

Clemson University Student Evaluation of Teaching

Evaluation Report for Tony Thanh Nguyen teaching MATH 1040 004 during Fall Semester 2016
Respondents = 28; Enrolled = 45; Response rate = 62%

University Questions(3686)

G18. Please comment on the strengths of the instructor and the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Tony really loves teaching this class and the success many students have in it is because he is truly immersed in the subject. Also is ALWAYS willing to help you work through problems and studying during office hours
- #2 - He was very organized and I thought that the interactive notes that he hands out before each class are very helpful.
- #3 - I believe that my instructor was very educated in the material that he was teaching, which was good. In addition i thought he did a good job relating with the class and communicating with them.
- #4 - Tony is very clear about what is expected of his students, and makes the math within the course easy to understand. He was very available for his students, making sure to have review sessions and answer questions during class.
- #5 - Very knowledgable in the subject
- #6 - Eh
- #9 - Great teacher and he also has a great atmosphere surrounding him that makes him approachable.
- #10 - Tony related to students and was readily available and willing to answer questions. The notes he created helped keep the challenging course organized.
- #11 - Great teacher who is always available to help, especially one-on-one and who clearly shows examples and lessons.
- #12 - He was easy to talk to and to ask questions
- #13 - Tony was very approachable and was willing to answer any questions. At no point did I feel like any question asked was looked down upon or viewed as dumb. He was very well organized and had his course planned out very well.
- #14 - well organized notes
- #15 - The lecture style of example problems is extremely helpful.
- #16 - My instructor was good at mentioning common mistakes made by students.
- #17 - Handout notes, and many practice problems
- #18 - His strength is that he's very good at explaining himself and the material. He gives good examples to elaborate on what is being taught.
- #19 - he is great at dumb-ing down problems when we get confused. he is also very organized which made the class much easier. i always knew what was expected on the tests
- #21 - I really enjoyed the notes but needed more explanation on the problems worked as I'm not very good at math
- #22 - Giving lots of examples and the handouts were very helpful. Also having the notes and all the other online resources was great.
- #23 - He made the course material understandable for a class that is a tough course. He did a very good job of helping me to understand material I did not understand and made himself available for help if it was needed.
- #24 - Tony is extremely communicative and very helpful when I had any questions in or out of class.
- #26 - none
- #27 - Very approachable and always brings a positive attitude to class. The group work is fun and extremely helpful.
- #28 - Very good teacher and is willing to help when asked. He is very eager and loves his job.

G19. Please comment on the weaknesses of the instructor and the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - More written homework for extra practice (and grade boosters)
- #2 - Sometimes we don't practice the harder material enough in class, but that also reflects back on the student.
- #3 - I think the repetitiveness of the class, everyday coming in and looking over the notes, is a weakness. sometimes it was hard to stay engaged due to the same style every day
- #4 - The beginning of the course has a lot of WebAssign homework, and it is hard to keep up with. Throughout the course, it was hard to keep track of when WebAssign's were due.
- #5 - Communication
- #6 - Eh
- #9 - Sometimes overly complicates certain concepts which makes certain things confusing.
- #11 - Can stumble upon some parts of the lessons
- #12 - Sometimes he moved too fast through the problems without explaining what step he did
- #13 - Though he was very clear in his explanations, Tony went through his lessons very fast (with regard to one class period. Not the semester).
- #14 - not very elaborate on topics, read them off and did a few examples
- #15 - The web assigns are rather difficult
- #16 - I didn't feel like my instructor was able to teach as well as he could just show the math work on the projector.
- #17 - Did the problem for you, didn't really say why we were doing something
- #18 - He's not all that bad, so I would say there's none. The course, however, is misleading because you think it's on precalculus but you only spend about a month on that and you're right into derivatives.
- #19 - Test questions could be similar to what we work on in class. Less challenging
- #22 - No weaknesses come to mind.
- #23 - Tony was a great instructor and I have no complaints about his teaching ability.
- #24 - N/a
- #26 - none
- #27 - Sometimes web assign topics weren't on the test. Speaks softly and is often hard to hear.
- #28 - The only weakness I can say is that in the beginning the examples displayed and worked out in class didn't prepare me for the homework questions or the exams. This did however change throughout the course.

G20. Please comment on any teaching methods you found particularly helpful, and suggest alternative methods that you feel would improve the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - I think having the notes reviewed with him instead of on your own is so great, because most students wont do it.
- #2 - Again, the in class notes and review sessions.
- #3 - i liked the use of the notes and projector, so that the teacher could do problems and everyone in the class could watch in real time.
- #4 - Tony's notes were extremely helpful, along with the practice test online. WebAssign was helpful, to an extent, in solidifying the material taught. More hands-on methods of teaching could be implemented, and less students in a class could be helpful, because sometimes there were too many of us for Tony to get to help in one class period.
- #5 - Going over examples
- #6 - Eh
- #9 - Hand gestures made the class teaching go better
- #11 - His examples, real world problems, and practice quizzes and reviews given.
- #12 - I liked the notes
- #13 - The printed out notes that included practice problems were very helpful in this course.
- #14 - review sessions out of class were helpful
- #15 - I really like the example problems but i would recommenced a study guide of sorts for every unit
- #16 - The worksheets due at the end of class were helpful because I was able to apply what we were learning.
- #17 - My only suggestion is explaining the material more, slowing down and showing every step

- #18 - He gives examples in class to explain the material.
- #21 - Notes
- #22 - The provided notes were helpful.
- #23 - I found it really helpful that he was free to answer any questions I might have had in class when doing practice problems. This really helped me to understand material I did not quite understand during lecture.
- #24 - Print off notes to read over assured we didn't miss anything taking our own notes.
- #26 - packets
- #27 - Group work and when other students came into teach us
- #28 - Since it is math, I feel that there should be harder examples worked out and explained so that the exams and homework will be easier.

G21. I would recommend this instructor to a friend. Yes or no? Why?

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - YES. A billion times better than any AP calc high school teacher
- #2 - Yes. Very good teacher and very easy to get along with.
- #3 - yes he is a good, educated teacher who is good at communicating
- #4 - Absolutely. Tony was one of the best math teachers I have ever had. He gives his students countless strategies and supplemental material to solve problems, and is very available for his students.
- #5 - Yes because he's very laid back and knows the information very well
- #6 - Yes he actually cares
- #9 - Yes because he is a good teacher
- #11 - Yes absolutely, he was a great math teacher and knows the subject well, is very good at explaining things and offers great examples.
- #12 - Yes, he was helpful if you asked you just have to work hard to get a good grade
- #14 - no, wasn't very effective
- #15 - yes
- #16 - No
- #17 - Yes, he definitely knows what he is talking about, but you will definitely do better if you have taken calculus before and use this class as a refresher course.
- #18 - Yes I would recommend this instructor to a friend because he teaches the material very well and doesn't complicate things.
- #21 - Definitely. He's very nice and tries to help his students pass
- #22 - Yes, he made the material understandable, provided useful resources, and explained topics more thoroughly if needed.
- #23 - I would definitely recommend Mr. Nguyen to a friend. He was very helpful and was always ensured material was understood by his class.
- #24 - Yes, Tony is very helpful and knowledgeable of the subject.
- #26 - Yes, but only if they previously learned the material
- #27 - Yes. Tony is a very knowledgeable and class is not boring. Always brings a good attitude to class each day. Group work is fun and helpful. Web assign is also helpful but at times extensive.
- #28 - Yes, definitely. He is probably one of the best math professors (from what I've heard).

Instructor Questions(5982)

I1. What advice would you provide future students taking this course?

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - I would definitely advice students to come to class, take notes, and PRACTICE.
- #2 - Make sure you practice the notes that he gives you and do WebAssign, they will help.
- #3 - na

- #4 - Take really good notes, and take advantage of office hours if you do not understand. Also, ask questions in class. The professor doesn't know you don't understand unless you speak up.
- #5 - It's essential to ask questions and get help when you don't understand the material
- #6 - It moves fast so pay attention and come to class
- #9 - Go to the PAL sessions
- #11 - Keep up with the web assign and make sure to do the extra examples given in his lecture handouts.
- #12 - Be prepared to learn a lot of math in a short amount of time
- #13 - I would say to always go back and do all of the practice problems provided in the notes after class.
- #14 - go to PAL sessions and SI
- #15 - study often
- #16 - To sign up for tutoring and go to SI sessions.
- #17 - Go to every pal session, and don't be afraid to ask questions
- #18 - Definitely spend time outside of the class to study. It'd be better to study/review what you learned in class after that class in the same day.
- #21 - Practice problems practice problems practice problems
- #22 - Review the notes, use online resources, and take practice exams.
- #23 - I would advise them to go to any and all review sessions if possible. Stay after class to ask questions if need be.
- #24 - Work old tests and practice problems to study exams. The exams are much harder than the in class examples.
- #26 - teach yourself or find a friend who knows what they are doing
- #27 - Appreciate your time in this course. It will probably be one of your easier college courses. It is not overwhelmingly difficult and the work load is very manageable. It is not hard to do well, just make sure you put in the time and effort necessary.
- #28 - Be ready for a challenge! Take advantage of office hours and tutoring, even if your confident about the class.

I2. Comment on your WebAssign experience. How did it affect your learning?

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - I love webassign. Praise God for "watch it" videos
- #2 - I think it helped a lot. I did all of my math homework online in high school so it was easy for me to use.
- #3 - I believe the webassigns were a useful tool, however it would give you a lot of the same style problems
- #4 - WebAssign was helpful in solidifying material, and was fairly good at explaining how to solve problems. However, I felt there was too much WebAssign at the beginning of the course.
- #5 - WebAssign helped reinforce what we learned in class
- #6 - A lot of tedious work that wasn't helpful on the test
- #8 - Didn't help learning, was just a waste of time, tedious, and repetitive. Also not worth the money!!
- #9 - Not helpful to learning how to do the math without a calculator because sometimes it was just too complicated.
- #11 - I liked webassign and it did help me learn a lot, especially since it had tutorials and allowed multiple tries, but was way too lengthy.
- #12 - I did not enjoy web assign as it sometimes did not line up with what we learned in class, therefore, I didnt know how to do it
- #13 - Of all of the other homework sights that I have had to use this semester, I found WebAssign to be the easiest to maneuver and easiest to work with. I think WebAssign is a good program.
- #15 - it was extremely hard in the end and took a very long time
- #16 - I liked the webassign videos because they broke down what we are suppose to do for the math problem.
- #17 - The web assign problems seemed much harder than the examples we did in class
- #18 - It didn't help me as much because the videos show different methods that we don't use in class.
- #21 - Web assign was very difficult at times and I had to use the "watch it" more times than not and those instructors were the best-especially the woman

- #22 - It helped me learn the process for solving the problems.
- #23 - WebAssign often confused me on some material but did provide challenging review problems.
- #24 - Webassign was very good once I got the hang of it. I would rather do homework on paper but it was nice to know if answered right or wrong immediately
- #26 - web assign didn't help
- #27 - Depends on the assignment. Sometimes the web assign questions are harder than what is asked on the test which helps prepare you for the test. Other times there are questions that aren't even going to appear on the test, thus seeming like a waste of time.
- #28 - Webassign was challenging to navigate. It was easy to get a question wrong for minor things but I like the fact that we had so many chances to correct ourselves. I wish all the questions had a video with them just to install further knowledge.

Clemson University Student Evaluation of Teaching

Evaluation Report for Tony Thanh Nguyen teaching MATH 1040 006 during Fall Semester 2016
Respondents = 24; Enrolled = 41; Response rate = 59%

University Questions(3686)

G18. Please comment on the strengths of the instructor and the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Tony is very good at explaining the math step by step. He does a great job at simplifying it to where the students can understand it.
- #2 - -Tony explained each topic in different ways and wrote out the "english" version of an equation to help understand the topic better.-The notes were understandable and very helpful. -He gave us access to many forms of study material which allowed a wide range of problems to study from.
- #3 - I wish that there were more written homework assignments opposed to web-assign because it helped me learn the material better and was formatted similarly to the style of the exams.
- #4 - I was able to understand what the instructor was teaching but not very effective based on the size of the class.
- #5 - There is only strengths when I think of you as a teacher Tony, you took time out of your busy life to print off a billion copies of notes for your students and made clear and evident note of what we will need to remember specifically as well as explained complicated questions. What I would suggest changing you are not in control of. I enjoyed your class very much and hope you have a wonderful break. Wish you could be by 1070 teacher because you have been the best math teacher I have had in my career.
- #8 - He was able to successfully communicate between the students and let us know that he would do the best job that he could to his abilities . Since a lot of the class was out of his control, this grade reflected wasn't necessarily a accurate reflection of him .
- #9 - good teacher class itself is boring and tests are way harder than needed its passed the point of making sure we understand the topics
- #10 - Able to explain material very well.
- #11 - communication
- #12 - He is a nice relatable teacher that is also a student which makes him understand the position that we are also in. He explains things well and goes over things as many times as needed if somebody lets him know that they have a problem
- #13 - Tony was very personable and nice. He knew the material he was teaching very well.
- #14 - he did all the math work step by step
- #15 - Tony went above and beyond what he had to do on a regular basis. He printed special reviews and certain notes specifically for his classes. He hosted review sessions before each exam. He is staying all day this coming Saturday in order to tutor his classes for the final exam. Great attitude always, even though he has a grad student's workload.
- #16 - Very personable and willing to help whenever you need it.
- #17 - Very good at explaining concepts.
- #18 - He was always available to answer questions and would sit down with you until you understood the problem.
- #19 - Very organized and easy to approach
- #20 - Easy to talk to and approach
- #21 - Tony is a great teacher. If not for him I would have dropped this course a long time ago.
- #22 - Being available for students, giving real world examples, and providing a comfortable relationship between teacher and student.
- #23 - Tony was by far the best teacher I had my first semester of college. The material was fairly difficult, but his teaching methods made it very digestible and somewhat easy to master. He provided the perfect balance of demonstrating problems himself and giving lecture notes with also allowing us to work problems on our own. He kept us up to date with our grades throughout the entire semester and ALWAYS provided suggestions on how to improve. He was also very

friendly, and I was never hesitant to ask a question if it was needed. You can tell that he is passionate about his studies and his job as an instructor.

G19. Please comment on the weaknesses of the instructor and the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Tony could speak up a little louder because the air conditioner can get a little louder than him sometimes.
- #2 - N/A
- #3 - We moved through the material very quickly and didn't always have time in class to go over practice problems on our own.
- #4 - Th examples were done too fast
- #5 - There is none, he's that good.
- #8 - He let people run over him sometimes, not saying that he needs to be meaner but he needs to take more control of the class. Or at least let them know that respect is given where its due.
- #9 - none
- #10 - none.
- #12 - Sometimes went too fast through things and I would not understand them in time for the test
- #13 - Tony would breeze through the notes, without giving much of an explanation as to why he was doing what he was doing. This made it very hard for me to understand what was going on, especially in the last couple chapters of the course.
- #15 - He needs more practice at cutting his own hair. Other than that, he conducted the course very well.
- #16 - Sometimes lecture is hard to follow and he seemed condescending when answering questions.
- #18 - Some explanations of new material were confusing.
- #19 - sometimes felt a little rushed
- #20 - Poor explanation skills and fails to gather attention or provide introduction to daily lessons/lectures
- #21 - No glaring weaknesses, but he could improve a few minor things here and there.
- #22 - Review assignments did not help with the tests, they gave problems that weren't on the test.
- #23 - The only weakness I would suggest improving upon would be assigning a bit more written homework maybe. WebAssingn is a great tool, but I feel like a bit more classwork grades and written homework would have really forced me to learn the material as my grade would further be dependent upon my proficiency.
- #24 - I feel as if the fill-in style notes could maybe make it more difficult to grasp the process as well as keep up with the instructor as he wrote.

G20. Please comment on any teaching methods you found particularly helpful, and suggest alternative methods that you feel would improve the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Tony's teaching method is excellent how it is. He has detailed notes and works out details. The most important part is that he gives us practice problems, which is what really helps us learn.
- #2 - I found the verbal explanations and the "english" versions of the explanation of equations to be particularly helpful.
- #3 - I appreciated that he had notes ready for us upon entering class so that we would not have to worry about printing out notes ourselves or trying to follow along as we write in our own notebooks
- #4 - Have extra notes explaining the examples and how they are done
- #5 - The review sessions, they were some if not the most beneficial classes I got to take part of. As well as making or giving us document reviews of course material. Everything was so very helpful. I wouldn't suggest changing anything, if you don't pass with the amount of note practice and extra practice handouts, you didn't understand the material. If you could give more handout homework that would be awesome because they were very helpful in my understanding.
- #8 - He met with me everyday in the mornings to practice , and he gave out really great handouts . I wish there were more notes that more explicitly said how to solve each type of problem , but that is in a perfect world.
- #9 - review packets/ sessions
- #10 - I appreciated the multiple review days!

- #11 - reviews were helpful
- #12 - his going through the notes meant that I always had something to refer to if I needed help understanding an area of the chapter
- #13 - I found it helpful when he would put a question up and then we would work to solve it. I think that if he showed us how to solve a certain problem, and then put up another similar problem then let us solve that. And when the majority of the class is finished he can go through the steps and show how to properly solve the problem.
- #14 - going slowly through the material really helped me fully grasp the concept
- #15 - I found him working the sample problems in the notes to be the most helpful. He stayed after each class for questions we had about the problems he didn't work in class which also helped clear up any confusion.
- #18 - I liked that we had time to practice problems and ask questions at the end of class.
- #19 - loved how all notes and review materials were posted online and easy to access
- #20 - Writing down all objectives in class before exam
- #21 - The reviews out of class were particularly helpful to me.
- #22 - Give more step by step how to do problems or condensed study guides with all the rules and important things to remember when studying the material.
- #23 - I really liked his style of teaching, as he provided the class with printed lecture notes and ran through the notes, providing work for some of the problems and explaining any concepts we may have found confusing. It was also nice that he didn't work all problems in lecture notes for us and allowed us time at end of class to work the problems ourselves and ask any questions.

G21. I would recommend this instructor to a friend. Yes or no? Why?

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - I would recommend Tony to a friend because he does a great job teaching, and helps students prepare for exams.
- #2 - Yes because Tony explained topics in ways that allowed for a complete understanding in a short amount of time.
- #3 - Yes. He was able to answer any questions that we had and was willing to make himself available. He made the material understandable.
- #5 - Yes, because he's the best math teacher and his class does very well. He explains what to expect and clarify's any confusion.
- #8 - YES. I mean , I didn't do great in the class but he actually puts time and effort into the students and you still learn a lot from him even if the grade says that you didn't.
- #9 - yes
- #10 - Yes! Does a great job teaching and is very encouraging.
- #11 - yes
- #12 - Yes, I would recommend this instructor to a friend because his classes are always in the top 50 percent of math 1040 classes which means he teaches well he is also just a nice person and helps whenever it is needed
- #13 - Yes, if you understand math then he would be a very good professor for you, but if math is harder for you no, because he does not give the best explanations.
- #14 - yes
- #15 - Absolutely. Was genuinely trying to help us succeed. He gets excited by math and shows real world application throughout the course. Attitude was great even when he hadn't slept in 2 days. Great guy. Should be a full time hire for all the work he puts in.
- #16 - yes, because he really cares which is more than other students would say about their 1040 instructors.
- #18 - Yes I would because it is clear the teacher is there for his students and if the student puts time into the class they will succeed.
- #19 - yes very good teacher
- #20 - No, he is very unclear with explanations
- #21 - Yes, Tony knows what he is talking about and helps you one on one if you need him.
- #22 - Yes because he knows what he is talking about and makes himself as available as he can to students.

- #23 - Definitely. Tony was an excellent instructor who was always friendly and did an excellent job using his passion and knowledge to really drive the material into our minds. He always forced us to learn the concepts of the material rather than just memorization of how to work problems.
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Instructor Questions(5982)

I1. What advice would you provide future students taking this course?

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Always do practice problems.
- #2 - I would advise students to use all the study material that math 1040 provides specifically on their course website to help become better prepared for tests. I would also advise future students to make sure that they understand each topic because it will definitely come back.
- #3 - Do all of the practice problems provided on the notes and ask questions if you have any, he is very willing to answer them.
- #5 - Do the notes practice, study past exams, and show up to option review days.
- #8 - Study a lot more, ask for help from day 1 and don't be afraid to ask a lot of questions. Get a good relationship with Prof. Tony and it will go a long way. Not saying that he will boost your grade or whatever but I promise that you will walk away with more than what you walked in with.
- #9 - if you didnt already take calc in highschool this is rough
- #10 - Take advantage of the practice exams and review sessions!
- #11 - study
- #12 - stay on top of the webassign work and learn everything he tells you to learn before the exam
- #13 - Study outside of class and do all the webassigns, because they tend to kind of help on the exams.
- #14 - definitely do the extra practice problems to make sure that they understand the concept
- #15 - Study the notes after each class and make a list of whats important, so when exam time comes you have a note sheet of whats important instead of having to go through a mound of notes. I found this out after not doing so well on my first exam.
- #16 - GO TO OFFICE HOURS! DO WELL ON TESTS FROM THE BEGINNING! GET HELP ON MATERIAL YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND BECAUSE IT DOESN'T DISAPPEAR.
- #18 - If you do not understand something do not wait to learn it, figure it out as soon as possible.
- #19 - do your homework and dont get behind
- #20 - Khan academy is a great help.
- #21 - Study early in advance, don't let the exams sneak up on you.
- #22 - Ask for help if you need it.
- #23 - Study the lecture notes from class each night, as it will make exam review so much easier on yourself. The material is not overwhelming if you deal with it in the pieces that it is given to you. Also, PAL sessions are a great way to really get some good practice in with any concepts you may find difficult.

I2. Comment on your WebAssign experience. How did it affect your learning?

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - WebAssign was good, although the formatting had to be exact. Overall it gave me good practice, which helped me learn.
- #2 - WebAssigns were nice because it allowed me to see which topics I knew and which ones I still needed to work on.
- #3 - It was helpful for applying the basic knowledge of the types of problems we did, but it was also formatted very differently from the exam which made it a bit hard to translate one into the other.
- #4 - It wasn't really as helpful as I would've liked
- #5 - I didn't like webassign. I do not think its very good or helpful. They give certain problems out of order and above all else the meticulousness of certain answers is aggravating to deal with if that is not what is to be expected on exam. WebAssign should reflect how questions will be worded with

problems and which ways are ok to enter an answer that can reflect how we can write on exams because after all our homework should reflect our exams and I didn't get that experience from WebAssign. It seemed to me it was just doing it for a mere grade. I would suggest going to MyMathLab instead.

- #8 - Uhm, I missed a lot of assignments at first because I had started a new job and I wish that they would open them back up like at my school I transferred from , because that would have helped my average , like a lot. Like I could be passing if they re-opened up assignments but its a learning lesson.
- #9 - webassign is helpful but due dates are random
- #10 - It was sometimes confusing, sometimes helpful.
- #11 - helped me practice problems and prepare for tests
- #12 - it did not really help with my learning of the material, I usually rushed through it and just aimed to get the problem right, not fully understand it
- #13 - Some assignments we're very tedious and much too long which would just end up in me getting frustrated and confused. When they were more manageable and not 20 questions long, it was much better because i could focus on the few questions I had and could figure out what I could and could not do. They did help my learning outside of the classroom, because some problems would explain how to solve them and that was very helpful in the course.
- #14 - it did not help my learning that much because i would forgot to do some so it would bring down my grade
- #15 - WebAssign has good intentions, but doesn't work. It often asks you to format your answers in a way different from what is wanted from you on exams. It isn't an effective studying tool. I often find myself going through it as busy work, which it seems to be, then moving on to actually studying what I need to for the exam. The WebAssigns due on the day of exams defies logic. That time is for review. WebAssign is not review. Its math, but not the math we need to know.
- #16 - WebAssign was tedious in the beginning and sometimes way harder than it needed to be.
- #17 - I did not like WebAssign. I prefer homework assignments that are from the professor because those go along more with exactly what we're learning.
- #18 - I liked web assign because it gave me an opportunity to practice problems.
- #19 - did not like webassign very hard to type math answers on computer
- #20 - Web assign offers walk throughs of most problems to help with understanding
- #21 - It helped me retain some info from class, but became tedious.
- #22 - The problems were either extensively harder than the test or way too easy.
- #23 - WebAssign was a great tool to help us learn the material in pieces. The "Watch It" tool was without a doubt the most helpful aspect, as watching the instructor work out problems is where I did a lot of my learning.
- #24 - The WebAssign assignments were more of a hassle than something that helped me in this course. It would have little variety of what it was testing knowledge of.

Clemson University Student Evaluation of Teaching

Evaluation Report for Tony Thanh Nguyen teaching MATH 1040 008 during Fall Semester 2016
Respondents = 30; Enrolled = 45; Response rate = 67%

University Questions(3686)

G18. Please comment on the strengths of the instructor and the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - The strengths of my instructor was that he spoke very clearly and always told us what we were doing before we did it and he was always very ready for questions.
- #2 - The instructor really cares about the students. Teaching wise, I feel there could be more.
- #3 - I think Tony was very well at communicating with the class and I could tell that he wanted all of us to succeed. He gave us so many different resources to help us make a good grade in the course.
- #5 - He was very knowledgeable and his worksheets were very useful for studying.
- #6 - He made his own notes and examples. Also, he always had multiple review sessions that there was always a time for everyone.
- #7 - more practice problems and opportunities to get graded assignments to help our grades
- #8 - The instructor communicated with us well. He always made sure to remind us of his office hours, and he did everything in his power to make give us everything we needed to do good on the exams.
- #9 - Knows the material and is able to teach it well
- #10 - Good at explaining the concepts and what we needed to know
- #11 - He is very good at explaining difficult concepts in ways that are easier for us to understand.
- #12 - The instructor really takes the time to make sure students understand the problems he is working out in class.
- #13 - The instructor was available at almost any time and tried to help as much as possible.
- #14 - Tony was a very effective teacher for this course, especially in comparison to what I heard about the other instructors. His teaching methods were helpful and he did whatever he could to help the success of his students. The biggest issue was the pace of the course and the amount of material covered on each test could be overwhelming and therefore led to low grades, however Tony's sections typically had the highest grades out of the others in this course.
- #15 - He was good at explaining difficult concepts.
- #16 - Tony is a good teacher and is clear and concise. He always has interesting stories in which math was applicable which I was always fascinated by. He is very fair and is more than willing to work with students. If there is one criticism I could give it is that sometimes Tony speaks very quietly during lectures but it was one of those things that you kind of got used to and wasn't a very big deal except for at the beginning of the semester.
- #17 - Tony is the best
- #18 - He was very willing to work with me outside of class to help me with the material. I struggled very much with this course
- #20 - Tony was very helpful and his office hours were every day, which made it convenient to talk to him. He was also very clear about what he wanted us to learn.
- #22 - I thought that the course was very well organized. Dr. Nguyen was always available to help us understand the material outside of class
- #25 - really nice and relaxed, helps you whenever you need him to, funny and good teacher
- #26 - This instructor created many examples on the lesson in order for his student to understand it, and this instructor gave his students a lot of review time before the exams.

G19. Please comment on the weaknesses of the instructor and the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - I would say his only weakness was sometimes just following what he was doing on the screen made it hard to realize what I was learning and I would have trouble doing it later on my own.

- #3 - Some of the examples were very complex and I feel that some of them should have been a little more simpler to start off just so that we could see the basics before we moved onto the harder problems that would be on our test.
- #5 - I think that the way he went through the worksheets was a little too fast in a way that the class would just copy down what he was writing and not truly learn. He always was available though and was willing to help.
- #6 - He goes very fast.
- #7 - there are very few grades for the course and the web assignments are not similar to the practice problems we get in class
- #8 - To me, Tony did not have any weaknesses. He was always on the ball with everything.
- #9 - Quiet
- #11 - N/A
- #12 - The instructor needs to speak a little louder.
- #13 - The instructor had one way of teaching the material and I struggled with it tremendously.
- #14 - Sometimes while showing examples on the board, Tony moves quickly so that the students end up just copying down all his work without really gaining any understanding. Because the course is so fast paced, there was not a lot of time to go back and fully learn all the material that we didn't have a good understanding of, so it was generally ineffective in making sure that we really know what is going on
- #15 - He did not have any real weaknesses.
- #16 - Can be quiet sometimes.
- #17 - none
- #18 - He taught too fast for me
- #20 - No complaints
- #22 - I thought that he did a great job
- #25 - a little quiet, moves a little fast so kids who haven't taken calculus before (i have taken calc so it was fine for me however i did notice other students struggling to keep up)
- #26 - The only thing I can say about this instructor is that he is not very audible.

G20. Please comment on any teaching methods you found particularly helpful, and suggest alternative methods that you feel would improve the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - I really liked how he gave us printed out notes for each unit, that was extremely helpful.
- #3 - I really liked the way Tony did his notes and how he filled it out with us. I am a visual and auditory learner so having him write stuff down while also explaining it really helped.
- #4 - I felt he went over the harder problems in more depth which was very helpful and he tended to do more practice problems like this.
- #5 - Maybe encourage the class to speak up. It his not his job to make people ask questions, but I think sometimes we need to go over things twice.
- #6 - He always had reviews sessions that were very helpful for the test.
- #7 - having study sessions before the test and being able to go over your test
- #8 - I like the fact that he made his own notes. They were very detailed and helpful.
- #9 - Helped that he worked through problems and asked if students had any particular questions periodically.
- #10 - More practice problems
- #11 - I liked the notes we had and how organized they were. They were easy to follow and had many examples. No suggestions.
- #12 - I like the premade worksheets and the fact that the teacher alots time for questions every class period.
- #13 - I would suggest using a few different interactive teaching methods because a lot of people have trouble learning just from notes on a projector. The homework was also graded by a grader that took a large amount of points off and never specified why.
- #14 - Tony did a good job in handing out organized notes with a lot of practice problems -- some that he did with us, and some that we could try on our own,
- #15 - His use of notes that he made to aid his lecture was very helpful.

- #16 - Working examples repeatedly with Tony was definitely the most helpful. The more examples the less surprising it was seeing different types of questions on tests or on web assign.
- #17 - Tony is the best
- #18 - I think it's way too hard. The CMPT was mostly algebra based and we did not need any calculus before coming into this class but that is totally not true and I will be telling all future students to find a way around this class if they haven't taken calculus prior to it. Nothing to do with Tony but I know him as a teacher with about half of his students passing and half failing that he finds this disappointing
- #20 - I really liked the handouts we were given. I wish we had more worksheets in addition to web assign so they could get graded, but I understand that could be very time consuming.
- #22 - I appreciated how many practice problems we would do in class
- #25 - I liked the handouts and worksheets. Absolutely hate webassign, doesn't help understand material, I'd rather have more worksheets or in-class exercises to make up for it
- #26 - The only teaching method that I liked of his was giving many examples in the worksheets.

G21. I would recommend this instructor to a friend. Yes or no? Why?

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Yes I would, I would because he made the information very straight forward and easy to learn and he was very approachable if you were to have a problem with something in class.
- #2 - yes, he cares about his students. That itself is a lot to ask from a professor.
- #3 - Yes, I have understood just about everything and he is very smart and able to help.
- #4 - Yes. He prepared us for all our assignments well in advance, and he helped us know exactly what would be on our exams.
- #5 - Yes, he holds review sessions and seems to be the best TA for 1040. He is very willing to help and provides useful notes.
- #7 - yes. he teaches well you just have to be able to keep up with the demands of the course
- #8 - Yes. He is, by far, the best math teacher I've ever had. He always tries to help everyone. All you have to do is ask.
- #9 - Yes, knows the material and can teach it well.
- #10 - Yes, because he was knowledgeable when it came to the material and was good at explaining it
- #11 - Yes, because he is great at explaining the concepts and is very helpful and approachable if you do not understand the material.
- #12 - Yes
- #13 - Yes, because he was helpful in many ways. It is just an extremely hard class.
- #14 - Yes I would recommend Tony because he wants all of his students to succeed and is very willing to help in any way that he can. He also gives great notes and practice problems to prepare us for tests
- #15 - Yes, he was one of the best math instructors I have ever had.
- #16 - Yes, I think Tony is a pretty laid back teacher but also is very thorough and does a good job of teaching and covering all the material.
- #17 - yes because Tony is the best
- #18 - Yes, he is very helpful and will assist you in every way he possibly can.
- #20 - Yes. Tony was really helpful and I think he really cares about helping his students.
- #21 - Yes because he is very helpful and makes himself available after class, even outside of his normal office hours.
- #22 - Yes. I plan on taking him again in the future because I really liked his teaching style
- #25 - yes, very nice, always available, kept the class entertaining and fun to come to
- #26 - Yes, although he is hard to hear sometimes, his teaching methods make the class worthwhile.

Instructor Questions(5982)

I1. What advice would you provide future students taking this course?

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Take the time to do the work right. Try to do it on your own first and if you get stuck reach out for help.
- #3 - You definitely need to do your homework because practice with the problems and material is the only way to learn and be good at it.
- #4 - Take advantage and ask questions in class
- #5 - Set aside at least an hour a day everyday to study because the tests are very hard compared to some of the worksheets and you need to be over prepared.
- #6 - Make sure you have a full background of calculus.
- #7 - dedicate time every day to the class and ask the teacher questions
- #8 - Make sure to do all the homework/WebAssign assignments. Try to know the material, not just memorize it.
- #9 - Sit closer to the teacher in order to hear him clearly
- #10 - Do a lot of practice problems
- #11 - My advice would be to look over your notes after each class and to ask questions if you are confused.
- #12 - Attend every class.
- #13 - Try to take calculus in high school so you have an idea of what you're coming into. Also try to take it in a semester that you can focus a majority of your time on this course.
- #14 - I would advise students to stay on top of all of the information and to go home and look it over after right after class if they didn't feel like they fully grasped it from class that day. I also advise them to stay on top of the web assign because it impacts the grade more than you would think and it is good practice
- #15 - Keep up with content only a daily or at least weekly basis.
- #16 - Make sure to attend lectures. Do the homework ahead of time and get it done as soon as you can so you're not doing it last second and that way if you have questions you can ask them during class. If you have a problem feel free to talk to Tony he is very easy going and more than happy to work with students.
- #17 - Tony is the best
- #18 - Take calculus before you take this course even though it's not a prerequisite, I am a great student and study many hours a day. I worked with my teacher 6 hours a week (not including personal studying) and I am not sure if I will pass the class or yet. I'm waiting on my final grade. This class was way too hard.
- #20 - Take advantage of office hours!
- #21 - don't allow yourself to get too far without understanding because its hard to catch up later on.
- #22 - Take advantage of his office hours!
- #25 - be prepared for the exams, they cover a lot of material because there are only three in the semester. if you need help ask, tony is willing to help you and can meet with you anytime
- #26 - Be prepared to do the homework and do the practice problems.
- #29 - Study for the exams and go get help outside of class

I2. Comment on your WebAssign experience. How did it affect your learning?

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - WebAssign was a good system. I enjoyed how we had multiple tries to answer the question correctly. I sometimes tried to use the watch it to help me answer my questions and it always made me more confused.
- #2 - It did not help me at all and was more of a hassle.
- #3 - I liked WebAssign because if you didn't know how to do a problem, most likely there was the "watch it" button where you could watch and listen to someone do a problem similar to it which is really helpful in making it able for you to do the problem.
- #4 - I felt it strengthen my understanding, because it was more practice problems from what we learned in class.

- #5 - I did not feel WebAssign was particularly useful. Sometimes it would help, but when you needed didn't understand the "watch its" sometimes did the problem differently. Also some were due on Friday nights, which I think many people forgot to complete.
- #6 - There were some problems that we never discussed but besides that it was helpful.
- #7 - didnt seem like a supplement since some of the problems we were seeing for the first time on webassign
- #8 - WebAssign was challenging at times. However, the watch it button was very helpful, because it allowed be to see someone work out a similar problem when I was stumped.
- #9 - It was beneficial as it provided immediate feedback
- #10 - It did not help with learning the material
- #11 - WebAssign is not my favorite because I do not like typing math equation on a computer.
- #12 - I find webassign very helpful on reviewing the material of the day.
- #13 - WebAssign was merely an assignment that had a due date every few days. It barely helped my learning in Calculus at all, and in fact, confused me more at times.
- #14 - They are good practice, but hard to keep up with for me since there wasn't consistent due dates and I was missing a laptop all semester and therefore had a hard time being able to get it done. When I did do it, the problems were good practice
- #15 - It slightly improved it. I would prefer to have either more relevant questions or written homework that was not graded too harshly.
- #16 - I didn't particularly enjoy web assign. As far as the program is set up it is not bad. The questions where you have to type out extremely long answers could be frustrating or if you aren't typing the answer the correct way or not simplified it could be very irritating. As far as online homework programs I have used though I probably have enjoyed WebAssign the most.
- #17 - it helped
- #18 - I had an A on my web assign and am not sure if I even passed the class
- #19 - The videos were helpful on how to do the problems
- #20 - I felt like it hindered it because their instructions were sometimes different than the ones taught in class. I had to get help on a lot of the assignments because of this.
- #22 - I thought that the in class homework we were assigned every so often was more effective than WebAssign. I did not think WebAssign was the most effective learning approach
- #25 - I hate it. did not help me learn the material, waste of time, lowered my grade.
- #27 - It did not help me at all. I thought WebAssign was pointless.
- #29 - I felt like a lot of it was really repetitive and kind of over did it.