



## DEPARTMENT CHAIR REPORT - All Faculty Specific Comments

Course: MATH 003 Calculus  
 Term: 201901 - Winter Term 2019  
 Instructor: **Nathan P. Dowlin**

Question: Comment on 1-3 things that the professor did well and should continue to do in the future:

1	-I don't enjoy math as a subject but I felt very lucky to have Professor Dowlin as my teacher. He is great at explaining concepts and simplifying things that seem scary. Something that stood out to me was how he addressed us when we were really confused. I remember after the introduction to a tough topic he saw us all blank-faced and said "It's okay if you don't understand all of this, it's a tough one to grasp so don't worry" and it made me feel much more secure in the course because it was clear he was empathetic towards his students and wanted us to succeed without being intimidated by math. Thanks for everything Professor Dowlin! I wish you luck in the future on your next endeavor beyond Dartmouth.
2	1. The professor was very approachable and always made himself available for questions and clarity. 2. It was very evident that this professor cared about the success of his students. 3. Very good professor and explained things well.
3	Despite the fact that Math 3 has somewhat of a notorious reputation, Professor Dowlin made the class interesting and belied the less than fantastic rumours I've heard about the class. He was supportive and interesting in class, and I looked forward to class.
4	Dowlin just teaches well. He also knows a lot about random math stuff that no one needs to know, but should certainly want to know! He is also very kind and has a subtle sense of humor.
5	Explained everything thoroughly
6	Great review sessions
7	He is so approachable and knowledgeable. He is good at clearly explaining concepts, and it is easy to tell he is really good at math. He is good at lecturing and runs good review sessions and should continue to do so in the future.
8	He made himself very available
9	He was very effective in explaining the material when we asked for help.
10	I feel he did a great job and made himself available to anyone that needed help.
11	I have already explained above.
12	I think Nate explained the material very well and used examples on the board to help us understand the information when we were confused.
13	Intro-level classes can be filled with clueless students like myself, and I really appreciated that Nate took the time to explain each concept thoroughly. He was really engaging in the classroom and kept my interest throughout. Class time was really effective, as it was a good balance between lectures and problem sets. It was also really helpful that he would walk around class and help us out during the problem set time--we were a lot less intimidated to ask questions, and it shows that he really cares and wants to help out.
14	Keep challenging students to hard problems to make them think
15	Professor Dowlin was great and very available outside of class to help us
16	Professor Dowlin was incredibly friendly and available for extra help/etc. He was very invested in making sure we learned the material and did as well as we each could in the class. Professor Dowlin was a great lecturer and did a wonderful job explaining complex concepts. If I could, I would take another math class with him in the future.
17	Professor was very available to help students. Would not have done as well in the class if not for him.
18	Taught the basics of the class well and was always available to answer questions.
19	The professor always invited class participation and questions The professor gave ample time for group work/ for us to work out problems in class The professor explained concepts very clearly and was accessible both in and out of class for questions
20	Very friendly, very good at explaining things and showing us the big picture applications of what we are learning. Also good at challenging us and teaching us problem solving strategies.
21	Very receptive to questions and good at explaining concepts
22	n/a

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Question: Comment on 1-3 things that the professor should focus on to improve his or her classroom effectiveness:

1	Do not rush explaining integrals. have answers to the questions we do in class.
2	He could give us more reminders about the team work.
3	He was a fine professor. The problem with the course is not his fault.
4	I think it might have been more effective to go over how to answer questions and to go over group work more
5	I think making the examples in the class more applicable to the exam would have been helpful. The examples in class were either far too hard or way too easy.
6	I think our professor did a perfect job
7	I think that more in-depth lectures and examples could have enhanced my understanding of the course material. I also think that powerpoints should have been available on Canvas for further review.
8	I think the teaching was quite effective, and I know that all the teachers use the same slides so any issues I had were with the slides and not necessarily with him. Khan Academy wasn't his fault either.

9	It would be beneficial towards shy students if the professor could encourage asking more questions. I wasn't shy so I always went for it but I noticed a lot of my classmates felt lost but too uncomfortable to speak up.
10	Less group work time
11	Maybe hold more office hours
12	Maybe start with easier problems in class and then transition to harder ones.
13	N/A
14	None
15	Professor Dowlin clearly understands the material he is teaching but sometimes he glossed over subjects that were important to know
16	Professor was very effective.
17	There is no way he could possibly improve. Dowlin is the b.o.a.t. (best of all time)
18	honestly, not much. Professor Dowlin was great. I think a lot of the class's shortcomings were due to the math department's structuring of the class (group work focus, khan academy, etc)
19	n/a
20	post the slides of class on canvas

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Question: Add any specific recommendations on how the professor is assessing the course work and giving feedback to students that you believe would be

1	Don't have specific ones.
2	He could do a better job of responding to emails.
3	He is always open to answering questions. Going to office hours after the tests were handed back also helped because he would help mee discern what I didn't understand.
4	It was great that, after the second midterm, Nate encouraged students who were struggling to schedule a meeting with him. This definitely shows that he really cares about his students' progress, and wants to make sure they succeed. I really appreciated this and am pretty sure I would not have passed the class had I not conferred with him.
5	Maybe more personal feedback after exams, like if there is something the professor notices as a recurring mistake, it would help students to have a small follow-up review with the professor or have a note written on the exam for things to keep an eye on.
6	N/A
7	None
8	Nothing
9	have problem sets instead of khan academy
10	n/a