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UCSD

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#### Course and Instructor Evaluation Summary Department of Mathematics

Tait, Michael MATH 10B - Calculus II (A) Summer Session I 2015

# Number of Students Enrolled: 50 Number of Evaluations Submitted: 41

1. Your class level is

1 (2.6%):	freshman
10 (25.6%):	sophomore
10 (25.6%):	junior
17 (43.6%):	senior
1 (2.6%):	graduate
0 (0.0%):	extension
2:	[No Response]

2. Your reason for taking this class is

24 (60.0%):	major
1 (2.5%):	minor
15 (37.5%):	gen. ed.
0 (0.0%):	elective
0 (0.0%):	interest
1:	[No Response]

3. What grade do you expect in this class?

15 (36.6%):	А
12 (29.3%):	В
13 (31.7%):	С
0 (0.0%):	D
0 (0.0%):	F
1 (2.4%):	Ρ
0 (0.0%):	NP

# **INSTRUCTOR Michael Tait**

4. Instructor displays a proficient command of the material.

16 (39.0%):	strongly agree
24 (58.5%):	agree
1 (2.4%):	neither agree nor disagree
	5
0 (0.0%):	disagree
0 (0.0%):	strongly disagree
0 (0.0%):	not applicable

5. Instructor is well prepared for classes.

19 (46.3%):	strongly agree
21 (51.2%):	agree
0 (0.0%):	neither agree nor disagree
1 (2.4%):	disagree
0 (0.0%):	strongly disagree
0 (0.0%):	not applicable

6. Instructor's speech is clear and audible.

strongly agree agree neither agree nor disagree disagree strongly disagree
not applicable

7. Instructor explains the course material well.

20 (48.8%):	strongly agree
13 (31.7%):	agree
4 (9.8%):	neither agree nor disagree
3 (7.3%):	disagree
1 (2.4%):	strongly disagree
0 (0.0%):	not applicable

8. Lectures hold your attention.

9. Instructor's lecture style facilitates note-taking.

20 (48.8%):	strongly agree
15 (36.6%):	agree
4 (9.8%):	neither agree nor disagree
1 (2.4%):	disagree
1 (2.4%):	strongly disagree
0 (0.0%):	not applicable

10. Instructor shows concern for students' learning.

- 22 (53.7%): strongly agree
- 17 (41.5%): agree
- 2 (4.9%): neither agree nor disagree
- 0 (0.0%): disagree
- 0 (0.0%): strongly disagree
- 0 (0.0%): not applicable

11. Instructor promotes appropriate questions/discussion.

- 20 (48.8%): strongly agree
- 15 (36.6%): agree
- 6 (14.6%): neither agree nor disagree
- 0 (0.0%): disagree
- 0 (0.0%): strongly disagree
- 0 (0.0%): not applicable

12. Instructor is accessible outside of class.

9

13. Instructor starts and finishes class on time.

- 24 (58.5%): strongly agree
- 17 (41.5%): agree
- 0 (0.0%): neither agree nor disagree
- 0 (0.0%): disagree
- 0 (0.0%): strongly disagree
- 0 (0.0%): not applicable

14. Instructor is effective in promoting academic integrity.

 24 (60.0%):
 strongly agree

 15 (37.5%):
 agree

 1 (2.5%):
 neither agree nor disagree

 0 (0.0%):
 disagree

 0 (0.0%):
 strongly disagree

 0 (0.0%):
 not applicable

 1:
 [No Response]

## **COURSE MATERIAL MATH 10B**

15. The course material is intellectually stimulating.

strongly agree
agree
neither agree nor disagree
disagree
strongly disagree
not applicable

16. Assignments promote learning.

22 (53.7%):	strongly agree
15 (36.6%):	agree
4 (9.8%):	neither agree nor disagree
0 (0.0%):	disagree
0 (0.0%):	strongly disagree
0 (0.0%):	not applicable

17. Required reading is useful.

18 (45.0%):	strongly agree
12 (30.0%):	agree
6 (15.0%):	neither agree nor disagree
1 (2.5%):	disagree
0 (0.0%):	strongly disagree
3 (7.5%):	not applicable
1:	[No Response]

18. This course is difficult relative to others.

18 (43.9%):	strongly agree
17 (41.5%):	agree
4 (9.8%):	neither agree nor disagree
2 (4.9%):	disagree
0 (0.0%):	strongly disagree
0 (0.0%):	not applicable

19. Exams are representative of the course material.

22 (53.7%):	strongly	agree
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- 17 (41.5%): agree
- 1 (2.4%): neither agree nor disagree
- 1 (2.4%): disagree
- 0 (0.0%): strongly disagree
- 0 (0.0%): not applicable

# **GENERAL QUESTIONS**

20. I learned a great deal from this course.

14 (34.1%):	strongly agree
20 (48.8%):	agree
7 (17.1%):	neither agree nor disagree
0 (0.0%):	disagree
0 (0.0%):	strongly disagree
0 (0.0%):	not applicable

21. How many hours a week do you spend studying outside of class on average?

1 (2.4%):	0-1
3 (7.3%):	2-3
4 (9.8%):	4-5
11 (26.8%):	6-7
5 (12.2%):	8-9
4 (9.8%):	10-11
3 (7.3%):	12-13
5 (12.2%):	14-15
2 (4.9%):	16-17
0 (0.0%):	18-19
3 (7.3%):	20 or more

22. How often do you attend this course?

1 (2.5%):	Very Rarely
4 (10.0%):	Some of the Time
35 (87.5%):	Most of the Time
1:	[No Response]

23. Do you recommend this course overall?

36 (87.8%):	Yes
5 (12.2%):	No

24. Do you recommend this professor overall?

37 (90.2%): Yes 4 (9.8%): No

# PLEASE COMMENT ON THE FOLLOWING:

25. Instructor Michael Tait:

- Fantastic professor with a great sense of humor. Very relatable because of his young age, and able to give relevant examples to his students. Always asks questions and expects class to participate, but not in a rude way. Super good-looking.
- Great guy very cool. His friendly and professional. His very accessible. Only complaint I have is that he doesn't give enough time to copy down notes sometimes and he erases things off the board that are useful for understanding the big picture of what he is trying to teach. However, I

think that this is due to the limited amount of time he has to teach because it is during a summer session and not a regular quarter.

- great instructor
- Great professor
- Great teacher just confusing at times.
- He always starts and ends class on time, which I greatly appreciate. He speaks with a loud and clear voice, so even the students that sit in the back can hear him. His writing is a bit messy at times and he draws shapes strangely. Tait provides a strong enthusiasm in the subject and desire to teach. I dislike it when he constantly changes the numbers of the problems on the board; my notes are a mess of scratched out ink.
- He is a fair and is easy to talk to as a professor. He tends to at time to stray from problems, while he is working on them. It is sometimes difficult to come back to the problem after the point he makes. If he waited till after the problem and highlighted these points I would find this more effective.
- He is a great instructor! But he can go a bit fast at times and the material gets confusing. Overall, he has a great tone and positive energy.
- He is a young professor full of talent and positive enrgy. He definitely cares about his students. I am very happy that I had the apportunity to be taking math 10B with him. Definitely recommended.
- He is an excellent professor. I recommend this class.
- He is great professor that I have never met in math class.
- He was a great instrctor who made the class interesting and who taught us everything that we needed to know
- He was great really good teacher and taught at a good pace
- His YouTube math examples are very helpful.
- I believe he is a well versed professor and demonstates his desire for his students to learn and understand the material as well as so well in the course.
- I feel like his midterms were harder than the other previous summer 10B midterms :(
- I thought that he was very clear and interactive. I appreciated his in class props and his many attempts to draw accurate pictures;, I would consider myself a very visual learner and it was very helpfull to see those things during class.
- I wish that his lecture notes would be more organized.
- I would go to lectures more often if it started at a later time since I bus to school and is impossible for me to wake up at an earlier time because I am busy with school and work. However, when I do go to class, it is time well spent!
- Michael Tait is an excellent instructor. It is clear that he knows the material well and his enthusiasm for calculus is palpable. He is very accessible outside of class during office hours. He even created a YouTube channel for MATH 10B. One of his best qualities is that he is very patient and he always listens to students' questions. He will even go over problems again if you don't understand them. Excellent overall. Highly recommended.

- Michael Tait was a wonderful instructor who went out of his way to make sure the class understood what was going on. He was receptive to questions, very clear on his expectations and was an overall friendly and approachable person.
- Mr. Tait could benefit from coming to class with prepared examples and a clearly outlined lesson plan, I believe this to be his greatest downfall. I found myself often lost during the lecture since he does not write his notes on the chalk board in a typical up down left to right manner it was very disorganized which was reflected in my notes. Moreover I felt his explanations were not as clear as they could have been so I would usually have to go to the book to look for more clear explanations on the material and take new notes of my own since the ones from lecture did not make sense to me. There was often examples he would make up on the spot that sometimes did not execute the lesson itself or were just more confusing since he did not know the actual answer (very very confusing for me strong dislike when instructor make up the lecture as they go for math). Overall his office hours helped me some since I could directly ask him what is was that he wanted me to know from a section but the lectures themselves not so much.
- nice
- Pretty awesome teacher. Haven't taken calc in three years, and took his class. Really good at teaching, and giving confidence to his students that dislike math.
- Professor Tait understands this material well, needs a bit of work to make teaching the material smoother.
- SPEAK SLOWER MORE BREAKS BETWEEN PROBLEMS CUZ U DONT LET US PROCESS
- Tait is a good instructor. The only thing is that he goes a little to fast and sometimes skips steps and assumes we know what he did. Besides that he's overall a good instructor. Go to class, do the homework, and do the practice exams and you can do well in this class.
- Thank you, very approachable and resourceful!
- The material seemed very straightforward during the first two weeks of the course but then all of sudden the course took off in an exponential fashion and became quite hard. I like that he made an effort to use outside resources such as YouTube to compliment the class material.
- Very clear and tries to simplify things as much as possible for students to understand.
- Very good professor, explained everything very well and at a good pace. I would say that for when we go over the different methods for derivatives that he go into more detail of which methods to use which problems.
- Very good teacher overall. Though the latter half of the course (right before the final) seems a bit...messy. This may be in part due to circumstances out of the professor's control, but the changes in agenda should have been addressed earlier. Sometimes he scratches his nails on the blackboard. Still, probably one of the better professors I've had at UCSD. He vocalizes and explains concepts really well and provides a lot of examples to help us understand various concepts. He also has a certain charisma that makes class 'interesting'.
- You are a very good professor, I encourage you to keep doing what you do.

# 26. Course MATH 10B:

- A difficult course that requires tons of studying
- Challenging

- Definitely needed to do the textbook reading to fully understand the content (possibly due to the instructor) the examples problems were also very helpful since the odd problems were answered in the back.
- Difficult subject that needs a lot of practice in order to fully understand.
- Ehh
- good
- good course
- Great course like a wise man once said math must be treated like a beautiful woman you need to give it attention on the daily or else you won't get anything out of it.
- Hard concepts, but easy to understand do to the instructor.
- I failed this course in fall 2014 because of personal issues, but now I am learning and understanding this course a lot better
- I recommend this course if you need to take it or like math.
- it was interesting.
- Many of the concepts and methods covered in 10B are hard to grasp initially, but as with most things practice makes perfect. I liked 10B because applications of the concepts covered are actually relevant to every day life.
- Math has never been my strong point, but this course is relatively easy to understand as long as you attend lecture, do the homework, and review notes and practice exams.
- Math... you either love it or hate it. Personally, I like it when I understand it haha.
- Pretty simple class. Personally, I believe it was incredibly more doable due to the professor and the teaching style he took on. This class isn't too much of a critical thinking class, so just do lots of problems--mostly everything is algorithmic.
- Really hard regardless
- The hw was very well represented throughout the class and tests. I appreciated that the material was very consistent from lecture to the textbook/hw and on the tests
- This class gets really difficult after the first midterm, and eases in difficulty again after the second. Make sure to keep doing the homework assignments as they are an accurate representation of what may be on the midterms/finals.
- This class is hard compare to other math classes.
- This course is challenging. It is definitely harder than MATH 10A. However, if you do the homework and practice, practice, practice, you will do well.
- This course is fast paced, especially during the summer. However, if you do all the homework, practice midterms, and attend office hours, you should be in great shape.
- Too much material to cover in just 5 weeks
- Very intense course.

## 27. Exams/Quizzes/Papers:

- 2 Exams; 5 questions each. 35 points. Hard problems though represented the sections.
- Exams are fair and his review sessions are very helpful.
- Exams are not hard. They are the same as the homework problems. Do your homework and you'll do fine on the exams.
- Exams are pretty accurate to reflecting the class. The only issue is blue books in my opinion. Students can feel rushed and when transferring over the problem to another sheet of paper things can be left out. Personally dropped my grade from a full letter grade on one question.
- Exams are very structured based on old exams. Easy to follow.
- Exams were challenging but slightly more relaxed than the homework.
- Exams were extremely fair, and he also allowed us a sheet of notes which I did not was fair. However, his class was good.
- Exams were fair due to there were no suprises and it was all based on lecture and the book
- Exams were similar to the practice exams and problems the were often reiterated during lecture, he lets you know what to expect not much curve balls given in any exam. No quizes.
- Exams were very fair and a good reflection of what we learned in class
- Exams were very fair and equivalent to what we have been learning in class and in the homeworks.
- Fair
- Fair assessment of what we learned
- fine
- hard
- Hard.
- It is pretty relevant to the lectures/notes/chapters in the book so studying on your own is not hard
- mid level
- No quizzes during this summer session. Exams were definitely fair, and not too hard insofar as you've practiced all of the problems assigned, and some more on your own to study.
- Tait's exams were challenging but fair. If you do all the homework and go to lecture, you'll know exactly what types of problems are game for exams.
- The exams are clearly reflect the topics we learn in lecture and the homework that we are assigned. The exams are easy if you attend lecture, do homework, and study course materials.
- The fact that the exams are only 5-6 questions seems a bit unfair.
- There are two midterms. If you do not do so well on the midterms , then you have a chance with the final that is 60% of your grade. The midterms are not bad, the practice midterms help a lot.

- Very fair
- Very representative of what we learn throughout the course, no complaints.

28. Reading [title(s) and comments]:

- Book didn't help me reading wise
- Calculus 6th edition by Hughes hallett
- Calculus book did a good job at teaching topics in 10a, but gradually worsens in topics for 10b. I recommend going to lecture and watching online math videos than reading the textbook for this course.
- good
- Good.
- I read the math textbook in addition to the lecture and it gave me a better understanding.
- I stopped reading the book after the second week or so. Realized professor gave us all of the notes we need, and just applied those to do the homework questions.
- In order to understand you need to spend time apart and read through the material
- It shows that the teacher is young in his way of teaching because of the language he employs. It would be good if the instructor decreased the frequency of employing the word "like" while lecturing because it can be quite distracting.
   It shows that he cares about the students because he's availbale for questions outside of class and never goes at an excessive speed. In fact he takes things slowly to make sure students are grasping the material.
- Need to do readings of math sections to be successful in class.
- Reading a math book is important.
- The book sometimes explains things very vague so lecture is required in order to clarify.

Please note that any responses or comments submitted by evaluators do not necessarily reflect the opinions of instructors, Mathematics, Academic Affairs, or UC San Diego. Responses and comments are made available without auditing or editing, and they may not be modified or deleted, to ensure that each evaluator has an opportunity to express his or her opinion.