



University of Connecticut

Student Evaluation of Teaching Spring 2014

Individual Report for MATH-2710-003-STORR- Transition to Advanced Math

Instructor: **Maryann Hohn** (SET Primary Instructor)

Response Table

Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET)	
Raters	students
Responded	16
Invited	27
Response Ratio	59%

Section 1. Summary

Please respond to the following question about instructor Maryann Hohn.

Question	Course	Department	University	School
	Median	Median	Median	Median
The instructor presented the course material clearly.	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.4
The instructor was well prepared for class.	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.6
The instructor responded to questions adequately.	4.0	4.4	4.5	4.5
The instructor stimulated interest in the subject.	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.4
The instructor showed interest in helping students learn.	5.0	4.6	4.6	4.5
The instructor gave clear assignments.	5.0	4.6	4.5	4.5
The instructor was accessible to students.	5.0	4.6	4.5	4.5
The instructor gave useful feedback on my performance.	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.2
The instructor returned graded work in a reasonable amount of time.	4.0	4.6	4.5	4.5
The instructor used class time effectively.	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
The instructor treated all students with respect.	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.7
The instructor graded fairly.	4.0	4.7	4.5	4.5
The instructor's teaching methods promoted student learning.	4.0	4.4	4.4	4.3

What is your overall rating of Maryann Hohn's teaching?

Question	Course	Department	University	School
	Median	Median	Median	Median
What is your overall rating of the instructor's teaching?	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.0

Please respond to the following question about the course.

Question	Course	Department	University	School
	Median	Median	Median	Median
The methods of evaluating student learning seemed appropriate.	4.0	4.4	4.3	4.3
The course content was well organized.	4.0	4.4	4.3	4.3
The course objectives were clear.	4.0	4.4	4.4	4.3
The course objectives were met.	4.0	4.4	4.4	4.3
The textbook made a valuable contribution.	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
The other course materials made a valuable contribution.	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.3
The pace of the course seemed appropriate.	4.0	4.3	4.3	4.2

What is your overall rating of the course?

Question	Course	Department	University	School
	Median	Median	Median	Median
What is your overall rating of the course?	3.5	3.8	3.7	3.7

Section 2. Student Information

What is your Academic Level?

Options	Count	Percentage
Freshman	0	0%
Sophomore	5	31%
Junior	3	19%
Senior	8	50%
Graduate	0	0%
Other	0	0%

What is your expected grade in this course?

Options	Count	Percentage
A	4	25%
B	9	56%
C	2	13%
D	1	6%
F	0	0%
Pass	0	0%
Fail	0	0%
Other	0	0%

What is your cumulative average (GPA)?

Options	Count	Percentage
3.5 and above	7	44%
3.0-3.4	4	25%
2.5-2.9	3	19%
2.0-2.4	2	13%
< 2.0	0	0%

How many times did you miss this class?

Options	Count	Percentage
0-2	15	94%
3-4	1	6%
5-6	0	0%
> 6	0	0%

Section 2. Student Information (continued)

On average, how many hours a week did you spend outside of class preparing for this course?

Options	Count	Percentage
0	0	0%
1-3	3	19%
4-6	10	63%
7-9	3	19%
10-14	0	0%
15+	0	0%

Which best describes this course for you?

Options	Count	Percentage
Requirement for my major	12	75%
General Education Requirement	1	6%
Other Requirement	3	19%
Elective	0	0%
Elective for major	0	0%

My desire to take this course was:

Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	2	13%
More than most courses	5	31%
About the same as most courses	6	38%
Less than most courses	2	13%
Much less than most courses	1	6%

For me, the level of difficulty of the course content was:

Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	8	50%
More than most courses	8	50%
About the same as most courses	0	0%
Less than most courses	0	0%
Much less than most courses	0	0%

Section 2. Student Information (continued)

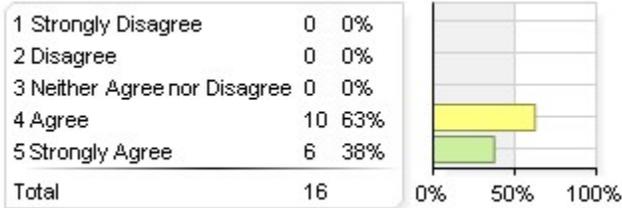
Overall, how much do you feel you've learned in this course?

Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	5	31%
More than most courses	6	38%
About the same as most courses	5	31%
Less than most courses	0	0%
Much less than most courses	0	0%

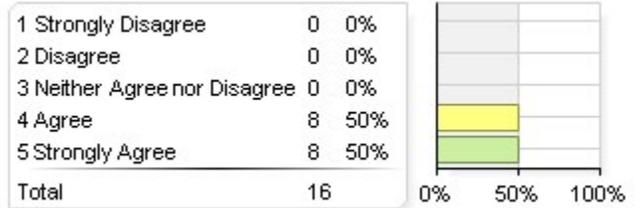
Section 3. Questions About the Instructor

Please respond to the following question about instructor Maryann Hohn.

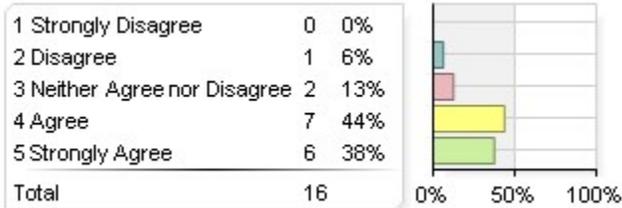
1. The instructor presented the course material clearly.



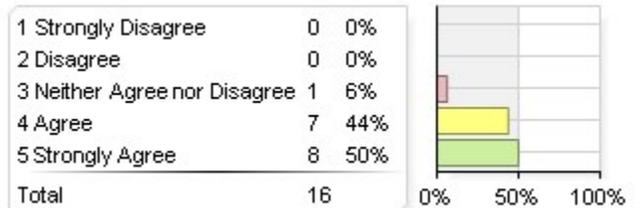
2. The instructor was well prepared for class.



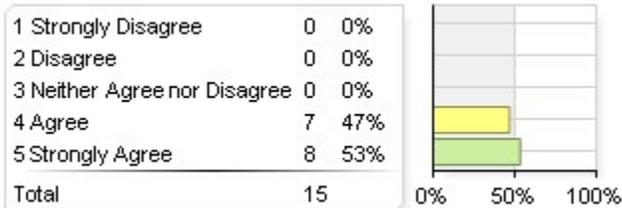
3. The instructor responded to questions adequately.



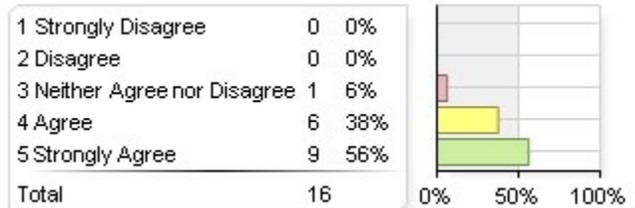
4. The instructor stimulated interest in the subject.



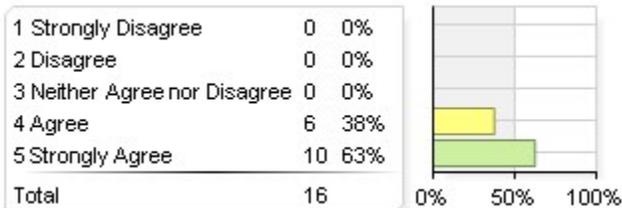
5. The instructor showed interest in helping students learn.



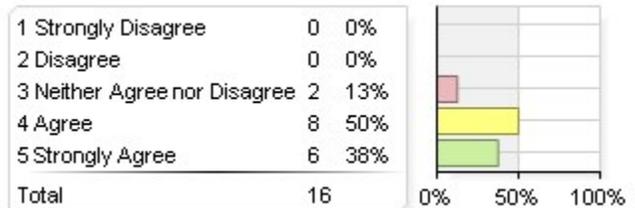
6. The instructor gave clear assignments.



7. The instructor was accessible to students.

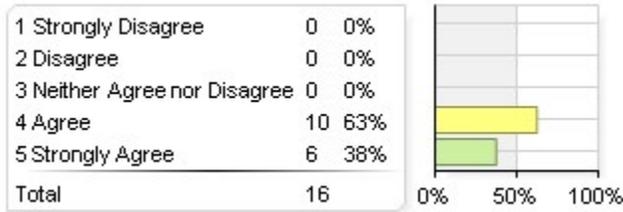


8. The instructor gave useful feedback on my performance.

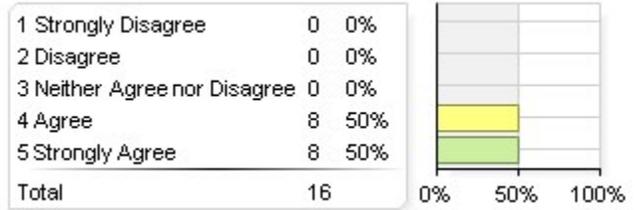


**Please respond to the following question about instructor Maryann Hohn.
(continued)**

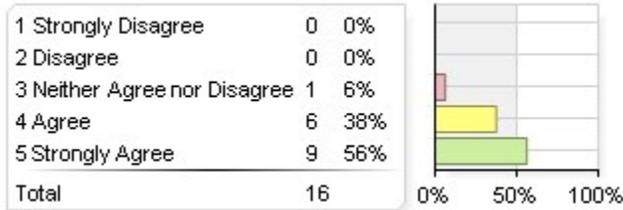
9. The instructor returned graded work in a reasonable amount of time.



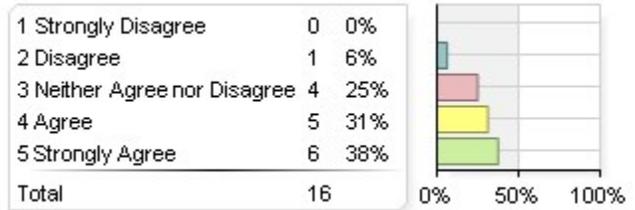
10. The instructor used class time effectively.



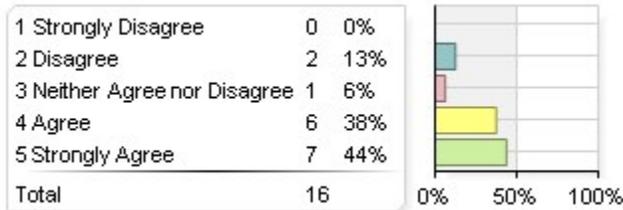
11. The instructor treated all students with respect.



12. The instructor graded fairly.



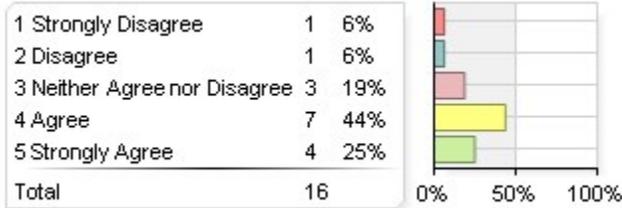
13. The instructor's teaching methods promoted student learning.



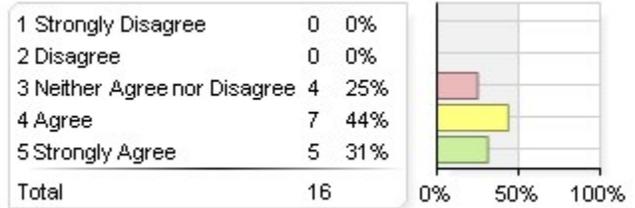
Section 4. Questions About the Course

Please respond to the following question about the course.

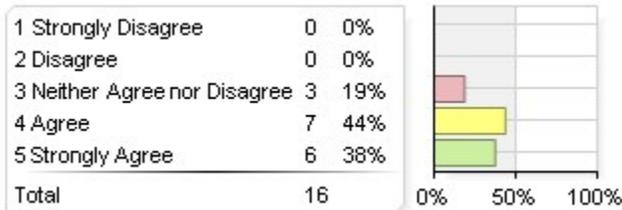
1. The methods of evaluating student learning seemed appropriate.



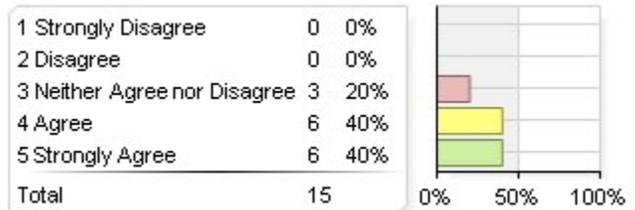
2. The course content was well organized.



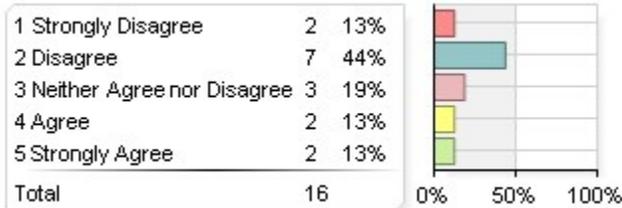
3. The course objectives were clear.



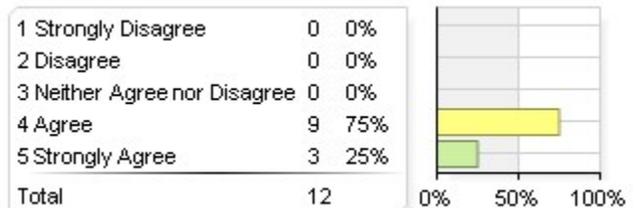
4. The course objectives were met.



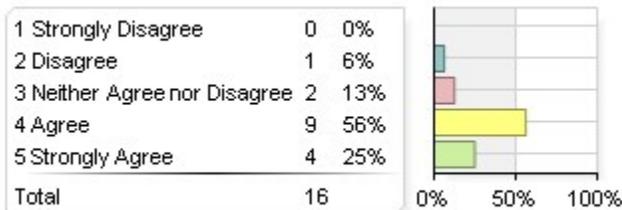
5. The textbook made a valuable contribution.



6. The other course materials made a valuable contribution.



7. The pace of the course seemed appropriate.

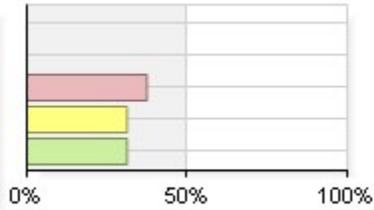


Section 5. Aggregate Report on "Overall Questions"

Overall Rating

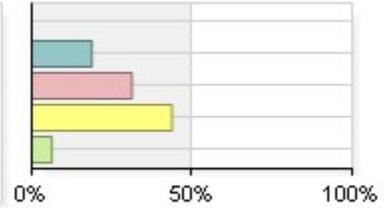
1. What is your overall rating of the instructor's teaching?

1 Poor	0	0%
2 Fair	0	0%
3 Good	6	38%
4 Very Good	5	31%
5 Excellent	5	31%
Total	16	



2. What is your overall rating of the course?

1 Poor	0	0%
2 Fair	3	19%
3 Good	5	31%
4 Very Good	7	44%
5 Excellent	1	6%
Total	16	



Overall Rating

Question	Good, Very Good & Excellent	Very Good & Excellent	Excellent
What is your overall rating of the instructor's teaching?	100%	63%	31%
What is your overall rating of the course?	81%	50%	6%

Section 6. Comments

What was the most positive aspect of the way in which this instructor taught this course?

Comment
Professor Hohn organized the course well. She was helpful and really wanted to make sure we got a lot out of the course. I liked the discussion that she made for the course if we needed extra help on homework. I also think her methods of grading were fair and a good method of evaluation. The course was difficult but I learned a lot, and really enjoyed Professor Hohn's teaching style.
tried to connect with students and explain the problem in a more logical way
Professor Hohn is very enthusiastic about math, which always makes class more interesting. She held extra (beyond scheduled class time) discussions each week where we went over homework questions, and they were really helpful.
Ability to resubmit homework for some points back was positive, though with exams, I think we should be able to rework on them for partial credit.
She used class time very efficiently and was very clear on what she expected. Was willing to have discussions about definitions, topics etc with students whenever there was some confusion. Was available outside of class and answered emails quickly.
Positive teaching
I really liked the idea of rewriting the homework assignments, I think that it is important with the type of material that was covered in this course to see where the mistakes were made and then to be able to address the errors by doing a rewrite. I also really like the "open office hours"/"optional discussion" portion of the class. I know that teachers are quite busy and I liked the feel of a review session every week, it really helped with grasping the homework and just some of the overall class topics as well.
Prof. Hohn was very personable, obviously enjoys teaching and talking about mathematics, relatively enjoyable course despite the topic
Allowed discussion and questioning. Very knowledgeable on subject.
Always had a positive attitude and the sessions on Mondays
The workload during the exam week was a bit much, giving us 3 to 4 assignments worth of difficult proofs to solve. And memorize
The discussion hour every Monday to help questions about homework and proof techniques in general.
Quizzes were basically right from the homework. Also, the way the exam/ preview sheet was set up was very favorable.
amazing taught the class to help you in future classes
Professor Hohn is one of the best teachers I've had at UConn. She really cares about her students and mathematics. She made class clear and precise even though it was challenging material. She gave every fair opportunity to do their best.

What can this instructor do to improve teaching effectiveness in the classroom?

Comment
Redo homework assignments
Slow down a little when going over a new proof.
Partial credit for resubmitting exams. Proofs are hard to have a clear, concise work within exam times.
I think doing more definitions quizzes would help students do better in the course. I think a lot of people had issues understanding that the definitions were paramount to doing well in the course.
I think that the ways in which our work was evaluated could be improved. I like the ideas of having the proofs on the homework, however I think that the homework could have had like 1/4 be questions on the topics learned and the

ideas and definitions and then 3/4 on proofs. So maybe the homework could have been out of 15 points with 3-one point definition or algorithm questions and 3- four point proofs, just to give a balance in what we were learning.

Additionally I did not agree with the midterm style that the course had I thought it did not show whether or not the students were learning the material, it was more or less could the students memorize a take-home test and regurgitate it. I think that take home midterms would have been appropriate, as the professor basically gave us a take-home with the added fact that we had to memorize the proofs that we wrote out at home. Even a take-home with a small in class portion, maybe like 6 take-home proofs and then an in class extended quiz with 2 new proofs and then a couple of definitions would seem appropriate to me. I was just taken aback at by the idea that while this class is a lot about memorization of definitions and lemmas and theorems to support the proofs, I didn't think we should be tested on purely memorization, I thought we should be tested on our construction. Another idea for the exams would be an in class midterms with rewrites to gain back 2/3 or 1/2 of the credit that was missed, therefore awarding the student who excelled under pressure, but still supporting the students who know how to do the constructions just maybe not under the time constraints.

One last thing that I had an issue with was jumping around between textbooks. I am a student who needs to not only hear about the topics in class but I need to be able to look at their descriptions in writing and work through them myself, I rely heavily on the additional class material and textbooks to improve my understanding. Had the teacher warned us at the beginning of the semester I would have purchased the necessary books but one day she was just like I don't like your book I'm adding some of my own, giving us no outside material to match the topics to- it was not coincidental that my grades began to go down a week or so later. I think that while I could gather some things from her lecture I need the additional material for any clarification points.

Often times I found the lecture problems inadequate in preparation for homework and exam problems

Started off way too hard and was a learning experience in itself figuring out what the course required

New exam method, proof memorization doesn't work

Have the homework assignments correspond with the lectures of that week a little bit more

get a better book or don't have a book and give handouts

Please write any comments you have about the course or course materials.

Comment

I enjoyed the course, but I did not like the book. I did not think it was very helpful and most of the time confused me more.

Wish the material of the book was covered more than from other textbooks

The textbook is incomprehensible at best.

The book was sub par I believe. It would jump around and sometimes it would not spend enough time explaining something that a new student like me would not grasp right away. As an introduction to proof writing I think there could be better choices.

The course itself is very broad in general, I just feel like there was a lot of hopping back and forth from one topic to another and then back to the first. For example, sets were mentioned when we went over logic and then we talked about relations and then we came back to sets and their cardinalities. I think that while it may be very time consuming the topics to be discussed should be examined closely and then whichever order makes the most sense in terms of progression should occur, I feel like while the professor came in with a plan as the semester went on and things were taking her longer or shorter to cover she strayed from her initial plan and things became jumbled.

You should write what you defining first and then write the definition. you would always write like this Defn. ALsfhkLDSfhkalsjdhsakldjfh DDDDDDDD alkdjfhaklsdf where DDDD is the word your defining It is much more helpful for note taking if you write DDDDDDD: KLDSJFhKLJASHFKLDSJFHakjdsfalksdjhf so that the word your defining is followed by its definition.

Hw was the most difficult and unfortunately carried a huge percentage of the grade. With that being said you can totally redo it. Also the book really wasn't that good, Wikipedia and class notes far eclipsed it

This course was very difficult for me. And proofs stink!

The textbook is awful (not professor Hohn's fault)

For courses with laboratory and/or discussion sections: were the laboratory/discussion sections helpful to your learning?

Comment
voluntary discussion was extremely helpful
Yes very much
n/a