

Title: A&S Fall 2017 Standard Evaluation

Course: MATHV2010_001_2017_3 / LINEAR ALGEBRA

Instructors: Nathan P. Dowlin

Dates: 12/04/2017 - 12/14/2017

Responses: 40/97 - 41.24% Number of Participants: 97

Enrollment of All Students: 97

Instructor Graph Report for: Nathan P. Dowlin

1	What is your overall assessment of the effectiveness of the instructor?			N=40
	1	Poor	0 (0%)	
	2	Fair	0 (0%)	
	3	Good	3 (8%)	
	4	Very good	5 (13%)	
	5	Excellent		32 (80%)
	М	edian 5 Interpolate	ed Median 4.88 Mean 4.73 St	d Dev 0.60



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Instructor Comments Report for: Nathan P. Dowlin

- Q1 Please evaluate your faculty instructor. What are the instructor's strengths? In what ways might his or her teaching be improved? In answering this question, you might address the clarity of the lectures or presentations and their relationship to the other elements of the course, the ability of the instructor to generate enthusiasm and facilitate discussion, the quality of feedback, availability, the timeliness of the return of assignments, etc.
 - Professor Dowlin pushed us to understand the theory of Linear Algebra. We got to understand mathematics as a discipline a bit more. Compared to the calculus sequence, this course was a lot more abstract and required considerable work to understand what was going on. Once things started to click, the rest started falling into place (still with some work and mild bafflement).

Improvements: Potentially incorporate a mini recap of what we covered in the previous lecture at the beginning of the present lecture. And/or connect back to basic definitions later on in the course. Sometimes I would forget the exact form of a theorem or definition, and hearing it repeated or briefly reiterated would have facilitated a quicker acquisition of the concepts.

- Professor Dowlin is a very funny, enthusiastic and fun lecturer. I enjoyed his riddles at the end of each class and I found him to be very engaging as a teacher and like him as a professor. However, I didn't quite understand everything very well and I wish he had explained bigger concepts and perhaps little tricks to remember how to calculate certain things more thoroughly when they were first introduced because they recurred a lot throughout the class and I remained pretty confused.
- Nathan is friendly, extremely open and available for questions and provides numerous review sessions for every exam. His returns our grades in a timely manner, which I appreciate.
- Prof. Dowlin is a solid and confident Professor. He explains things slowly and well and can answer pretty much any question.
- Funny, had cute riddles. Explained things well and explained why we learned certain things. Was a great overall professor.
- He was fantastic and funny! Great guy.
- Nathan Dowlin is one of the best professors I have had at Columbia. Even though he won't be returning after this year, if you ever have a chance to take a class with him, it is definitely worth it. I had an amazing experience.
- Nate was a good instructor. He was clear and helpful. He also occasionally made jokes/told us riddles at the end of class, which was nice (I haven't ever taken a large lecture math class where the professor actually engaged the class like that).
- Nathan is GREAT! He is super approachable, makes office hours times where he basically RETEACHES the material before midterms and final. He encourages questions and will make the time to answer them.



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- I thought Nathan Dowlin was a great professor. His class was fun, interactive, and challenging. He was also extremely nice in dealing with questions and concerns
- Really great professor. Hilarious and understands the material is pretty confusing at times.
- He was amazing. Tied for first as my favorite math professor. Everything about this class was what I would have expected from a top ranking university such as Columbia.
- Definitely imbued enthusiasm into the subject. Clear explanations that were not just rote recitations from the textbook. Added helpful analogies that gave new perspectives to the topic at hand.
- Where do I even being with professor Dowling. I hope he reads this so he is aware of what a difference he made in my life here at Columbia. His class was what looked forwards to the most. It was always fun and engaging while still being challenging. I was never lost in his class for long and delighted at the concepts he made seem so obvious. He even went out of his way to collect evaluations from all of us halfway through the semester and used them to tailor the class to us. He did a great job and I can not thank him enough for how much better my time at Columbia will have been because of his efforts. I truly hope I encounter him again as I progress in my education here at Columbia.
- If he can provide more examples in class, that would be easier for us to understand.
- Professor Dowlin is great. He explains things very clearly, is very responsive to questions and hosts plenty of office hours/revision sessions, etc that doesn't need to do! Definitely recommend!
- Professor Dowlin is an incredible professor! He's clear, always asks for questions, writes and speaks at the perfect pace, and goes methodically through the material. He's brilliant and yet can explain the material in a way anyone can understand. He teaches for students. He is also very approachable, which makes asking questions easy. Also, we all love his riddles! I would take any class he teaches.
- The professor clearly communicated during lecture and held review sessions/office hours. However, the material got tougher and more confusing as the course progressed. Teaching could be improved with more examples (like ones on homework and exams).
- very approachable, engaging, coherent. Overall, he was a great professor, I really enjoyed his class and was able to benefit a lot from it.
- He explains things very clearly and is super enthusiastic which I really appreciated. Keep doing what youre doing Nate!



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- Professor Dowlin is an incredible professor. He really focuses on teaching and making sure students have a good grasp of the main concepts behind Linear Algebra, rather than breezing through concepts. His lectures are designed well and explained better, and he's very good at clarifying confusing concepts. He also encourages students to think analytically by giving riddles at the end of lectures. Professor Dowlin clearly loves the field of mathematics, wants to encourage enthusiasm in this field, and is also good at doing so.
- One of the best. Excellent pedagogical skills.
- smart.
- I loved riddles! I liked learning about applications! You're a nice person. Would recommend highly.