### Course- instructor survey

**Department:** Linear Algebra and Matrix Thry  
**Enrollment:** 28  
**Surveys Returned:** 12

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<th>Number Choosing Each Response</th>
<th>No. Replies</th>
<th>Avg.</th>
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<th>Item</th>
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<td>2. Communicated information effectively</td>
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For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

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**Comments:**

Total number of comments: 4

1. Post homework assignments enough in advance that students have one full week to work on them before the due date, like if due thursday in class, post by thursday night the week before. Some may like to get an early start for various reasons.

2. He is one of the best math teachers I have had at UT despite the fact that my grade is not especially high in that class. I think the exams are relatively difficult because there is a lot of memorization of theorems involved and I don't feel like the exams reflect my ability in the class.

3. well done!

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NO. REPLIES</th>
<th>NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE</th>
<th>NO. REPLIES</th>
<th>THIS ITEM</th>
<th>AVG.</th>
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<td>Disagree</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 COMMUNICATED INFORMATION EFFECTIVELY</td>
<td>Str Disag</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Disagree</td>
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<td>Str Disag</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Disagree</td>
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<td>4 ASSIGNMENTS AND TESTS RETURNED PROMPTLY</td>
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<td>Disagree</td>
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<td>5 STUDENT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION</td>
<td>Str Disag</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>6 OBJECTIVES/ASSIGNMENTS CLEARLY STATED</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 INSTRUCTOR WELL-PREPARED</td>
<td>Str Disag</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Disagree</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 INST. HAD THOROUGH KNOWLEDGE OF SUBJECT</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>Disagree</td>
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<td>Disagree</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 AVAILABILITY OUTSIDE OF CLASS</td>
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<td>Disagree</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Disagree</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 ADEQUATE INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSIGNMENTS</td>
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<td>Disagree</td>
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| 18 OVERALL INSTRUCTOR RATING | Vry Unsat | 0 | Unsat | 0 | Satisfact | 0 | Very Good | 5 | Excellent | 5 | 10 | 4.5 |
| 19 OVERALL COURSE RATING | Vry Unsat | 0 | Unsat | 1 | Satisfact | 0 | Light | 7 | Insuffic | 3 | 11 | 4.1 |

| 20 STUDENT RATING OF COURSE WORKLOAD | Excessive | 0 | High | 5 | Average | 6 | Light | 0 | Insuffic | 0 | 11 |

| 21 OVERALL UT GRADE POINT AVERAGE | Less 2.00 | 0 | 2.00-2.49 | 0 | 2.50-2.99 | 2 | 3.00-3.49 | 4 | 3.50-4.00 | 5 | 11 |

| 22 PROBABLE COURSE GRADE | _A_ | 7 | _B_ | 4 | _C_ | 0 | _D_ | 0 | _F_ | 0 | 11 |

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

COMMENTS:
Total Number of Comments: 2

1. An excellent professor who explains thoroughly, paces well, and is accessible to students. I enjoyed the course and learned a lot. It is a pity that there were only five weeks and that it felt like the material was rushed, but that is inherent in a summer course to begin with.

2. The professor is very informed in this subject and also does a good job of communicating it, which makes this course easier to understand. I am glad to take this course with Ravi because he makes this material, which is incredibly hard, easy to digest and explains it in a clear way. He also cares about the progression of students, urging them to seek him if they are falling behind. I would recommend this professor to other students and perhaps take another course with him in the future.
1. The professor for this class, to say the least, was one of the best professors I have had in an upper division math class. He cared about the material and the students, he worked very hard to make sure that everyone that tried succeeded. For personal matters I have not been able to attend all the lectures, but the times I went was all I needed to see that he really is a great teacher!

2. One of the Best teachers I have ever had, he was excellent.

3. Ravi was a good lecturer. After founding the necessary basis, he gave us the choice of the topics that we wanted to cover thus ensuring to keep the interest of the majority. He was a bit biased towards the textbook, which I found wrong at first, but understood once I saw the later sections of it.

4. Super good professor. Ravi was always polite and wasn’t a hard-ass about things. When I forgot an assignment at home, he would give me some time to go get it and turn it in. Also, was really helpful during office hours. Tests were a bit long, but I think that I could have done better if I had more time. All in All, great class, cool applications, awesome professor  RAVI 4 LIFE  I heart  RAVI!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade Distribution</th>
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For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

**COMMENTS:**

Total Number of Comments: 9

1. The professor for this class, to say the least, was one of the best professors I have had in an upper division math class. He cared about the material and the students, he worked very hard to make sure that everyone that tried succeeded. For personal matters I have not been able to attend all the lectures, but the times I went was all I needed to see that he really is a great teacher!

2. One of the Best teachers I have ever had, he was excellent.

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5. The in class midterms were the only negative of this course. The questions on the exams were fine, the problem was that we only had the allotted 50 minutes to complete the exams. Had this been a TTH class, I think the exams would have been perfect, as the extra 30 minutes would have been enough time to fairly complete the exams. The first 2 exams were of more reasonable length, but the 3rd exam simply had too much material to cover in 50 minutes. I would suggest breaking the 3rd exam into 2 shorter ones if the course remains MWF. Otherwise this course and professor Srinivasan were excellent. Of the approx. 12 math courses I have taken, this course has been one of the 3 best.

6. My only complaint about the course was the tests. Please consider making the test not timed tests, outside of normal class hours. The timed tests only evaluate how well we can do math quickly and don't leave much room for demonstrating understanding.

7. Dr. Srinivasan is a great professor. He is very well organized in terms of lectures and HW. He tries very hard to keep everyone on the same page and doesn't hesitate to make changes on office hours or HW due dates in the students' favors. Moreover, he shows a lot of interest in the students' responses to the materials and also their progress. I have ever had during my three years here at UT.

8. Great instructor! I would definitely recommend him to others!
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
Srinivasan, Ravi
M 427L 55200
ADV CALCULUS FOR APPLICATNS II
Enrollment = 100
Surveys Returned = 36

NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Agree</th>
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For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

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COMMENTS:
Total Number of Comments: 10

1. Great teacher! However, this course needs to be changed. More time needs to be spent on the actual VECTOR CALCULUS. Students really only do calculus with vectors for about a quarter to a third of the course. Definite revision is needed.

2. Prof Srinivasan is awesome. That is all

3. The class was not organized well at all. The entire first two months were a complete review. This may not necessarily be a bad thing given that many of the students have not had a multivariable calculus course in the recent past, but the course actually picked up speed when the review material was over and the instructor started to cover new material. It would have made much more sense to spend more time on the newer material, but this was not done. The new material was rushed, and this made the class seem very disorganized. Additionally, the book was not a great help as the examples usually only showcased special cases. The instructor seemed to know the material well, but the course itself was not organized well, and the grading was slow.

4. Explained and laid out information in class in an easy to understand and organized manner. The first couple quizzes were measurably more difficult than the homework but they got easier and I believe more fair as the year went on. But overall I wouldlike more of my professors to teach in this manner.
5. The instructor explained things very clearly and never went on useless tangents. The lectures were very exciting. I think that I learned much more in this course than in my typical engineering courses. Specifics..I think the instructor spent too much time on chapter 1, which reviewed M 408D.

6. It seemed too fast past. Though I realize that there is a lot of material to cover, it seemed that we were so frantically writing during lectures that there was little chance to think about the material and ask questions.

7. Excellent professor. Really knows the material, and challenges students on quizzes and exams. I may not get an A, but I learned a lot.

8. Great professor! Nicely organized lectures made them easy to follow, and also made the class notes VERY helpful for doing homework and studying for exams quizzes. He also helped us apply the math we learned to other classes, which proved very helpful as well.

9. Very well taught class and a lot of fun. Lots of examples and problems to look at and enjoyed it every day. Great job Ravi!

10. Professor Srinivasan was knowledgeable and interested in the subject matter. His explanations clarified the information that was presented in the textbook, which was at time difficult to read. By using humor and personality to describe the concepts, I was able to more easily learn vector calculus. His insights also made it easier to learn the formulas, since it is easier to learn things the more closely associated they are. I loved this class!
**COMMENTS:**

Total Number of Comments: 4

1. I know it seems like I am another student putting high marks on a professor to get through the survey, but Ravi really was one of my favorite professors at UT. He was always available for office hours, would always be willing to stay late, or even meet me in the evenings. He kept track of which students were interested and offered them extra problems to think about on the homework. He has a lighthearted personality, but knew how to get the job done.

2. Information was not effectively communicated. The first test had a very low average, and while the professor expressed concern regarding this, information was not reviewed. The professor would often stand in front of the board when writing, blocking the notes from view of all students, causing students to fall behind in note-taking. While the professor seems to want students to do well and is very helpful in office hours, lectures are far too fast-paced when it is obvious and acknowledged that no one understands the material. Also, the professor was more than 30 minutes late or failed to show up to office hours all together on several occasions.

3. He was a good professor and he tried his best to get us to talk and express our ideas. Most of the time the material was over our head and he tried his best with examples and explanation and office hours to help us, but the examples he used were sort of dull so he could change his examples a little and make them more fun. All in all I enjoyed the class. He really tried to help us with the understanding and to pass his class.
4. The professor rushed the lectures, especially at the end when time was running out and he tried to enforce as much as possible. Examples provided in class were sometimes drawn from what the book provided. This is never helpful because one can simply read the text and not come to class. Professor needs to provide examples that will be seen on homeworks and perhaps tests. Same goes for practice midterms, finals. He took what the book has and assigned it as practice. Please draw your own handouts or simply say this would be adequately to study for the tests. Personally, the professor seemed jittery and anxious when lecturing. He tried to make office hours available for everyone but the times were horrible, no time to attend.
1. I do not have a GPA yet. I never attended office hours. The professor was alright. He wasn't terrible, but he wasn't the best either. The class could have been better if he had spent less time deriving things and more time on the applications of concepts. Examples that weren't straight from the textbook would have been useful as well. He didn't always realize people had raised their hands to ask questions, and sometimes he seemed a little scattered. A few quizzes and a test were graded and returned rather slowly.

2. The claim was made that the course was focused on problem solving, so more examples would have been helpful.

3. Since this is the professor’s first semester teaching this course, I think he did a good job but I think there are a few things that would have made it a better class. He is very knowledgeable of the material and explained things pretty well, but its still a challenging class. I felt that 50 minutes for the tests was very tight, especially considering there are only two midterms for the entire course. I would have preferred to have a longer test taken outside of class. Ideally though, I think having 3 or even 4 midterms would have been better, so that less course material would be covered on each exam, and each exam would be worth less of the overall grade as well.
4. The office hours are a necessity. I'm glad they were there. The TA was very helpful. I never went to the prof's office hours, so I can't really comment on them.

5. The only thing I dislike is that when he begins teaching a new subject which is once or twice per lecture, he tends to start with the mathematical theorems and proofs behind what we're doing, and then kind of works it into a picture that can be visualized. Personally, I am a very visual person when it comes to math, and it would help me a lot if he started off by telling us what we're doing, what kinds of things we can calculate with it, and what types of real-world phenomena it can be related to before getting to the proofs, theorems, and even basic equations describing the topic.

6. Ravi is a very intelligent professor, but he sometimes forgets that the students are new to the material. He breezed through some examples too quickly and had to switch topics several times to keep on schedule. I think this is due to the nature of how the calculus classes are structured at UT as the structure seems pretty rigid. I really like that he puts the notes online and he's generally available for questions after class.

7. Enjoyed the course the professor conveyed the intricacies of calculus in a coherent and clear manner, helping us understand the subject rather than just teaching us the formulas.

8. Ravi is a very good instructor. He goes through the material in a simple manner, and explains things thoroughly. I was lucky to get him.

9. Calculus 408D is way too much information to try to learn in one semester. The teacher knew everything and he really cared about his students. Although I do not think my performance has been evaluated fairly. I have a b quiz average and an f for tests. The tests were way too long, I feel I could have done a lot better if I had time to show all my work than to scramble to get something written down for each problem.

10. It is sometimes hard to hear you and follow along with the notes especially when you talk for a while about something but forgot to move the notes up on the doc cam so we can see what you mean. Also, when you had a substitute for the two lectures last week, he used the blackboard which I'm generally not a huge fan of, but he moved around the front of the room and was more lively and energetic and it kept the class more involved and I think we followed along better too. I don't know if there's a way you could lecture with more energy or if that's just not your style, just a suggestion, whether you make any change or not, you really did a very good job as is. Overall I enjoyed your class and learned a lot. Thanks!

11. Ravi is a great professor. I would definitely take another class from him in the future

12. Excellent lecturer. Concepts were introduced with proof rather than by just example. Very easy to understand and easy to communicate with. Very good.

13. Does not give enough examples. Skips through steps, so you must know what process he does or figure it out on your own

14. The professor was more interested in covering the material required than teaching it well and clearly. He focused too much on the theory of the math instead of the application of it, as a result there was a lot of confusion and made the course a lot harder than it should be. There should have been more examples related to the homeworks and tests

15. Strongly disagreed with the use of quiz for homework assignments. Class would have been better, and would have learned more if they were out of the book.

16. I believe quiz assignments are NOT for this class. Students tend to make small mistakes in which they are penalize on the hmwk. In addition, exams were fair and straightforward. TAs never did a good job in returning material back to us, making it difficult to see what went wrong on our assignments etc. Overall I think Ravi did a wonderful job teaching and recommend him to anyone taking the course. One thing that can be changed is the examples we do in class. It would be nice if it was parallel to the problems in the hmwk.
Total Number of Comments: 8

1. Ravi was really good! For the most part, things were explained very well. Homework assignments were occasionally absurdly long, but he seemed to become more conscious of this fact as the semester went on. Though probability isn't exactly the most interesting thing to me, he was able to convey the important things about it that make it relevant to some of my other classes -- if nothing else, I'm glad for that. My only criticism is that he changed his office hours so I was literally never able to show up anymore, but hey, I guess you can't accommodate everyone. I guess I could have made appointments anyway.

2. Pacing of the course is poor. At the beginning, the course was very slow we maybe learned 1 'thing' every 2 days. Now, at the end of the semester, it seems that we learn 2 'things' every 1 day. Pretty stressful, especially since the material at the end of the course is significantly more challenging than at the beginning of the semester. It just feels very rushed. There isn't a lot of time to explore more into areas of interest during class time. What I mean is, some topics are definitely more interesting than others and it'd be nice to have some time to go into them deeper rather than covering every topic equally.

3. The text is HORRIBLE.

4. I enjoyed this class quite a bit. The material was difficult and sometimes frustratingly so, but the lectures were kept interesting and open. I never felt like I was interrupting by asking questions, and office hours were very helpful and relaxed.
The interaction during class was great, and you have very neat handwriting! Lectures were helpful, but I wish that there were more examples that pertained to our homework in there. Overall, this class was a good experience, and although the work was difficult, I appreciated that you genuinely seemed to care how we were doing and adjusted accordingly.

5. The book is completely awful.

6. Ravi did a good job overall. Sometimes he seemed to have trouble effectively communicating complicated ideas but he usually managed to explain them in a different manner. We did have some issues with time in lectures and I think this will get better as he gets more teaching experience. Overall, I think he did a good job. Nice guy. Quirky.

7. I think Ravi did a great job, especially considering this was his first time teaching the course at UT!

8. I appreciate all of the time put into office hours and returning emails, and explaining the course to us. However, the lecture style needs a lot of improvement!! The biggest advice I can give is to make the first parts of a lecture go by faster. Way too much is crammed in at the end. You MUST find a way to speed through the "introduction" and definitions of a new topic. This always takes the better part of the class. Find a way to cut down on some of the wordiness in the first half of your lectures. It's absolutely necessary to get to the "hard" part, actually applying the formulas to difficult situations, sooner. We need to see more HARD examples in class. Another hint give us 30-90 seconds to "try" each example on our own.