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Student Comments

I have selected all of these quotes from teacher evaluation forms and student feedback forms that I administered towards the end of each semester I served as instructor. The class filled out the forms after I left the room and placed them in an envelope that was then sealed and either placed in the campus mail or brought to the department’s main office by a student. I did not have access to any of these comments until after I submitted the final grades for the course in question.

Math 231: Calculus II, Merit Format
Fall 2008

• “The worksheets were awesome! Excellent job answering students questions, great enthusiasm for the subject and for teaching.”

• “I loved how the worksheet built off material we were already familiar with to newer material onto advanced, “bonus” material.”

• “When I asked a question he made sure I understood it before we moved on to the next one. Also, if I didn’t know, he didn’t make me feel dumb. It’s not really a weakness but sometimes when I have something right he questions me and I think it’s wrong. But I understand why he does it.”

• “Friendly, good at explaining difficult concepts, helpful, engaging, concern for students’ academic progress.”

• “A major strength is he’s really good at rephrasing explanations, so we can understand. Also, he’s really great at not making us feel dumb when we don’t remember something simple.”

• “[He] did a good job of guiding us through the solutions–not giving us the answers.”

• “Good at giving hints without giving the answer.”
• “You’re an awesome teacher!!”

• “I have bragged about this class to many people and my parents both said that they wish there had been a class similar to MATH 181 when they were here.”

• “Group projects enhanced the learning experience because if one didn’t understand a concept, someone in the group did.”

• “The fact that you constantly evaluated yourself was helpful & you always adapted yourself to fit our comments.” … “I think that by the end you have perfected teaching this course to this class... But know each class is different so next semester keep evaluating yourself.”

• “[You] genuinely want everyone to succeed.”

• “I think that we practiced critical thinking more than anything else.”

• “The group assignments I felt were the best because we were given the chance to discuss the information and projects with each other’s help and the atmosphere was very comfortable as well.”

• “It’s so helpful to know what exactly you expect us to know.”

• “I can never look at elections the same again.”

• “Patience with confused students is a plus.”

• “Keep doing the take home portions of the exam. They force us to spend time and analyze mathematical concepts in real arguments.”

• “[Exam Projects 1 & 3] helped me incorporate my Gen Ed course w/ my major course.”

• “[You bring] energy to class to show that you love teaching your subject.”

• “I never really thought about voting systems, but now I’m much more informed and skeptical.”

• “Its clear you put a lot of time and effort into this class.”

• “Group projects - it’s a great way to learn about the subject by bounding ideas off of each other.”

• “You’re friendly, engaging, dynamic. You’re very dedicated and helpful.”

• “Very good teacher.” … “Thumbs up.”

• “I’m really into design and [the Tiling chapter] made me learn how to create new patterns. Cool.”
“He was always prepared and definitely knew his stuff.”

“Strengths: Clear, Knowledgeable, Effective usage of time.”

“Made me think and learn something totally new.”

“He is very good at explaining things in multiple ways when a student asks a question.”

“He is very prepared and takes the time to answer questions.”

“Learned a lot, gained a good understanding of most of the topics.”

“Patient, good at explaining.”

“Major strength was answering student questions in big lecture class and doing multiple examples in lecture.”

“He encourages questions and answers them well.”