



# UC RIVERSIDE - Faculty Instruction Evaluation (iEval)

## Winter 2010

Course: MATH 008B Section: 010 - INTRO TO COLL MATH FOR SCIENCES  
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

- Casual but cool teacher. Allowed me to learn a lot about math I never knew much about. Whatever I knew he would polish it and make it much better so it was easier to understand. Helped a lot on homework questions that I did not understand. Great teacher overall!
- Overall teaching method was effective, but try to use less words to explain new concepts. Doing more examples will help people more.
- Professor McCullough demands respect, and that is very admirable. He is an instructor first and friend second. He is very clean and organized both in appearance and through instruction. I was terrified of calculus going into this course, but he is a very thorough and gifted instructor. I came out of this class more comfortable with calculus than I ever thought possible. Thank you so much.
- professor McCullough was a really good instructor. This was the first time i ever saw calculus in my life and he actually made everything very clear to me and i have been very successful in his class. he was always organized and clear and i enjoyed having him as my professor.
- Dr. McCullough is the best math teacher I have had at this school. He went over all the material very well and I understood him clearly. I have been recommending him to all my friends. Great teacher!!!
- Excellent professor. He encourages me to do better in class. My capability of math really expand after taking this course. I'm looking forward taking more classes on math.
- Professor McCullough is a great math professor. I was intimidated by Calculus at first but he made it easier to understand. The good things about him are: He is always prepared, He resepts the learning environment by telling students to be quiet when they are being too noisy, he is easy to approach, he shows visuals of graphs and explains the content in depth, and he sticks to the syllabus, and asks the class if anyone has questions. Sometimes the readings in the book were a bit confusing and sometimes I did not understand what he did on the board, mainly proofs. Other than that I cant say anything he needs to improve on but one thing. One thing is his office hours. If it is possible he should get a big room because sometimes his office hours get a bit crowded and students have the same questions. It would be easier for students and him to be in that big room with a white board. Overall, great professor!
- The professor had a well developed vocabulary and knowledge of the material. He had useful demonstrations of graphs of the functions. He also answered al of the questions that the students had and demonstrated step by step on how to solve for the function.
- The class was pretty true to syllabus. I liked how the prof. was very clear in explanantions pertaining to why a function acts the way it does and whatnot. Really helpful in office hours he really takes the time to answer your question and help you through the problem. I gained a good understanding of the material and the course is overall well executed.
- Professor McCullough is a good teacher. He does however, lack enthusiasm in class. Though he did taught well to the class about math. I sometimes had a hard time understanding it. But eventually I understand better than before. Overall he is a good professor who has helped my learn from his class.
- His examples in class helped me understand the homework.
- Professor Jason McCullough is a strict yet effective proffesor in the Pre-calculus, calculus course. The class was difficult to begin with as it was cramming to classes into one, so the material was only covered once, however, it was taught thoroughly enough to be done and executed during exams. The homework reflected the work covered in the course, however, it was still a challenge to all. Mr. McCullough was organized for every lecture, he spoke and wrote clearly on the board and was open to questions. McCullough was not pushed over and maintained order in his class, when people began to speak during lecture. Overall the learning experience though tiring was effective.
- Knows the subject really well. I wish he would take the words from the book and put them in language that first time learners could understand.

Did not fully explain the harder concepts that well. He gave his best effort, but did not always seem like he knew how to put the concepts in simple terms.

- This instructor was overall very good. He knew his material very well however there were a couple of times where i was confused. He was understandable and clear most of the times and he always answered questions.
- Jason McCullough is well-organized and systematic when it comes to planning this course. His lectures are good in that he gets through each lesson thoroughly and still has a few minutes left over to answer any questions or provide more examples of any math problems that are confusing.
- Office hours sucked. Teacher had a way of explaining concepts that made the class difficult
- Jason, To be honest, you were one of my favorite professors to date. Everyone I talked to said that I was crazy for thinking such things, but its true. I don't think anyone else realized it, but your hilarious! And I mean this in the most honest and sincere kind of way possible. Everyday was a constant struggle to stifle my laughter, what possesses you to pack so many jokes into your lectures? I don't think you even mean them as jokes, but either way the way you present the material is so clever and entertaining that I can't help but stay awake! I postulated that in order to become a better professor, you became as book-like as possible, your manner of speaking is so dead-pan hilarious, and your hair is even parted like the pages of an open book! I love it. Now, looking back on what I just said to you, you might get the impression that I'm mocking you, but read my words! I MEANT EVERYTHING I SAID IN THIS EVALUATION. Your great
- Jason McCullough was overall a well organized and understandable professor. Every lecture he was well prepared with a plan to what we were going to go over that day. Overall a great experince in this class. He helped me understand the subject a lot better.
- Dr. McCullough was an excellent professor to have for Math 8B winter quarter. Every class lecture, Dr. McCullough arrived on time, prepared and organized. I noticed that Dr. McCullough would always review his lecture notes before teaching which is very professional being that not many professors take the time to do this. In addition, Dr. McCullough was eager to address any students questions and comments during lecture. I truly believe that I have a gained a greater understanding of Calculus because of Dr. McCullough's stupendous teaching skills and objectives. I hope that I am able to take math 9B in the spring quarter when he is teaching it because I know I will learn and gain a better understanding of Calculus. In essence, Dr. McCullough is the epitome of what a professor should be!
- My only contsructive criticism of Prof. McCullough is that he spent a great deal of time proving concepts rather than helping students practice and utilize such concepts. For example, he spent god knows how long proving that the derivative of sine is cosine. He went through all of the steps in proving and explaining why this is so (which involved a very lengthy equation). The class frantically tried to copy all of this down as he was explaining. It confused every student in the class. He could have simply told us that the derivative of sine was cosine and used that he spent explaining why to show us how to effectively utilize such information. We're not trying to earn a PhD in math and we don't to see every equation, just teach us how to perform calculus. Prof. McCullough was a very good instructor overall, but he had this amazing ability to take simple concepts and make them very confusing and intimidating.
- I feel that I did not perform to the best of my ability this quarter due to the style that Prof. McCullough taught. Along with his lack of enthusiasm, I feel that I was unable to learn because he teaches like a "speaking textbook." Very monotone and used terminology that did not help students grasp the concepts he was trying to teach. He is not very socially friendly during class, so I was always scared to attend office hours. I finally did attend office hours, and it resulted in me becoming even more intimidated by him and therefore, attended my TA's office hours instead.
- I like the way that he was very organized in the notes, but the safe assign and the exams upset me a bit. The safe assign was just because the program is dumb, but in the exams i just didn't like the grading system, of having points being taken off for everything. But overall he's a good professor, just don't like his tests.
- The professor was clear and very organized. He was always on task. He did not waste time he was clear and precise.
- The professor was very clear in his lectures and gave good examples as well as explanations.
- He was a good instructor and explained the material clearly.
- I did not find his teaching style to be very effective. I think he could use more examples during lecture.
- I give him a 4 out of 5.
- Instructor was very clear for the most. There were some confusing aspects but he was alays willing to help.
- Needs to slow down when lecturing. Goes by too fast and does not give students a sufficient amount of time to copy down the notes and understand what he is taking about. I did not benefit from his teaching style and could have explained things a lot better, if he would have just

taken his time. Not to say that he should go slow and get behind on schedule but slowing it down a bit would help.

- The teacher would take the whole class time to cover one example and simply reiterate what the book taught. Maybe he should be more prepared and think of his own example to teach. I had questions multiple times but he would not turn from the board to see if there were any other hands in the air. He became irritated when slight whispers went through the class and had no patience when a student did not understand the material.
- You were an awesome professor. I enjoyed attending your class because you were a great improvement from my last professor (Eliana Zoque). I loved your way of teaching, how you were so detailed. Class actually made sense. I know you were the key to getting A's on both of my midterms so I am not too worried about the Final Exam. Continue teaching your students with the same method you have now because it is working great. Those who don't do well in the class are at fault because there is no excuse not to pass with your way of teaching. Thank you so much.
- The teacher was helpful and I really liked how there were sample midterms. That really helped a lot but the only thing was that the samples had no answer key so we did not know if we got the right answer. Other than that he was a good teacher. I learned the material.
- Professor McCullough was a decent teacher. I feel that he spends too much time going over proofs rather than doing examples of the problems. The proofs do not help one finish the homework and grasp the concept nearly as well as the examples do. However, he does cover his material thoroughly and doesn't waste a single minute during class. His explanations were at times confusing but he would be willing to explain. His tests were intimidating though because there were very few questions, which meant that one could easily forfeit a B by missing one certain problem. I feel that he is too picky when it comes to taking off points for things such as equal signs even if the work was clearly visible, flowed logically and was correct in every other way.
- I understood the material he would teach us in class but he would write too much on the board. He made simple equations seem too complicated because of all the extra added information.
- Good professor. He could have maybe been more clear in explanation and have used more examples from the book in his lectures. Sometimes used examples or problems that made it seem more difficult when a book problem with a good explanation would have been more effective in helping the student. Overall though a good professor.
- Professor did not encourage students to ask questions. He presented himself in such a manner that made him unapproachable.
- Jason McCullough put in a considerable amount of effort into his Math class. I respect him as a professor. He did a good job explaining the problems and providing examples for each lecture. However, the assignments on webassign were redundant and most of the time, webassign did not take my answers. As a course, it was enjoyable however, webassign was hard to bear through.
- Professor McCullough is a knowledgeable and prepared teacher, but his briskness sometimes appears intimidating. His mastery of the material is apparent, but it would be very helpful if he slowed down during complicated explanations. Also, please, please, please write larger and use a darker marker. The students in the back cannot see - and there are only so many seats at the front.
- He was a good teacher but sometimes it was hard to understand everything he was doing. He needs better markers cause I could not see what he writes half the time.
- Making sure students understand one step before the next in an example would really help most of the class. Real world applications and examples were the best because they make more sense and allow for better understanding of the concepts. Writing out steps 1, step 2, step 3... really helped.
- Professor McCullough was very organized. I liked it very much that his grades were always posted in a timely manner. I had never taken calculus before, but I actually found it quite fair, as opposed to the beginning of the course, where I thought I would not understand the material.
- Used time effectively.
- I don't wish to take another course under Mr. McCullough while attending UCR.
- He was a confusing teacher to follow, the way that he taught the math class was as if he had just copied and pasted his lectures out of the text book and pasted them on the whiteboard, he could have thrown in his own twist to help us, yet he was always very rigid
- The quizzes were always fair. His lectures were somewhat slow at times. He tends to write a lot, it's like trying to mix verbal teaching with visual teaching. I only comment on this because I had to fill almost two notebooks with notes, just because he would always write. The information was important, but a simple, "pg ### states the theorem, memorize it". He also makes too many practice exams, without giving the answers. Not only does this lead to me trying to get an answer that might not be correct, but it also leads to me having to do this multiple times. I would have

advised at least one answered question, then another similar question without an answer, that way one could compare their work. He could have also referred us to similar problems in the book that had answers. Other than these little complaints, I overall enjoyed his lectures and I learned a great deal of Calculus from his course.

- Professor is clear and goes over the material slowly and carefully
- Is understandable and helpful
- He is ok as far as a professor goes, he needs to be more welcoming to students in office hours. He needs to take more time to experience how to deal with students.
- He did a good job teaching the course compared to other professors. However, he is too picky when it comes to grading tests and quizzes.
- Grading was harsh as points were taken off for the most insignificant errors and it was difficult to understand what exactly was wanted on the exams. Some lessons were very wordy where it would have been more helpful to have used examples.
- Ugh such a boring lecturer!!! Didn't understand the material in class so I would go to office hours and he still didn't really help!!! And didn't let any students participate in the March 4th campus walkout and purposely scheduled a quiz that day!!! I don't want to take him again
- Lectures were lengthy and confusing. Sometimes took 4 pages of notes compared to other friends with other teachers who only had 2 pages. Those 2 pages were more concise and clear about what was going on than this professor's notes. His were confusing as to what was really relevant and what was just a proof. Would have liked to see more straightforward lectures. Seemed unapproachable and scary
- Professor McCullough was very helpful in this course. I liked his lecture and how he explained how math worked. I generally understood most of what he teaches in class. Occasionally, he does confuse me, but I think that's because the content is difficult to understand. So, if it isn't a big deal, maybe he can be extra clear on some of the stuff. He is clear when he gives example, but sometimes I still find the homework hard to do. I think that his tests are fair and the midterm practice are very helpful. Overall, he's a good teacher.