Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating

Fall 2025

Bu, Aj - AB1854

Multivariable Calculus - 01:640:251:H4, H5, H6
Survey Form: *Standard SIRS

Enrollment: 60

University-wide Instructor Questions

Weight of responses: 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
The instructor Aj Bu was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner.	1	0	0	7	28	37	**4.69**	4.31	4.29	4.31
The instructor Aj Bu responded effectively to student comments and questions.	1	0	2	6	27	37	**4.61**	4.24	4.24	4.25
The instructor Aj Bu generated interest in the course material.	1	1	4	8	21	37	**4.34**	4.13	4.12	4.15
The instructor Aj Bu had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material.	1	0	1	8	26	37	**4.61**	4.33	4.35	4.37
The instructor Aj Bu assigned grades fairly.	1	2	0	7	26	37	**4.53**	4.31	4.26	4.30
The instructional methods of Aj Bu encouraged student learning.	1	1	5	5	23	37	**4.37**	4.14	4.13	4.17

Teaching Effectiveness

Weight of responses: 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	P	F	A	G	E	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor Aj Bu as:	0	1	2	6	28	38	**4.65**	4.14	4.14	4.13

University-wide Course Questions

Weight of responses: 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
I learned a great deal in this course.	0	1	5	10	21	37	**4.38**	4.26	4.22	4.15
I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course.	1	1	4	15	16	37	**4.19**	3.98	3.86	3.60

Course Quality

Weight of responses: 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	P	F	A	G	E	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
I rate the overall quality of the course as:	0	3	6	15	14	38	**4.05**	3.98	3.99	3.94

What do you like best about this course?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comment
Well, I find all that I've learned about multivariable calculus interesting, but if I had to choose a topic or section in particular, it'd be the concepts of the gradient and directional derivatives. I'm interested in AI/ML, so it was satisfying to see and understand the why behind gradient descent.
Learning about vector calculus and seeing how it can make calculations I've done in previous classes so much easier.
I like that topics about the midterms everything is posted in advance.
I like the weekly conceptual questions and recitation worksheets as it assisted in my learning and practice.
The beginning part
The difficulty of the content
I really like the different resources provided for practice. The lectures are efficient and informative in understanding the course, and the recitation worksheets provide great applications for the material that was covered.
I liked learning a new section of calculus
I liked figuring out and working through more challenging questions with fellow peers during recitations.
The conceptual parallels
I have an deep love for math and through all the confusing and hard times, he was able to teach so effectively that by the time class had ended, I would be able to recite what we learned and how it works to someone.
The worksheets and recitations were good for preparing for the exam and material.
workshops and online Pearson homework helps to reinforce the material well
I like best how much the professor loves the course material and seems genuinely interested in what is being taught. It makes me enjoy it more when I come to understand it.
great teaching and fun assignments to work with others on
The professors mainly. The syllabus in and of itself was crazy.
I extremely liked how effectively time was used in class. It never felt as if a moment was being wasted, and Prof. Hovsepyan was always prepared to lecture and respond to questions.
both instructors were very knowledgeable on the subject and were enthusiastic in answering questions. i like that there were many opportunities for practice between recitation and homeworks
I like how the course taught us why a concept works and how to derive it rather than just how to apply it. Dr. Hovsepyan was very good at doing this and also keeping the class fast–paced and ahead of schedule.

If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comment
Nothing, really. In a perfect world, the last few lectures would still be on the chalkboard, but I can understand time crunches.
N/A
I would not rush every lecture. Please make sure Professor Mariano is teaching the Honors sections he is really a great teacher I had him for Honors calc 2. Post the lecture notes online. Record the lectures and post them online. Post answer keys to recitation problems.
Perhaps go at a bit of a slower pace.
Not go as fast as the instructor now does and go more in depth so everyone understands
It’s fine as is
I would not change anything about this course other than the timing of the material so that it align of what's being covered in recitation.
MORE EXAMPLES PLEASE
If I were teaching this course, I would also make all the lecture notes available online to make studying and reviewing easier for students.
Not rush through chapter 16, instead go through the middle content faster.
Nothing
Depending on how the course can be paced, I might try to have a bit of time between topics to reduce how breakneck the class can feel at times.
Go slower with the material and make sure the students understand it before moving on. Do more practice during lecture, do more review for the exams in class.
More examples while teaching.
some of the workshops are worded in a confusing way sometimes but the TA does a good job at explaining it/helping us work around it
I would teach with better time constraints, again, it got a little rushed at the end of the semester
More examples solved out or post solved out examples so people who need them can use them to understand later. And also post a lot of optional practice for people to do depending on their weak spots. Because I think that multi is a topic for which you have to practice a lot. It would also help if more patterns or key info was emphasized during the lectures being the solving process doesn't tend to be as simple as it seems.
add a notes from the lecture to the website. that way, if students can't make it they can at least know what they need to know
I would try to provide lecture notes for students and provide more examples on how to apply the things learned in class.
Wouldn't change a thing. Though we complained about not having enough examples, recitation does a good job of giving us them to apply the concepts learned in lecture very easily.
It would be nice if there was also a digital format of the notes posted, but I guess that would perhaps defeat the point of lecture if the lecture notes could just be easily read online.
I would give the students more examples in class to teach applications of concepts.

In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor Aj Bu encouraged your

intellectual growth and progress?

These comments are unique to the instructor Aj Bu.

Comment
Always willing, very helpful, and was able to answer my questions effectively
Answering questions to help students understand course content.
Bu made sure to answer questions great, she was helpful during the class
Very helpful during recitations and always willing to answer questions.
Helped out with questions
Good at explaining difficult problems
They provided assistance whenever needed and provided examples.
They are very nice and always guide me towards the answer rather than giving it to me.
Our instructor was effective in addressing students' questions and concerns regarding the questions on the worksheets.
I think that this course and problems challenged my thinking outside the box and invention of solutions and Aj Bu helped me with that
As she was the instructor for recitations, she didn't really do much to encourage growth and progress since most of the time we were working through difficult problems of what we learned in the previous week. It's important to note that it's not any fault of her own though.
Very very smart and helpful when responding to questions. Great instructor.
Really helpful in recitation and always helped students through the worksheet and explanations.
always tries to help us with workshops and guide us in the right direction if we are struggling to understand the concepts.
Instructor AJ Bu really helped me in this course by doing practice problems in class, helping us through the recitation problems when we got stuck by nott elling us the answer but guiding us there instead. I thought that this really helped me grow and understand the material better.
Instructor Aj Bu oftentimes took points off recitation worksheets for solving questions in a way that was not exactly similar to how they wanted it.
AJ Bu was very helpful in answering questions, by giving help, and not the answer itself. AJ pushed our learning forward and was the best resource possible in my time this year in this class.
Very helpful and great TA. wonderful with recitation.
Was extremely patient in explaining concepts we otherwise didn't understand during lecture. Partnered with Professor Hovsepyan, they made this class bearable for us.
Prof Bu. was extremely helpful in providing feedback for work during recitation periods. All of the questions I had were answered very effectively, allowing me to understand the concepts we may have briefly covered in lecture on a much deeper level. Even when I had work that I was working through, I was able to get very helpful feedback that empowered me to adopt a new mindset for my studies and independent homework.

Comment
Dr. Aj Bu was very supportive throughout each recitation session. She answered each question with expertise and helped guide us to the right answer without outright giving us the solution. She was also very kind with respect to assignments and transparent with grading.
Walked through problems about the topics we learned in class before giving us worksheets which allowed for a good refresher.

Other comments or suggestions:

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comment
Amazing job to both the TA and the professor.
N/A
Have answer keys to recitations available
N/A
n/a
N/A
no
Nothing much. This class was a breeze thanks to these professors.
I would like to have more study material for the midterms and finals — I feel that only four practice exams is too little, as other worksheets and assignments are not necessarily as representative of the types of questions that will be on the exam.