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# Student Assessment of Instructors - Instructor Interface

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## Clemson University Student Evaluation of Teaching

**Evaluation Report** for James L Brown teaching MATH 1060 209 during Fall Semester 2016  
Respondents = 20 Enrolled = 44 Response rate = 45%

### University Questions (3686)

G1. The instructor clearly communicated what I was expected to learn.

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
1 (5.00%)	2 (10.00%)	2 (10.00%)	5 (25.00%)	10 (50.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	4.050	1.234	4.5	20
<b>Same Level</b>	4.103	1.119	4	1667
<b>Same Discipline</b>	4.219	1.036	5	3689

G2. The instructor made the relevance of the course material clear.

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
1 (5.00%)	1 (5.00%)	1 (5.00%)	7 (35.00%)	10 (50.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	4.200	1.105	4.5	20
<b>Same Level</b>	4.005	1.141	4	1664
<b>Same Discipline</b>	4.110	1.085	4	3685

G3. The course was well organized.

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
1 (5.00%)	1 (5.00%)	2 (10.00%)	6 (30.00%)	10 (50.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	4.150	1.137	4.5	20
<b>Same Level</b>	4.160	1.076	5	1665
<b>Same Discipline</b>	4.220	1.048	5	3688

G4. There was a positive interaction between the class and the instructor.

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
1 (5.00%)	3 (15.00%)	3 (15.00%)	3 (15.00%)	10 (50.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	3.900	1.334	4.5	20
<b>Same Level</b>	4.140	1.150	5	1659
<b>Same Discipline</b>	4.193	1.095	5	3676

G5. The instructor's teaching methods helped me understand the course material.

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
2 (10.00%)	1 (5.00%)	3 (15.00%)	6 (30.00%)	8 (40.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	3.850	1.309	4	20
<b>Same Level</b>	3.711	1.334	4	1663
<b>Same Discipline</b>	3.857	1.278	4	3679

G6. The instructor's verbal communication skills helped me understand the course material.

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
2 (10.00%)	1 (5.00%)	2 (10.00%)	6 (30.00%)	9 (45.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	3.950	1.317	4	20
<b>Same Level</b>	3.635	1.399	4	1661
<b>Same Discipline</b>	3.813	1.309	4	3673

G7. The instructor clearly explained what was expected on assignments and tests

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
2 (10.00%)	2 (10.00%)	1 (5.00%)	5 (25.00%)	10 (50.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	3.950	1.395	4.5	20
<b>Same Level</b>	4.093	1.140	5	1663
<b>Same Discipline</b>	4.174	1.087	5	3681

G8. The instructor kept me informed about my progress in the course.

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
1 (5.00%)	1 (5.00%)	1 (5.00%)	5 (25.00%)	12 (60.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	4.300	1.129	5	20
<b>Same Level</b>	3.936	1.201	4	1663
<b>Same Discipline</b>	4.049	1.146	4	3677

G9. The feedback I received on assignments and tests gave me the opportunity to improve my performance.

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
1 (5.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (20.00%)	6 (30.00%)	9 (45.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	4.100	1.071	4	20
<b>Same Level</b>	3.928	1.183	4	1664
<b>Same Discipline</b>	4.034	1.147	4	3679

G10. Overall, the instructor is an effective teacher.

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
1 (5.00%)	3 (15.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (20.00%)	12 (60.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	4.150	1.309	5	20
<b>Same Level</b>	3.923	1.263	4	1661
<b>Same Discipline</b>	4.066	1.185	5	3673

G11. The instructor's grading procedures gave a fair evaluation of my understanding of the material.

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
1 (5.00%)	1 (5.00%)	3 (15.00%)	5 (25.00%)	10 (50.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	4.100	1.165	4.5	20
<b>Same Level</b>	4.119	1.069	4	1656
<b>Same Discipline</b>	4.168	1.070	5	3669

G12. How much work did you put into this course relative to your other courses?

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
1 (5.00%)	0 (0.00%)	5 (25.00%)	7 (35.00%)	7 (35.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	3.950	1.050	4	20
<b>Same Level</b>	4.207	0.880	4	1663
<b>Same Discipline</b>	4.147	0.915	4	3682

G13. How difficult was this course for you relative to your other courses?

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
1 (5.00%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (10.00%)	6 (30.00%)	11 (55.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	4.300	1.031	5	20
<b>Same Level</b>	4.100	1.010	4	1658
<b>Same Discipline</b>	4.037	1.018	4	3678

G14. To what extent was this course a requirement for you?

**Type:** How much

Not at all (1)	2	3	4	Very much (5)	NR
1 (5.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (5.00%)	18 (90.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	4.750	0.910	5	20
<b>Same Level</b>	4.696	0.720	5	1657
<b>Same Discipline</b>	4.662	0.773	5	3677

G15. Was this course in your major?

**Type:** Yes - No

Yes	No	NR
15 (75.00%)	4 (20.00%)	1 (5.00%)

G16. Was this course team-taught?

**Type:** Yes - No

Yes	No	NR
5 (25.00%)	15 (75.00%)	0 (0.00%)

G17. Please indicate your satisfaction with the availability of the instructor outside the classroom by choosing one response from the scale. In selecting your rating, consider the instructor's availability via established office hours, appointments, and other opportunities for face-to-face interaction as well as via telephone, email, fax and other means.

**Type:** Satisfaction

Very Dissatisfied (1)	2	3	Very Satisfied (4)	NR
1 (5.00%)	1 (5.00%)	8 (40.00%)	10 (50.00%)	0 (0.00%)

Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
<b>Class</b>	3.350	0.813	3.5	20
<b>Same Level</b>	3.414	0.771	4	1666
<b>Same Discipline</b>	3.500	0.721	4	3694

G18. Please comment on the strengths of the instructor and the course.

**Type:** Essay**Student****Comments**

- #2** - The course was consistent in lessons and the way the lessons were organized and taught. They were clearly explained and the instructor always left time for questions in between lessons and each idea.
- #3** - Communicating with the students during class times.
- #4** - He knows what he's talking about, and he is extremely confident/comfortable in how he talks about the material. The mix of guided examples and group-worked

examples was good for understanding the material. He also provided walk-through feedback on tests that we got back if there were any questions on their material or how individual questions were graded.

**#5** - Very smart man and very helpful in teaching math.

**#6** - Strengths of the instructor included the ability to explain the material thoroughly in order to ensure that the students fully understand what they will be tested on.

**#7** - He gives plenty of examples and explains them well.

**#8** - Dr. Brown has a lot of experience teaching college students, and it shows. He is a very good teacher

**#9** - He really seems to enjoy teaching the subject matter, which made coming to class bearable. He was always available to help, which made learning the material much easier.

**#10** - Working problems to understand the material helped a lot.

**#11** - Professor Brown is very easy to get in touch with. Also, he is always willing to help with any questions you may have.

**#12** - Great at getting the information across.

**#13** - Dr. Brown was very clear with all of his notes. He was more than willing to answer any questions that any of the students had.

**#14** - He was a good instructor and helped us when we didn't understand something. The only problem with the course is that when the pen stopped working in the classroom, it was very hard to learn because the instructor then had to write on the whiteboard which was hard to see.

**#15** - He teaches the overall class good.

**#16** - He is very structured and straightforward with his teachings. He displays many examples of all types of problems in order to cover any tricks.

**#17** - Can't teach

**#18** - He understands calculus and is very confident in that respect.

**#19** - After each class, Jim Brown sent the notes for the day to everyone which helped immensely in terms of reviewing for quizzes and tests. He also is very knowledgeable in his field of expertise.

**#20** - Easy to understand what he was saying, setup of classroom was good.

G19. Please comment on the weaknesses of the instructor and the course.

**Type:** Essay

<b>Student</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>#2</b>	Sometimes he went out of town and the person who subbed in for him was not a clear or good instructor. This made the clarity and flow of the lessons difficult to follow.
<b>#3</b>	None
<b>#4</b>	The room we were in had issues with the technology. Often. The pen on the instructor's tablet would continuously break, and it was frustrating for both the instructor, and for us students. If you can't get that tablet to work, it's more difficult to continue teaching in the room, since, with the way it's built, students can't really see the one board in the center of the room that the instructor is forced to use. Essentially, the issue was in the learning environment and not in the instructor (it's notable that we paid a technology fee and shouldn't have to be dealing with such repeating tech issues).
<b>#5</b>	More on wipe board examples please.
<b>#6</b>	Weaknesses of the instructor include that he was absent multiple times throughout the semester, leaving the class with a graduate teaching assistant who did not know what the class was learning or how to teach the material.
<b>#7</b>	Course is really hard.
<b>#8</b>	The pen in the lever classroom always interfered with the learning experience, as it malfunctioned most days. Sometimes it would break altogether, and we would have to learn off of one white board, which was not in the view of everyone in the class. Therefore, a new pen should be purchased, as it is less expensive than the wasted tuition dollars of the students who can't see the board.
<b>#9</b>	My only wish was that there was a more structured way of reviewing.
<b>#10</b>	The classroom set up was terrible. If the board messed up it put the class at a

disadvantage because it was hard to see the white board

- #11 - I wish we did more examples and less proof in the beginning of the year. Although they provide support as to why things are the way they are, they seemed to confuse me more than they helped. Also, if the technology breaks in the room there is no easy way for the professor to teach with the way the room is set up.
- #12 - Quizzes were sometimes harder than the test.
- #13 - At times, Dr. Brown would get ahead of himself and touch upon topics we haven't learned yet, but he did a good job catching himself before he got too deep and simplifying it.
- #14 - He left us with a TA the week before our third exam.
- #15 - N/A
- #16 - His quizzes are quite challenging at times.
- #17 - Can't teach
- #18 - Dr. Brown clearly understands calculus; therefore, his weakness is not a lack of knowledge, rather a lack of how to teach that knowledge. He doesn't simplify the material as a professor should- his lectures are just as helpful as reading the book. He writes long paragraphs about concepts that somehow makes the material seem more complex. I find myself referring to my high school notes for assistance. He tells our section what place our class average on exams came in and that we need to do better. I'm curious as to whether he has ever wondered what he could do better to help us.
- #19 - Jim Brown is an incredibly intelligent professor, and at times it felt as if he forgot that we were not at the same level as he is. After clarification, it still felt a bit convoluted.
- #20 - Notes were too "wordy" for a math course, sometimes contained what seemed like irrelevant information that confused the student.

G20. Please comment on any teaching methods you found particularly helpful, and suggest alternative methods that you feel would improve the course.

**Type:** Essay

Student	Comments
#2	I really liked how the lessons were organized and taught the same way every day because I went to class knowing what was expected of me.
#3	Group work and practice.
#4	Keep doing what you're doing.
#5	On board examples that we worked through were very helpful.
#6	Teaching methods I found helpful were using the technology available in order to explain the material rather than writing on a chalkboard.
#7	Group problems
#8	Making us practice problems on the white board as a team really solidified what we learned that day.
#9	I really liked how he would do problems for us for examples, then have us work in a group to solve more problems like the one he showed us. It really helped me either confirm that I knew the material or that I needed to study it more.
#11	I liked when we did a lot of examples. Seeing problems worked out over and over again is helpful. Also it was good working on the boards in groups so that we have to try it ourselves.
#12	Really liked the group problems in class, it meant we had a chance to try the material while also getting help.
#13	Using the video boards in Lever Classroom (when they worked) was very helpful, as it allowed me to see the notes very easily. Giving us examples and then an opportunity to work with our group to solve problems was very helpful.
#14	When he had us practice problems in groups it was very effective.
#15	working in groups
#16	Webassign helped me obtain different practice problems with some displaying step by step instructions on how to work out the project.
#17	None, get a teacher not someone who just knows the material and can't teach it.
#18	Sending the class notes is helpful.
#19	I liked the use of examples of problems, but I didn't understand the amount of proofs

**#19** - I liked the use of examples or problems, but I didn't understand the amount of proofs that he showed in order to explain. I believe much of the information could've either been memorized or taught through more examples.

**#20** - Problems given in groups and being able to work through solutions on the whiteboards. Sending the course notes after class.

G21. I would recommend this instructor to a friend. Yes or no? Why?

**Type:** Essay

**Student**

**Comments**

**#2** - Yes, he was clear and easy to understand. He was also available for me to ask questions if I needed.

**#3** - Yes, he is very helpful during class and office hours.

**#4** - Yes. He knows the material well, and has a pretty good energy level. Just don't choose his sections if you aren't ready to get involved.

**#5** - Yes he is very knowledgeable and helpful. He can clearly explain why/how something is done algebraically or how a calculus concepts work.

**#6** - I would recommend Dr. Brown to a friend because he thoroughly explains the difficult material of the course and makes it easy to earn a good grade in the class.

**#7** - Yes, he explains the topics well.

**#8** - Yes. Dr. Brown is a great professor, and it's great to have class in my residence hall

**#9** - Yes, I would recommend this instructor because I think he really cares about his students and he is able to explain difficult concepts well. It also helped me that he expects a lot out of us because it made me push myself even harder to understand the material.

**#10** - Yes, he's very knowledgeable so he helped a lot when asking questions

**#12** - Yes, great at teaching the material.

**#13** - Although the work he assigns is rather difficult, I would recommend this instructor to a friend, because Dr. Brown is very clear in how he teaches. His quizzes are challenging, but if you pay attention and ask questions his class is enjoyable.

**#14** - Yes, because he teaches the material well.

**#15** - yes because he is a good teacher

**#16** - Yes, he teaches the concepts very well. He is polite and will respond to questions via email or in class promptly.

**#17** - No, I've taken calculus and he makes quizzes harder than the actual tests.

**#18** - No, Dr. Brown's lecture is no more helpful than reading the book and learning it on your own. I would definitely not recommend Dr. Brown to students who didn't take calculus in high school.

**#19** - I would not recommend Jim Brown. Although I did appreciate his consistency in sending notes, I do not feel that I was well prepared for exams even though I have previously taken Calculus.

**#20** - yes

Ok