While the course textbook provides a better 'backdrop' to the material (the newest edition, while reorganised for modern uses of Linear Algebra, often feels a prior text chopped up and hastily reassembled—which, reading the prior edition, it seems this might be exactly what happened), it did offer a structure to build the ideas in class upon and return to after for a more rigorous (& coherent) read of the material. Moreover, while I prefer R or Python (due to versatility and open-source use), the accommodating use of MATLAB was actually quite helpful (despite my initial aversion to the program).
I bought the textbook for this class but it was not really necessary. All of the homework questions are posted in full, not requiring the textbook.
This isn't actually true, I never read from the book but I wish I had and still might. Just feel it is valuable.
I didn't get the textbook, wish I would have but it was still possible to go without as long as you take diligent notes.
If you fully apply yourself during class and take good notes, you never need the textbook

Grades

I understood how my grades were determined in this course.

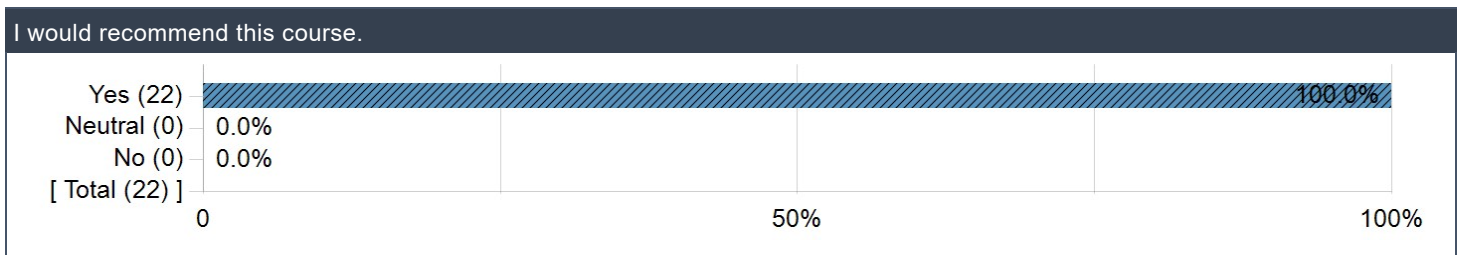


Please explain:

Comments
Grading system in syllabus was clear.
The grading was clear, and the professor was willing to work with students to correct mis-graded assignments.
The instructor was very clear with his grading and put his policies on canvas.
Grades were determined based on assignment and test scores. Pretty standard, and explained in the syllabus.
Rubric was clear and helpful.
The syllabus was very clear
Grades were explained clearly in the syllabus.

Recommend Course & Instructor

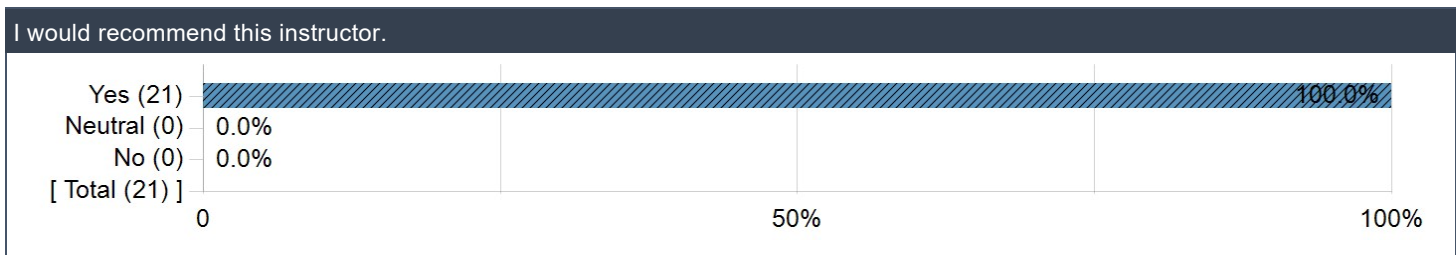
I would recommend this course.



Please explain:

Comments
This is the best class I have taken in my entire life.
Once will learn a lot in this course; not just about mathematics, but also its applications. Linear algebra has many applications, even in physics!
I could not recommend this course enough; I have already recommended it to multiple people. The content is interesting and foundational to other types of math and engineering. I enjoyed how theory was introduced in a way that was understandable to a new-comer to the subject. The thing that really made this course stand out however was the professor. Tim was absolutely phenomenal. He is the most engaging professor I have ever had. I will explain further in the section about the professor. If Timothy Tribone was not teaching, I would still recommend the course, but to be clear, he was the differentiating factor when it came to the experience in Math 2271.
Very good teacher and course. I really felt like I learned a lot.
This course goes over linear algebra really well and also offers a nice amount of depth into the more interesting aspects of the subject.
Fun material, and feels applicable to my major (Computer Science). I learned a lot.
Highly recommend for anyone seeking a linear algebra course not structured primarily for engineering students fulfilling a prerequisite. [This is no shade to engineering programs or the synergy between the STEM departments—only that a more conceptual presentation is highly appreciated!]
Awesome content and one of the best professors/teachers I have ever had
I took a partial linear algebra course before and this one was much more interesting and in depth.
Enjoyed learning about the applications of linear algebra, that puts all the theory into perspective. Helps bring together concepts in calculus and differential equations as well.

I would recommend this instructor.

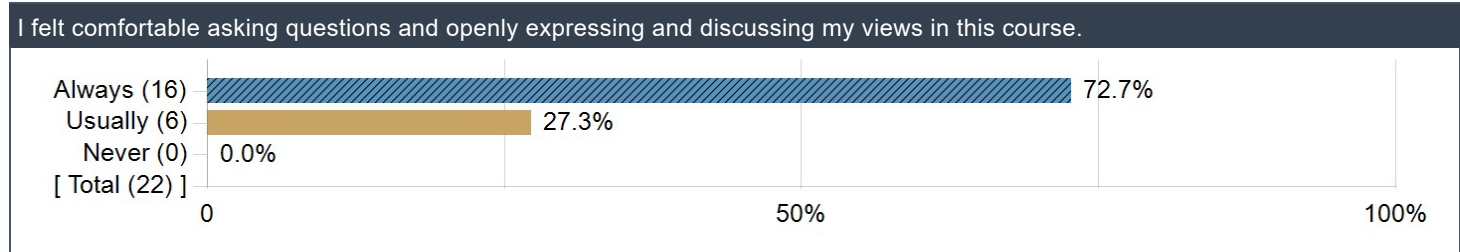


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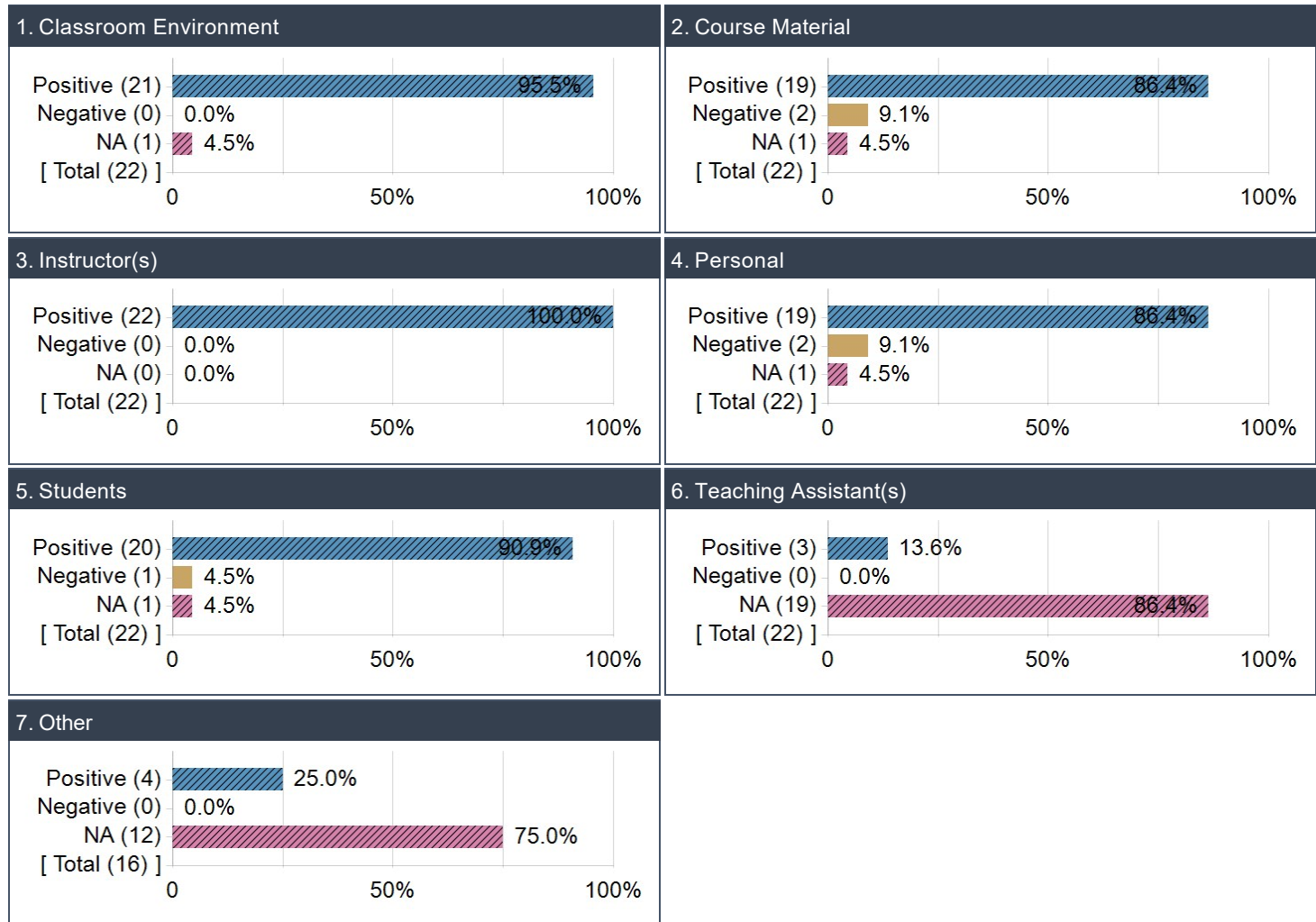
Comments
Tim is the best teacher I have had.
The GOAT
Professor is fantastic at explaining materials, and office hours are extremely beneficial
This instructor was very kind, lectured very clearly, and was very sympathetic to my circumstances. I had joined the class late with a lot of personal issues that weren't resolved until this December and he was very merciful with my situation.
Timothy Tribone might be the best professor I have ever had. He communicated very well with students, and led lectures in a fun and charismatic way. He taught in a lightheartedly way that made everyone feel comfortable, but also with enough enthusiasm to keep everyone in the class engaged and excited. It was easy to tell that Tim was excited about the content that he was teaching. He presented Linear Algebra like a story that was unraveling.
Tim frequently answered questions in class, and was willing/able to go beyond the content at hand when students asked deeper questions. It is clear that Tim is very knowledgeable about algebra and is capable of working with advanced students (as well as people who aren't as comfortable with the content).
I appreciated how Tim learned almost everyone's name within the first couple of weeks. This contributed to a sense of belonging in the class.
Tim made himself very available over email and in person when students needed extra help. His frequent office hours were appreciated. Tim also made time for students outside of posted office hours when he could, which went a long way in enabling us to understand the content, and also demonstrated how much he cared about his students.
Having talked with other student's about Tim, it is clear that my thoughts about him are shared amongst almost everyone in the class. I hope to be able to work with Tim in the future. If he ever needs a letter of recommendation as it pertains to teaching, I would be confident that anyone in the class would write him a glowing one :).
Really applies himself to teaching and making sure everyone understands the topics. Always is willing to help if we have questions or issues.
I love this instructor and think that his teaching style is really easy to follow. He shows a lot of care about his students and making sure that they understand the topic.
Prof. Tribone is literally the best. Super friendly professor, and excellent at teaching so that I could understand it.
As someone who came to the mathematics department primarily because of the online lectures of Gilbert Strang, I say this with only the utmost respect—Dr Tribone channels the best of Strang's pedagogy and expertise while definitely following his own path through the material and dynamically tailoring the material to the class. Despite my luck with previous mathematics instruction, easily among the most engaging and instructive professors I've had. I'm hoping I'll be able to take another course from him at some point (though sympathies to Dr Tribone if this chance ever manifests).
Tim #1
Very Good
Tim is an incredible professor who cares deeply about his students and is always willing to answer questions until everyone fully understands each topic.
Tim truly cares about our learning and is incredibly kind and caring and knows the content inside and out
Very great instructor. One of those few that manages to inspire love for math instead of just showing how to solve what's necessary. Wish he taught every math class I have or will take, genuinely.
Loved Tim, very enthusiastic about the math and compassionate about extensions. He also tries and motivates/proves the expressions he's using, so nothing feels like it's coming out of the blue, which I enjoy personally.
Absolutely the best professor I have experienced thus far. Very engaging yet informative lectures. Feels much more human and personable than other professors. Cares about his students. Wants them to do their best. Is extremely fair when it comes to assignments, tests, and grading.

Asking Questions and Discussing Views

I felt comfortable asking questions and openly expressing and discussing my views in this course.



Which of these contributed to your answer?

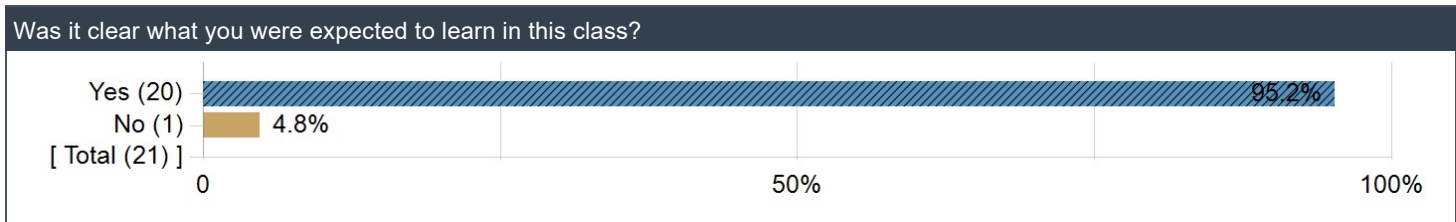


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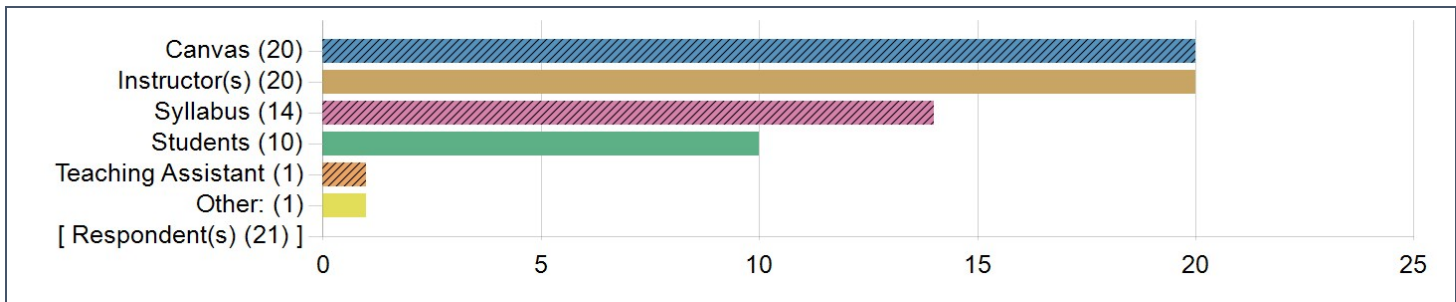
Comments
Tim taught in a way so that students felt comfortable asking questions whether they paralleled the content at hand or went deeper. The classroom felt safe and exciting at the same time. There was also a sense of collaboration amongst students that contributed to comfort regarding participation.
The instructor always welcomed questions and it was common for students to often ask questions, including me.
The environment was welcoming – all the students supported each other and Professor Tribone was great at making me feel included.
The textbook (at least the present edition) is quite confusing at parts (seeming to reiterate / reinforce points not yet made; broken-up or conjoined into groupings that are only made clear much later; etc.), though the lectures largely corrected for these problems. Moreover, it actually incentivised a 'revisit this later' approach that helped cement the concepts for people (such as myself) who tend to avoid reviewing material consistently.
My favorite class I have this semester by far
Everything was positive, people were inclusive, open to discussing and receiving feedback, and Tim was great at bringing together everyone's ideas.

Learning Objectives

Was it clear what you were expected to learn in this class?



If yes, how did you know this?

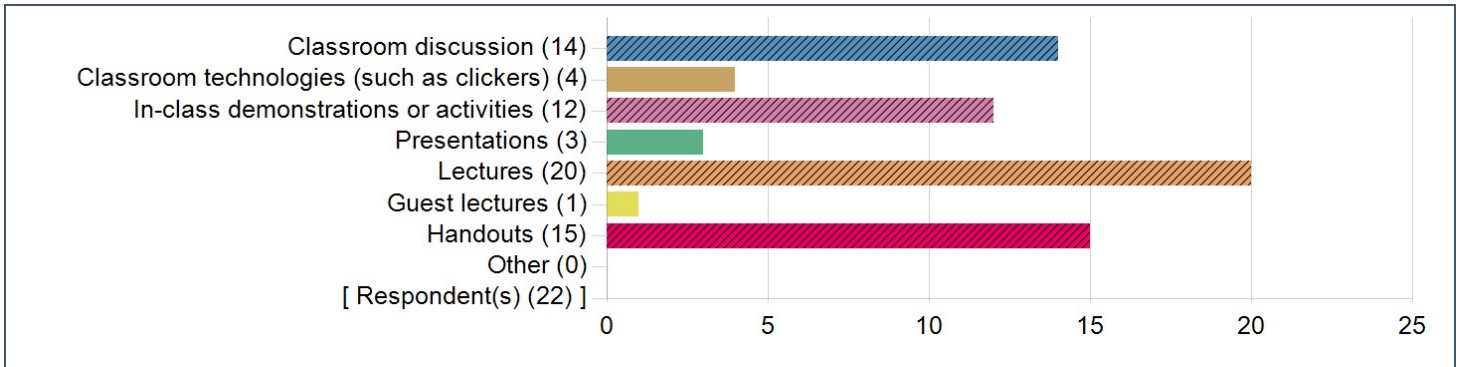


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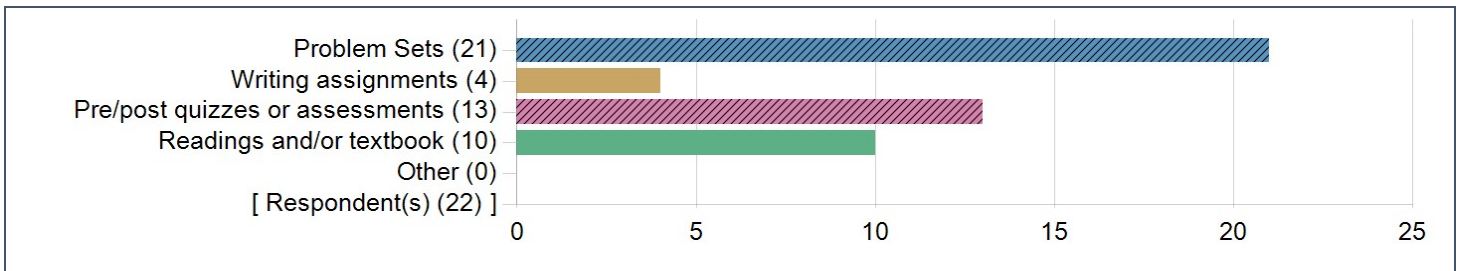
Comments
Tim always made it completely clear what he expected of us.
Sometimes due dates of homework were push backed and this sometimes made it confusing on what we were going to learn.
The instructor always gave us goals for learning when starting a new subject.
Multiple announcements & frequent adjustments.
It was very clear and concise what we needed to know in order to do well
I could figure it all out in the syllabus— if I needed something hyper-specific, I could reach out to Tim or a classmate.

Which of these were used in the course and helped you learn?

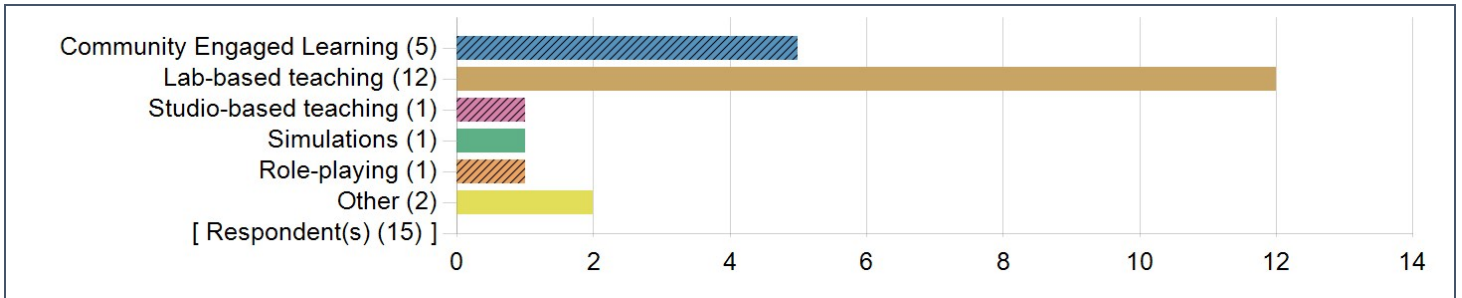
In-class Tools



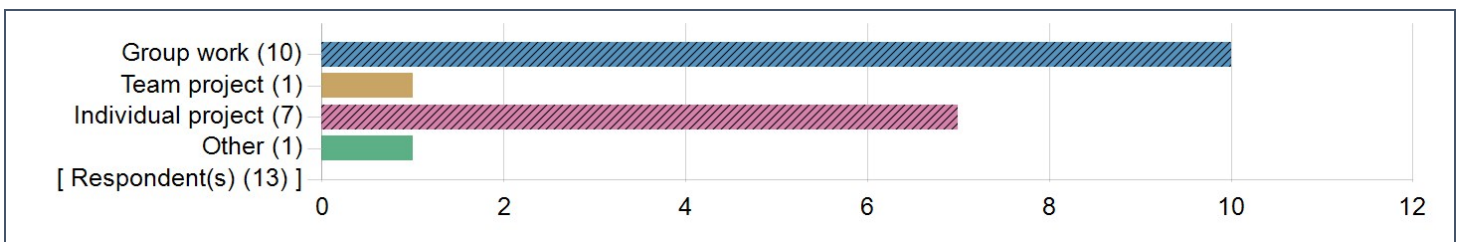
Readings and Assignments



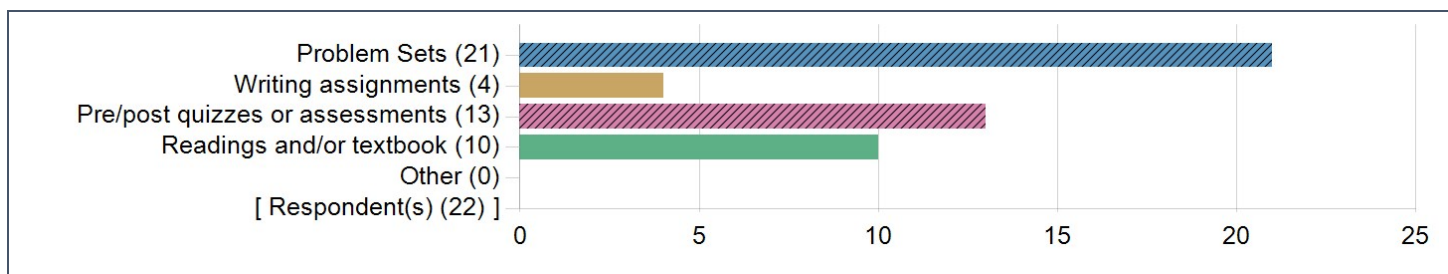
Experiential Learning



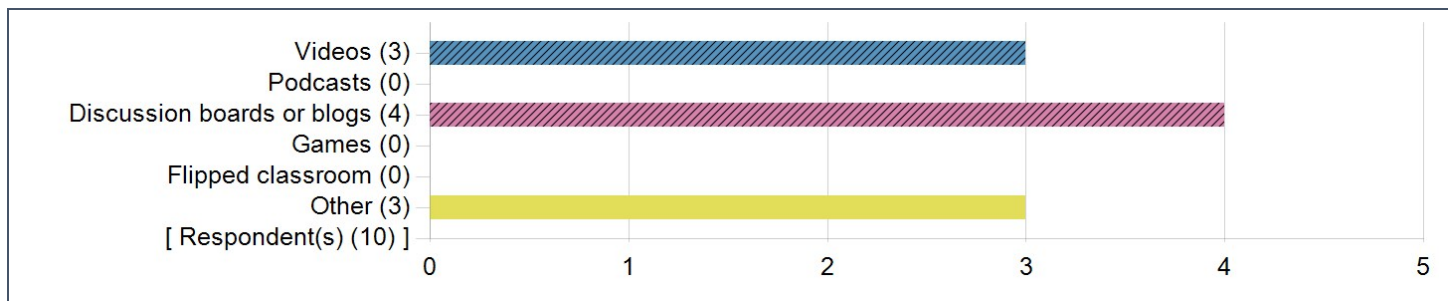
Student-based Projects



Readings and Assignments



Technology-Based Learning



Please explain:

Comments
Collaboration was key for me. While it is possible to succeed on your own, I would recommend that future students create study groups outside of class. Also attend office hours: Tim is very helpful outside of class (of course in class as well). This is all in addition to how engaging the lectures were, which was the primary reason students succeed in this class.
Most of the learning was just in lectures and problem sets for homework.
Everything Tim applied to the class helped us learn so much
Mostly just lecture, supplemented with the above mentioned activities.
I wish some of the learning was more diverse. With some required readings or in-class discussions or "labs". Going over the applications and significance of what we are learning more often throughout the course would be very helpful.

Additional Comments

Is there anything else you would like this instructor to know?

Comments
You're the best.
Consider recommending supplemental materials for students to use. Textbook is great for proofs and explaining the concepts at a high level, but found I often did not understand the basics, or the lay out of the textbook made it hard to search for basic material such as certain equations
Thank you so much for a great semester! A particular thing that I would like is for each problem on the homeworks to have the point value. This is done on exams and it helps students gauge their time on what problems to prioritize. I think doing this for the homeworks as well would help students improve their time management on which problems to work on first.
Personally, the proofs and theoretical questions on homework and tests are sometimes too difficult for me.
Thank you!!! You were truly fantastic :).
I had a great experience in your class.
Hope you have a great winter break! Please don't make the final too hard.
I love your teaching style and loved this class. I hope to work with you in the future, whether in research or in another class.
Thank you so much for being a crazy good Professor. This is the only class I haven't considered skipping.
Thank you.
It was a fun year, and you are a great teacher! – M
Thank you so much. I lucked out getting you as a professor:)
I enjoyed this class greatly. I already filled my linear algebra requirement before taking this class but wanted to retake it as I didn't feel I stood on solid ground. I leave this class feeling very confident with my understanding of linear algebra and frankly having a much greater interest in it.
I had a great time.
Nope, thanks Tim!