

Custom Report for CHRISTOPHER MILES Teaching Diff Equ & Lin Algebra 2250 Undergraduate LEC section: 10 2015
Fall

There were: 81 possible respondents.

Order		Question Text	N	RR	My Avg	MATH Avg	Div Avg	Sch Avg	Sch F15						
Grp	MILES	Instructor Questions		n/a	5.8	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.5						
Grp		Course Questions		n/a	5.7	5.0	5.0	5.2	5.4						
										Str Disagr	Disagr	Mild Disagr	Mild Agree	Agree	Str Agree
1		Objectives clearly stated	53	65%	5.5	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.4	4% (2)	0% (0)	2% (1)	4% (2)	15% (8)	75% (40)
2		Objectives met	53	65%	5.6	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.4	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	8% (4)	25% (13)	68% (36)
3		Content well-organized	52	64%	5.6	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.4	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	8% (4)	25% (13)	67% (35)
4		Course materials helpful	52	64%	5.7	4.9	4.9	5.1	5.4	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	8% (4)	15% (8)	77% (40)
5		Assignments & exams covered the course	53	65%	5.8	5.1	5.0	5.2	5.4	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	6% (3)	11% (6)	83% (44)
6		Learned great deal	53	65%	5.8	4.9	4.9	5.1	5.4	0% (0)	2% (1)	0% (0)	0% (0)	15% (8)	83% (44)
7		Overall effective course	53	65%	5.8	4.9	4.9	5.1	5.4	0% (0)	0% (0)	2% (1)	2% (1)	15% (8)	81% (43)
17	MILES	Instructor was organized	53	65%	5.7	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.5	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	4% (2)	23% (12)	74% (39)
18	MILES	Instructor presented effectively	52	64%	5.8	4.9	4.9	5.1	5.4	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	8% (4)	10% (5)	83% (43)
19	MILES	Instructor created respectful environment	53	65%	5.8	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.6	0% (0)	0% (0)	2% (1)	0% (0)	11% (6)	87% (46)
20	MILES	Demonstrated thorough knowledge	52	64%	5.9	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.7	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	4% (2)	6% (3)	90% (47)
21	MILES	Instructor encouraged questions/opinions	53	65%	5.8	5.2	5.1	5.3	5.6	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	4% (2)	13% (7)	83% (44)
22	MILES	Instructor available for student consultation	53	65%	5.8	5.2	5.1	5.3	5.5	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	4% (2)	15% (8)	81% (43)
23	MILES	Overall effective instructor	53	65%	5.8	5.0	5.0	5.2	5.5	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	4% (2)	8% (4)	89% (47)
										V Discrim	Discrim	Avg	N. Discrim	Careless	
		How discriminating the student was this semester	53	65%						9% (5)	26% (14)	19% (10)	30% (16)	15% (8)	
										Very Easy	Easy	Avg	Hard	Very Hard	
		Rating tendency - this semester	53	65%						25% (13)	25% (13)	23% (12)	15% (8)	13% (7)	
										Very Easy	Easy	Avg.	Hard	Very Hard	
		Rating tendency - overall	53	65%						11% (6)	23% (12)	38% (20)	15% (8)	13% (7)	

Text Responses

Question: Comments on course effectiveness

This course did not feel particularly difficult as we went through the material, but by the end of the semester a lot of material had been presented. Overall a very important and effective course.

Review at the beginning of each class was effective Start on time and make the expectation in class that you will start on time, then we won't be as pressed for time.

I liked the explanations and the coursework. They helped me better understand and apply the material.

The lectures were really good and the professor is quite engaging

Chris was very good during lectures and always worked to make sure the whole class understood the nuances behind problems. He also did a great job writing fair problems that were familiar but challenging. There was never a shock about any exam or quiz problem and the lectures always had a logical flow of derivation and explanation.

I thought the course content was good in helping us practice and understand the concepts from class. However, I sometimes felt like our assignments or labs were either too far behind or too far ahead of what we were learning in class. I wish they would have matched up better.

Very good pace. Chris knew the material very well and presented it to the class in an effective manner.

No comment

I thought that the way that material was brought up in this course made it very accessible. I didn't like how crammed the material was however. I completely understand that this is a hybrid course of two courses that could be taught over a full year and they're being packed into one semester, but sometimes I thought that not very important material was given too much time while more important material was given too little time. Specifically I felt like perhaps first order ODEs are given too much time while Laplace is kind of pushed into a week and a half. For most people taking the class my guess is that Laplace will show up more in computations than first order ODEs. Overall though I think this course has given me the tools I need to take a more in depth look into these concepts in higher classes.

Chris Miles technique of teaching was really helpful, he made concepts easy to grasp. The labs were a little bit too intensive, but got better towards the end of the semester.

Chris is a fantastic instructor and is very knowledgeable in the subject.

I LIKE THAT YOU FOLLOWED THE BOOK PRETTY CLOSELY SO IT WAS EASY TO CHECK MATERIAL.I LIKE WHEN YOU TOLD US WHAT THINGS WERE CALLED EX. JACOBIAN, WRONSKIAN ECT. BECAUSE IT MADE IT EASIER TO FIND IT SOMEWHERE IF I DIDN'T FULLY UNDERSTAND IN CLASS

I found this math course in particular to be the most applicable towards other science courses I have taken thus far. Much of what I learned in my previous algebra and calculus courses were useful in particular situations, but the idea of modeling physical situations using the tools provided by algebra and calculus is part of any science course.

The way homework was set up was the best I have ever experienced. The weekly quizzes were very fair and a good check on learning.

Course content was well organized and thought out. Really helped with learning ODEs.

Lectures were great, professor was always willing and available to help, and the homework was doable and it was an acceptable load.

The weekly quizzes helped me keep up with the material we were covering and helped as a study guide for exams. The homework was of reasonable difficulty and length.

Course was challenging, but not impossible. Tie to engineering was clear.

The amount of homework was great throughout the semester and helped me to learn the material

I believe my problems with the course are not caused by the professor, but by the way its taught as a whole. I needed to take much longer to learn certain topics and less on others.

Homework was very reasonable and helped greatly in understanding the material.

The quizzes helped me know if I was understanding the content properly, and the instructor really did a good job teaching.

The lectures and quizzes were always really helpful but the labs were almost never useful

The class was organized with most chapters being given enough time. Chapter seven could have been given more time.

Excellent review materials.

The homework Professor Miles assigned was fair and helpful, and the organization of the course made sense.

Great in class teaching and good labs

The math quizzes and homework were not busy work and were really helpful to my learning. The workload and expectations were all very reasonable.

Great job with examples in class, very helpful office hours, fair grading. Excellent professor

The exams were a very fair reflection of the course content. They accurately represented problems done on the homework and quizzes, such that there were no curveballs on the test. The exams might have been graded too easily. While we definitely appreciated extra points, they did likely contribute to grade inflation which I think you were worried about. The class would still be very fair and reasonable without the additional points on exams.

I think that this material moved at an excellent pace, and was presented in an effective way that made the course extremely useful towards my understanding of math.

This course has a huge quantity of material that has to be covered in a short period of time. I would be better if the labs were just TA's doing example problems instead of just weird problems that do not apply to the exams.

Learned a lot and enjoyed while learning! The professor made this enjoyable.

The course was well organized and it was clear what we were focusing on. Examples were well presented, and thorough. However, a lot of the problems were taken directly from quizzes and homework, without changing any of the numbers and variables. While this made it easier to study, it did feel like the exams sometimes tested my ability to memorize things as opposed to my actual knowledge of the concepts. I think problems can still come from HW and quizzes, but maybe with some adjustments.

Perfect.

Difficult material, but relevant to mechanical engineering

More quizzes

Question: Instructor Comments

Chris is one of the most effective math teachers I have ever had. He is understanding and reasonable. I learned a lot from him even though this was difficult material for me.

Chris is an excellent teacher who went out of his way to make sure students understood the material.

This is very accommodating to student's needs. He's very good listener and is very, very good at explaining the material to student's if one didn't understand in class. A good guy and a better professor. One of the best professors I've had at the U.

Chris was very approachable and receptive to student feedback during the course. He was very passionate about the subject and gave us really interesting examples of real-world applications or just really cool aspects about a given theorem or solution. He could work on clearer handwriting on the board as every so often students couldn't tell what number he wrote, but he always clarified what he meant when asked.

It was nice to have an instructor who was available to help the students a lot. He went the extra mile to help us understand the material.

Really good teaching skills and actually cares about your grade

The instructor was knowledgeable. He also explained concepts very clearly. That helped a lot.

Thorough knowledge of the material helped me know that if I had a question, I would get an answer if I asked it. The many examples were helpful. Be sure to warn students if you are going to skip algebraic steps so they know to expect them.

Chris is a great instructor. He is funny and entertaining, as well as informative.

Good but gets distracted in class. Exams should be doable within the time limit, not make it a race of who can write faster.

His humor was very refreshing in class, it made the class feel not quite as serious which made it easier to learn, it was more fun. He was organized in class and gave great lectures that were clear and concise with plenty of examples.

Chris did an excellent job of teaching ODEs. He made a very difficult subject manageable and captured my attention during every lecture.

Chris is my favorite math professor I have had in college. I was very dubious about taking differential equations, and Chris made me feel much better. he explains difficult topics very well and has a very realistic view of how to teach to students. I get the feeling he really listens to the class, and cares a lot about the feedback he gets. Chris is an awesome professor.

I really enjoyed this instructor's ability to explain concepts in layman's terms. This is really important to me for my first exposure to concepts. It's not until I have a basic conceptual understanding of a topic that I feel comfortable applying it to solving any sort of problem. I also really enjoyed the instructor's emphasis on concrete understanding of the most important theorems in the course. Understanding mathematical theorems is something I never really had to do until this course, but in doing so I feel like I have a much more complete picture of how everything I've learned in math thus far comes together.

Chris is the best! It shows that he is passionate about math and has a thorough understanding. One thing he could work on is being at office hours on time and remembering that he has them that day, but I think he knows that this is something he needs to work on :)

He has a great teaching style and is always available for consultation. He presents the information in a very organized way.

Chris was a great teacher, I will recommend his classes to other students.

Chris was a really good instructor I thought. He presented material in clear way and had a lot of knowledge and experience with the subject. In fact, I would say his knowledge and experience of the subject was really his strongest point in class. I don't know if I can do every ODE I come up against with perfection, but I definitely understand what behavior to expect when I come across a differential equation. And I know how to apply ODEs. Definitely Chris has expanded my intuition with ODEs. One area of improvement with Chris that I heard a lot of the class say and that I agree with is in examples he sometimes has a tendency to assume that we get what's going on so he'll skip some steps. I'm okay with skipping really obvious concepts, but a general rule of thumb should be that if we learned it in the last year or so we probably need to be shown how it is applied in the problem. Other than that, really awesome instructor.

One of the best professors I've had here at the U. Kind, funny, and taught exactly to my learning style. He was always available even when I was annoying about it. The only thing that was hard for me, is he got so excited to teach concepts, that he wouldn't pay attention to details of what he would write on the board so sometimes I would get confused. I also loved the he used the word "cluster-fuck" to describe nullclines. Props to him.

Chris repeatedly held extra office hours to help his students. Was extremely knowledgeable and passionate about the subject and truly cared about his students.

He was always willing to answer questions or rewrite what was on the board

Chris has been one of my best professors here at the University of Utah. He always tried to be available to all students whether in person or by email, which was extremely helpful and he was very good at explaining difficult concepts, welcoming all questions and never making us feel bad for not understanding something.

If this professor is teaching any other class, I would take it. They made everything clear and did an amazing job presenting the material to students.

Chris Miles is the greatest math professor I have ever had. He is very engaging in his lectures. I felt like he really wanted all of us to learn, and that he cared about our learning. I want him to teach all of my math courses.

Never have I had a math instructor that was more open to meeting with students, or effective in his communication. He took the time to answer questions that existed about his course, and used his knowledge to aid everyone in their understanding.

Great job

Chris was very reasonable/flexible when working with students. Overall, he made this subject engaging and fun, which I haven't experienced in a long time. Chris is an extremely effective instructor (likely the favorite teacher I've *ever* had), making this by far my favorite class of the year. He's very personable while still maintaining professionalism.

Chris Miles has by far been the best math teacher I have ever had. He was approachable, and his office hours were so productive and helpful. He related to his students and his tests were extremely fair. This by far has been my favorite math class I have ever taken thanks to Chris Miles.

It was awesome no changes

I love your teaching style. You're honestly the best math teacher I've ever had. I would say, that I would like the material paced a bit better because it felt like in the last few weeks that we were rushing through tons of material. It made it rather hard to keep up.

Professor Miles was a great teacher. He was always available in his office hours to answer questions and was effective at doing so. In class he was engaging and motivated the material with examples from other disciplines which was helpful. The quizzes and homework was similar to what was on the exams and I felt that his grading was fair.

Chris was fantastic. Very good at explaining things. Really appreciated him giving us overall procedures for how to apply concepts, and the focus on applications over proofs. He put a lot of work into helpful review and practice materials for exams, and really seemed to care about being the best teacher he could.

I really liked this professor. The only thing that I question was the fairness of the grading. I have a couple of friends in the class that received full credit for completely wrong answers. I felt in some cases my answers were closer than theirs and I wasn't rewarded with full points. That being said I would definitely recommend him to other students.

The instructor was very good at emphasizing the connections between what we already know as a class and what he is teaching. That helped me a lot. The instructor was also very engaging during lectures, and was able to present ideas clearly. Overall, he is one of the best math teachers.

Really good lectures with good examples that were really helpful as well as clear and simple explanations of the topic.

Chris was very good at explaining things in a simple way that made understanding a difficult topic very reasonable.

I really liked how the homework was set up. It was just enough to give us good practice and to be able to learn it effectively. Contrary to the class' opinion, I did like the labs. They supported the class content well.

Very good instructor. Thoughtful, well presented examples. I appreciated how he took the time to methodically go through problems, and to make it clear why problems were being done, as opposed to just giving us formulas. Easy to get in contact with for office hours/homework help. Very funny too!

Hands down one of the best teachers I've ever had. He made learning math entertaining and listened to the students!