

SRT Individual Report for MATH 5485 001 Numerical Methods I (Kunlun Qi) - Fall 2023

Project Title: Student Rating of Teaching - Fall 2023

Courses Audience: **33**Responses Received: **13**Response Ratio: **39.39**%

Report Comments

University Survey and Assessment Services

Phone: 612.626.0006 Fax: 612.624.1336

879 29th Ave. S.E. Room 103 Minneapolis, MN 55414 http://survey.umn.edu eval@umn.edu

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Message from the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs

The University is committed to monitoring and improving students' educational experiences. Student Ratings of Teaching (SRT) help to ensure that the student voice is present in fulfilling this mission. We encourage all instructors to incorporate student feedback into your ongoing efforts to improve your teaching and your courses.

How SRT Results may be Used

Evaluations of teaching provide information intended to help improve teaching, and may also be available to assist students in course selection and/or to inform administrative decisions on salary, tenure, and promotion. Specific use of SRT results may vary by campus and/or college as described in relevant university or unit policies.

Resources for Improving Instruction

Tools and tips for improving course instruction can be found on the OMS website (oms.umn.edu/srt), under the faculty section.

Among the available resources is a guide for connecting your teaching practices with the SRT. This guide was created by the Center for Educational Innovation (cei.umn.edu) and provides suggestions for improving instructional practices in relation to SRT items.

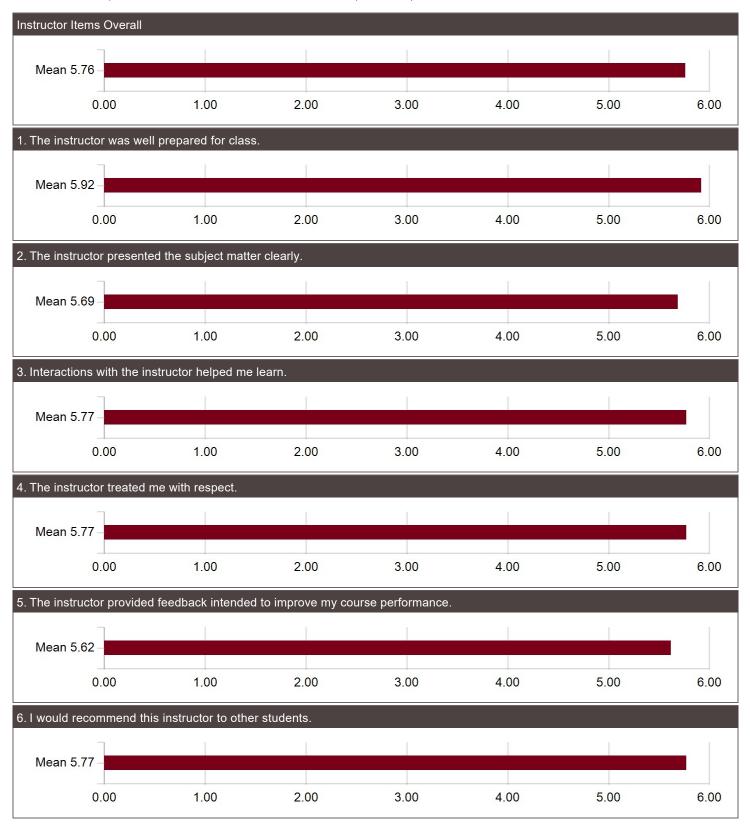
About this Report

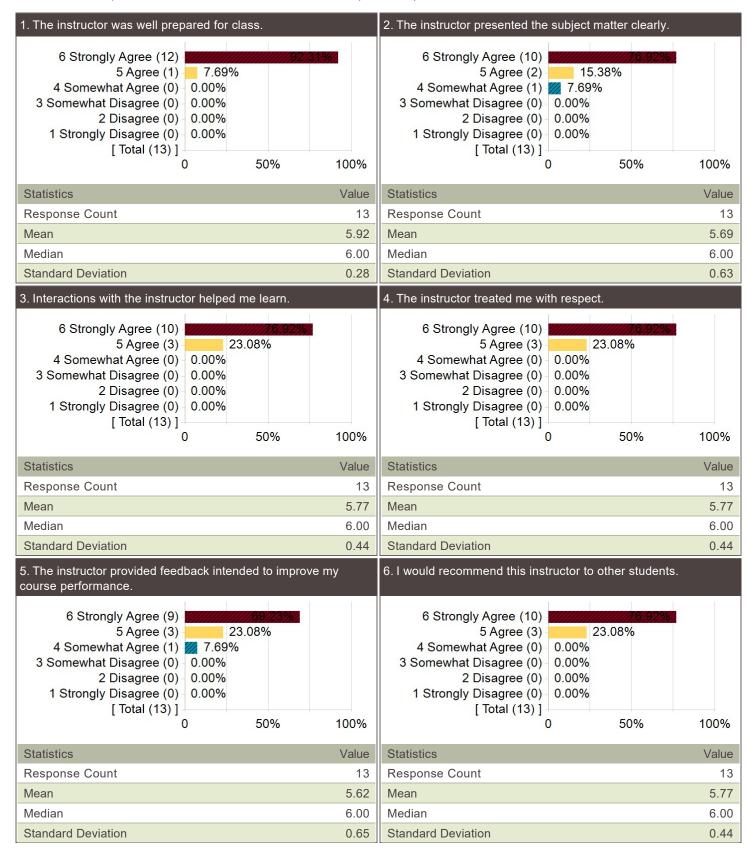
This report contains all ratings provided by the students in your courses who submitted SRT responses. Mean (average) scores are reported as well as the frequency of how often each response was given for each item. Results are provided in the following order:

- 1. Score graph and frequency graphs for instructor items
- 2. Score graph and frequency graphs for course items
- 3. Comments regarding instructor
- 4. Comments regarding course

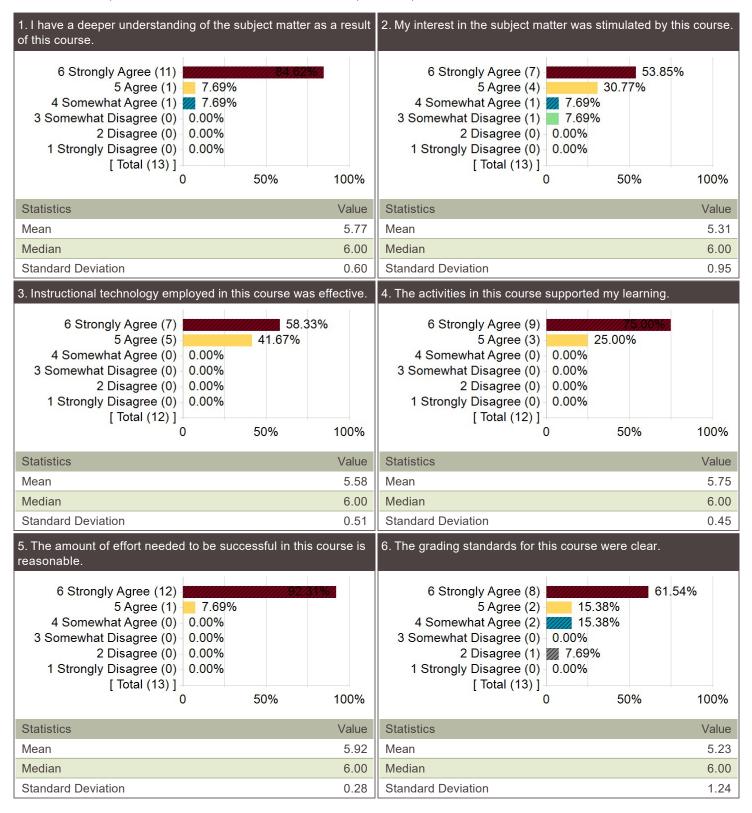
For additional information about evaluation of teaching, please reference the Evaluation of Teaching policy for your campus. The policy for Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, and Rochester can be found here: http://policy.umn.edu/education/teachingevaluation.

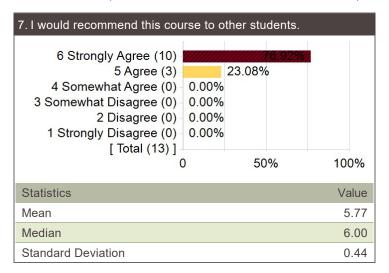
Sincerely, Rebecca Ropers Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs











What did the instructor do that most helped your learning?

Comments

He presented the main point clearly, and the notes allowed me to review the subject which helped a lot.

Provided lecture notes on Canvas, greatly helping with studying the material

Posting your notes online.

Even though the content of the class was tough, he was always super open to questions and would always clarify any follow–ups clearly, also very accommodating in general.

Reviewing the subject matter from the previous class at the start of each class really helped me to remember what we were doing and connect ideas together throughout the semester. The instructor also provided a good number of examples during lecture which always helps with homework and studying.

Kunlun explained the motivation behind any theorem and why we move from one step to another step in a math proof. This is greatly helpful to me because 1. I can understand the goal of every steps in the proof of theorem instead of just memorizing them, and 2. I can understand the motivation behind a theorem, and better understand when to use them

Helpful homework assignments, uploaded helpful notes

Firstly and most importantly, he gave me permission to take the course. Otherwise, his teaching mode enables people to quickly understand difficult knowledge points, because he will teach very detailed and easy to understand. In addition, the first ten minutes of each class will help us to review the knowledge points of the previous class so that we can quickly integrate into the next learning.

I went to Kunlun's office hour a few times and I think it's useful. He won't give up trying to solve your problems and reduce your confusions. He's helpful and I can see that he's fully prepared for this class. The arrangement for exams and homework is pretty reasonable for me and I don't feel stressful.

Dr. Qi was well organized and uploaded online notes.

Every lecture, the professor did a recap of the previous lectures to connect to what we would learn that day.

At the start of each lecture, he reviews what has been covered so far up to that point in the lecture. This helped to solidify my understanding of the material.

What suggestions do you have for improving the course?

Comments

I think the proofs are the hardest part of the class, so explaining that part a lot more would help.

I was a little bit confused at some point of lecture when Kunlun spelled letters differently from my way of spelling it. For example, Kunlun spelled letter `g` as /dʒeɪ/, which can be misunderstood with letter `j`, so it someone messed up his explanation and it may take me a while to understand what's going on.

Add a discussion or review session for homework or exam review.

Basically, I think this is a pretty good class and till now I have learned a lot. If I have to give a suggestion, I'd say maybe it's better if there would be more applications in class rated to the theorems we have learned.

The course is basically taught out of the book and focuses on the numerical analysis background. In 2 months, we have covered material that was quite trivial. I blame the department for the structure of this course which focuses on "Numerical Analysis". In 12 weeks, we have covered essentially three useful numerical methods, and much of our time has been spent on basic theory. I think the department needs to have a course which focuses on numerical methods and their practical applications (glancing over theory) which engineers will actually use. I feel that this course has overall been useless for my understanding. As an instructor, Dr. Qi has been excellent, and the course has been well–structured (although I am not clear on the gradelines/distribution).

There is a sheet with a "need to know" for the quizzes and midterms, but it would be helpful if the professor wrote the actual formulas down on that sheet so there is one master sheet with all of the formulas we need to know. Another suggestion is to have more questions about derivation or computing a max error, so that we have more application of concepts rather than plugging and chugging formulas. Honestly, I think that rather than testing our memory of specific formulas, I think we should be tested more on application of the concepts, and the professor can provide all of the formulas we need to know on the test. I think that the professor should only require us to memorize a formula if there is a question that asks to derive the formula.