



UC RIVERSIDE - Faculty Instruction Evaluation (iEval)

Fall 2010

Course: MATH 011 Section: 001 - INTRO TO DISCRETE STRUCTURES
Instructor: Jason McCullough

Question # 25: Please comment on how the instructor's teaching helped your learning of the material in this course. Please give serious thought to your comments. Your comments will be studied by the professor after the grade and performance evaluation of your work have been submitted and may be used in changing future offerings of the course. In addition, these comments are placed in the instructor's file and maybe used for purposes of evaluating the instructor's teaching. The information collected will remain anonymous

- Nothing to say, class is understandable as long as we listen as you lecture.
- Always available to explain things when you did not understand things. Examples were always interesting.
- I've had prof. McCullough in one previous class and he is one of the better teachers I have encountered. Know's how to to teach a class
- McCullough is an excellent instructor. He truly knows the material he teaches and, at the same, he also cares about the progress of the students in the class and will often go out of his way relate unfamiliar concepts in a way that is amusing, interesting, and understandable. A couple of examples are the time when he used the old game called "degrees of Kevin Bacon" to help us understand how we could translate from English to Propositional Logic and back and the time when he brought a deck of cards to class to help us understand how to apply counting and probability theorems to real life events such as poker. He also answers any questions succinctly and effectively, eliminating all confusion around the subject. He's a nice guy and a teacher everyone should have the opportunity to experience in their math career.
- The professor was very clear in his lectures and always walked through several examples in order to help the class understand the content better.
- Awesome teacher. Very enthusiastic. A+
- I like this professor's efficiency very much. He is very poignant and effective in use of the class time, in by both concept and example. Several times the class was let out early, and I would prefer that the class went over more examples. However, as most of my colleagues would not agree with me, I leave the decision in the professor's hands.
- Thanks!
- I appreciated this class very much and I learned alot. The professor was always prepared, and was able to answer any questions asked without any problems. He knew the material and was able to teach it efforlessly. Great professor and great class!
- Fantastic instructor.
- I thought this class went well. Although the teacher went really fast. We covered 2 sections a day and at times it was hard to keep up especially if you got lost. Office hours were helpful. I think that homework should have counted as part of your grade. 40% midterm 10% quiz and 50% final is huge!
- McCullough was an excellent professor. The syllabus defined the course well and McCullough's first-day speech was particularly encouraging. I figured as well as I did the homework, I would do swimmingly in the class (which was definitely the case). He was genuinely concerned with how well the students understood the material, and it is clear he enjoys teaching as much as he enjoys the subject material. He offered extra office hours when he saw need for them. The only complaints I have are minor. When writing notes/equations on the board, it helps students write at a similar pace. However, sometimes when doing this, McCullough would leave out some small things/stop reading aloud halfway through (which made it difficult to keep up with him). Additionally, the course moves so quickly that a lot of material must be covered during each lecture. This makes it even more imperative that the students be able to keep up. (Even so, McCullough is able to make time to answer students' questions when a topic is misleading.) Also, after McCullough writes information on the board, he sometimes accidentally stands in the way of what he's written (while explaining it), adding to the difficulty students experience in matching his speed. I know these complaints are more habitual things that would take time to fix, but hopefully I offered some constructive feedback for McCullough. I definitely hope to have him again and hope that other classes he teaches (if any) are required for my major.
- It helped a lot. But because the class was so early, I was only partially awake during class and had to consult the book afterwards to remind me

of what to do.

- The professor did a really good job overall. He provided a clear plan for each class and made it really easy to connect new concepts to the material we had already learned. He made it very easy to be able to keep up during each class, even though there was so much new material being presented.
- Clear and effective teacher. good personality. seemed to enjoy teaching.
- Professor McCullough is, by far, the best math professor I have had in my three years of being here. He explained the material well and in an easy to understand way and was extremely helpful. I would love to take another class of his.
- He really knows the stuff. He explains very well when helping. Don't really like the course because it was kind of like a rush where instructors just throw lots of stuff out and you have to know them all.
- He was a very good professor. He always used class time effectively and made sure we understood the material well. I liked how he used a lot of examples and didn't just do all proofs.
- Favorite teacher this quarter by far. He moved quickly through the material, but always made sure that he clearly made his point. English was far superior to other teachers and he seemed to reach out to the students more overall. Teaching style suited me and I would definitely take another class by him. Also spent time everyday answering homework questions, which was underutilized by the class but very helpful in my opinion.
- There was no actual homework due in the class, but he assigned problems to do to prepare us for quizzes and exams. He explains the material clearly and spends time in class to go over a few questions on practice problems.
- It was surprising when Prof. McCullough admitted this was his first time teaching this subject. The way he handled the materials and spoke about it made it seem as though he had taught the class several times over. Very good with lectures, manages to keep it upbeat and makes the materials not so cut and dry.
- Jason was a great instructor, he is highly intelligent and very knowledgeable about the course. His lectures were great, he would go over the required material for the tests and quizzes and would be willing to go back if a student had a question about a previous lecture. He had a very cool laid back personality that made him very approachable.
- Prof. McCullough did a great job teaching the class. I gained a good understanding of the material. One thing I might change is making homework a part of the grade because then it not only helps boost the students grade, but they are then required to do it, thus giving them more practice.
- So much material, so little time. The quarter system is fast paced and a recipe for failure to incoming students used to a semester system. Luckily professor McCullough made effective use of examples and was confident about his knowledge of the material enough to plow right through otherwise difficult topics to understand in the course of an hour. Very copious notes and smooth flow of concepts made the course material much easier to understand ... so much so that class attendance alone (with no homework practice or outside study) was enough to prepare for the exams. There was an occasional topic he'd beat to a pulp and another topic he'd leave gasping for air (he didn't cover 100% of it), the former meant no further academic pursuit, but the latter meant either asking a question and messing up the rhythm or diving into a wild goose chase into the textbook. Most of the times however, a review session or the office hours would clear up any doubts and set us all back on track. The overall readiness and efficient note generating practices make professor Jason McCullough quite qualified to teach this course.
- Going over homework problems at the beginning of lecture helped as a review for the past and future lessons.
- Because I did not attend class regularly, I struggled with most of the material. From the classes I did attend, however, he explained things very well and had a demeanor that was welcoming.
- Professor McCullough was really prepared to teach this course and he is very knowledgeable of the course content. I would definitely take his classes again in the future. My only concern is that the course was too applied to the perspectives and motivations in computer science; I wish that the course was more "mathematical" and less mechanical. Overall, Professor McCullough is an outstanding professor that I would recommend for other students. He is really helpful and I was able to get an insight into his perspective on the subject. This is what helps me the most in my classes, and Professor McCullough did make his insights known to students.
- He was a good Professor, I just had no interest in the course.
- Good Class, but the homework was just too wierd and disjointed sometimes, along with the quizzes.

