

Comments:

There are 6 comments for this course:

<p>Please comment briefly on specific aspects of this instructor's teaching which in your opinion particularly deserve praise and criticism such as assignments, grading, testing, methods of instruction, enthusiasm, etc.:</p>
<p>Dedication and commitment</p>
<p>Gary goes out of his way to complicate the topics at hand. He show the most generic way of doing a problem and because of this the harder version of this problem is almost impossible without further tutoring from someone else. Also, not to complain about test because yes, they are supposed to be challenging, but the questions asked of us on the test do not also reflect what we were taught. This is also coming from someone whom has taken AP calculus in high school as well.</p>
<p>Gary was a good teacher as I have never taken Calculus before. He makes the tests and 3 assignments we had throughout the semester insanely hard compared to the material we learned in class. I am in good standing with my grades, but I know of most people in the class that are really struggling. His questions make students really understand and comprehend the material, which is good for the final. I am not sure about how hard he is relative to other professors, but this is the first time I have been challenged in a math class. Gary does a good job of being available for office hours and giving problems to do before the tests. Honestly, for this class you get out what you put in, but if you struggle with math expect to be in office hours and tutoring regularly.</p>
<p>He knew what he was talking about, and lectures were very organized and straightforward, but his assignments tests were way harder than anything we had done in class. He also graded very strictly (as expected), but it was almost as if you didn't do it exactly the way he did it then he found something to make it wrong. I was just really frustrated because I understand the material pretty well but then when I get grades back and look at why something is wrong I get confused because math can be done in several ways and I thought I had a good grasp on it. Overall he did a good job, but what we learned in class and what we were tested on didn't always match up (even with an expected higher difficulty).</p>
<p>I really liked the way power point notes were assigned before every class. The assignments were challenging and really made me think. I also liked the way it was graded because it provided me with the information I would need to know on the test.</p>
<p>The tests were extremely challenging and very long. He expected almost too much from us, given what he taught us in class.</p>

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<p>Please comment briefly on specific aspects of this instructor's teaching which in your opinion particularly deserve praise and criticism such as assignments, grading, testing, methods of instruction, enthusiasm, etc.:</p>
<p>Gary is an excellent professor. I came into the course with prior experience in calculus. However, I understand the course so much more after taking him. He breaks down every concept so there is no confusion. Even though sometimes it was very irritating to do things "his way", I feel this helped me understand the material not just do it. I would recommend Gary to anyone, and I honestly enjoyed the class. He was very fair in his grading and gave many opportunities for partial credit. He even met with us outside of class to talk about test grades. He is great, 10/10/</p>
<p>Gary is a very intelligent math professor and clearly knows the material in this class. In my opinion, he was too smart for me and I should have taken a different teacher. I thought Gary made the class harder than other Calc 1 classes, which made his class extremely frustrating. He is very particular about what he expects on assignments and tests. However, he is very good about answering questions and making sure his students understand the concepts. I wish we did more examples in class, instead of doing one example and then moving on. I am a type a person that learns through examples, and we needed more of this in class. One way to do this is through test reviews and not moving as fast in lecture. At times it felt that if you weren't good at calculus you would not do well in his class, and I still think this is the case. I've never put so much work into a class before and got poor results.</p>
<p>Great teacher. Made sure that you really understand the why behind the math.</p>
<p>He was very helpful in office hours or during/before/after class if you had questions and was always willing to put in effort if you did.</p>
<p>His methods allowed for a greater understanding of the material than other math classes. In contrast, some of the in depth explanations of concepts demonstrated first with basic methods seemed lengthy. If less time was spent on the explanation and basic starter examples there may have more time to practice more difficult scenarios.</p>
<p>I do not like how I have to answer a question in the exact same method as my professor. It is irksome that I have to justify cancellation. There are days when I feel like it was not worth taking Calculus.</p>

I was fond of the instructor's teaching style. The instructor was personable and helpful. I feel that the exams should have been curved if the class average was inadequate.

One time he said that the assignments he gave were not so that we were better prepared for the class it was to challenge us to think about math. While I get that, I am not here to learn about the theory of math. This course was already very difficult and he taught theory of math in class then tested us on application of math without very much practice at all. It was very hard to stay motivated on assignments that would not help us on the upcoming test but were instead to simply "challenge" us. A few times he told us that a concept was not important or had little mathematical value and that we would not be expected to know it. He then put the math (Riemann sums midpoint formula) on the test without working a single example and without highlighting it at all in class. There was also no assigned work over that subject area. I missed a few test questions and when I asked what I could do to better prepare for such questions in the future, he responded with "nothing these are meant to be tough." I had done all the assigned work and made hundreds and had seen nothing like those problems ever. He did offer himself up for office hours frequently however which was very nice. He always answered questions but the jump from the simple math worked in practice problems and in web work to the challenging math on the tests was simply too much without any assistance from him.

Number of students in this course: 14

Number of evaluations for this course: 8

Comments:

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Grading and testing were extremely tough. Felt ill prepared for a large portion even after substantial studying.

Iliev is a great teacher. I do feel that his course was harder than what it needed to be, compared to other calculus teachers.

I took Calc in high school and made near perfect all 4 semesters. I knew a lot coming in. With that being said the class was very focused on the smallest details that were not related to the final answer. Many times I would get the answer completely correct and justify correctly at nearly every point in the problem, but if I didn't do it in one spot I might only receive half credit for the whole problem. I know for a fact other teachers in the math department might count off half a point for the same type of mistake. I understood the importance of the justification and counting off for things like sign error but not to the extent he was taking off for. Furthermore, if the work on at test was simply unorganized or scratch work was done off to the side he would count off for no reason. In a test where time is very tight and it carries so much weight I didn't have time to go back and erase my scratch work just to make it look neater. The whole problem and justification might be correct but if I left some sort of scratch off to the side he would take off credit. I asked him and he would reply, "sorry can't help you didn't know what that was". He taught well and gave a lot of homework for studying but the test just always seemed way harder than the problems we were assigned in class and the ones we were told to study. I'm not mad he gave us hard problems on the test I'm mad because he didn't give me the degree of difficulty of problems I needed to be studying for.

Not going to lie this class was extremely time consuming. For example webwork, written homework, multiple quizzes a week, and testes. There was so much to do for this class, it was so hard to keep up and take other classes. As of right now because of the overloaded work, I'm feeling extremely behind and not ready at all to take the final exam (I just simply couldn't keep up with this class and take other classes at the same time). But as far as the professor goes I think Dr. Iliev is an awesome math professor and he is the right professor for calculus. I learned so much from him. At times he can be a real JERK but he sure does know how to teach. He taught the material extremely well but he grades so harshly and to be honest I feel his main goal was to bring our moral down. I went into the class extremely excited to learn but then I was just couldn't keep up cause the professor kept piling on quizzes, webwork, and extremely long

written homework assignments. If I have to take this course over again or recommend this course to anyone I would definitely recommend taking it with Dr. Iliev.

Professor Iliev was very particular about teaching the mechanisms of calculus from their underlying concepts in his notes and even in the way he structured the course material. I think this will be helpful in the long run because having a more solid understanding of the course will better prepare me for calculus II. but, a problem arises when student are put in a time-pressure situation, such as a test, and are expected to include all the specific notations that were taught in class. While the tests were short, comprehensive, and fairly graded, I felt that I could only complete one due to the large amount of work I was expected to show for every problem.

Also, it is important that students keep up with the material they are taught every day in a class such as calculus. Professor Iliev ensured that students did this by implementing a quiz system that I felt was graded very fairly and never given before the students were given access to practice problems through webwork. My only complaint was that quizzes were, half of the time, given the day after the material was discussed, which I felt gave me inadequate time to become familiar with the material taught.

Other than that, Professor Iliev was very fair with his students.

Though the class seemed excessively difficult all the work was useful and helped me learn. Dr. Iliev as well provided the assistance needed to overcome difficulties. I feel prepared to take future calculus courses because of how he taught.

Number of students in this course: 10

Number of evaluations for this course: 8