

Student Evaluation Comments for Instructor Justin Marks at Colorado State University

MATH 151: Matlab/MATH 152: Maple, Fall 2011

No student evaluation information obtained.

Math 255: Calculus II, Fall 2010

- Great teacher! This class should be called Calc 2/3/DEQ. So much information.
- I would have liked to have seen some more real-world examples and applications of problems, especially for the DEQ's. I suck at math but I have gained some appreciation for this stuff.
- Justin did such an amazing job. He is a great teacher and you can tell he has such a great passion for mathematics. He was always willing to go above and beyond and try to aid in our complete understanding of the subject. He was a great teacher.
- I found the course very difficult to appreciate. Way too many topics being covered with little or no time to actually understand them. There were too few examples given in class and the textbook was virtually useless. Although the teacher was enthusiastic, I think he missed the mark a bit on getting information through to students. However I also found this course very difficult which may sway my views.
- I really enjoyed having Calc II with Justin. He explained the material well and the organization of material transitioned great from day to day. I would recommend him to anyone who has to take Calc II in consequent semesters if he is still teaching.
- The teacher was very enthusiastic about math and very knowledgeable. However, the textbook for the class was inexcusable! Prof. Marks was able to explain/overcome the lack of required media and teach the course effectively.
- I think having quizzes would have been more helpful for this course. I feel like I would have had a better understanding of what I had problems with, what I needed to study more, or ask questions about.
- Class challenging, but good. You are obviously very knowledgeable and excited about the material. Sometimes you glaze over intermediate steps and we need clarification. Going over homework problems in class was a huge help to understanding the concepts. Enjoyed the rap video and Cinque Terre pictures.
- Justin always came to class prepared and enthusiastic about the material we would cover. He was always willing to help you and wanted you to succeed. I must say he made calculus an enjoyable class and one I never felt "forced" to take. I would take another math course taught by him.
- Justin wants his students to do well and he organized the course effectively to allow students to excel while providing challenging subject matter.
- Very willing to help students on his own time. Best math instructor I've had, since he provided us with extra material to prepare for tests and would work through difficult problems step by step in class, instead of using magic math to go from one step to another.

- Justin did a great job creating an atmosphere conducive to success. He was always willing to work with students outside of class and he put considerable effort into every student's learning.
- Mr. Marks is an excellent teacher. He was very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the course, even going so far as to create an awesome math rap. He made himself open to help students and made sure everyone understood the material. He set a good pace for the course so we were always ahead and had time to review. He truly cared about his students' learning.
- Justin was a very good teacher. He designed his office hours according to student schedules. He was very knowledgeable in the course content and was very well organized in the way he taught the class.
- Class was very well organized.
- You taught very very well and definitely explained things to their fullest and didn't judge "stupid" questions. Maybe slow down while doing examples on the board. =)

Math 261: Calculus III, Fall 2009

- Justin was well organized and presented ideas very clearly.
- You can tell he loves this subject and it shows.
- Thanks again for a great semester!
- Best teacher ever!
- Handouts would be helpful.
- I wish Justin would do interesting examples related to real world applications. That would make it easier to learn.
- I'm a high school student, and I found Justin's teaching style to help very much with the difficulty of the course.
- Justin is great! He was willing to put in extra time to help me understand and overall was a great teacher.
- I think the course coordinator needs to lighten up a bit and be more flexible on make-up work.
- Justin Marks rocks.
- Justin has been my teacher for two semesters and he is one of my favorite teachers I've had thus far in college.
- Justin was an awesome teacher! Overall I would say the course was run very smoothly. It was a challenging course but not too horrible.
- Justin was a good teacher and had a very fair quiz system. The teaching was a little too "directly-out-of-the-book" style.
- Best teacher in my three semesters thus far. Never flustered, always helpful. Thanks!
- Enthusiastic teacher – very good.

Math 161: Calculus II, Spring 2009

- Grading was unfair (not Marks' fault) on the exams. Class covered too many subjects in not enough time.
- Webwork is a joke. If it weren't for Justin I would have really failed the class.

- Best math teacher I have had. Easy to understand, clearly explains concepts.
- Justin Marks is the best math teacher I have ever had!
- Maple sucks!
- Justin was the best math teacher I have ever had.
- The class was as good as it could be considering the subject. Good job.
- There is no way of knowing if the student is on track for a passing grade. Great instructor for my section, however.
- Difficult course. Maple and labs seemed useless and Webwork was hard to use.
- You were the best TA teacher I've had. You know the material, and you know how to help me learn/understand it. Maple labs suck. It is a terrible program. In the future, the teacher should teach us how to use it instead of giving an assignment and letting us go. Use Matlab instead.
- Justin has done more than enough to go "above and beyond" what is necessary in order to make sure we learned the material. He has set up times for me outside of class and pre-scheduled "office hours" on his own time to help me. I can honestly say that he is one of the best mathematics instructors that I have had to date.

Math 161: Calculus II, Fall 2008

- Awesome
- Very well taught. Justin came prepared to teach and answer questions. The examples were very helpful, the proofs did not have much of a point.
- Sweet time this year!
- Justin was willing to help and wanted us to do well.
- Extra review sessions were great! Thanks!
- Justin was very helpful when needed. He seemed slightly nervous about this course, but did a fair job with it.
- After sitting in on my original class all semester, I can easily say my best understanding of the material came from this class. I like how you put your thought process up on the board for us to see and write down. It made the notes easier to understand later. Office hours very helpful. Review sessions thorough and very relevant to the course.
- Not only the funnest teacher I've had all year, but by far the best. Thanks for everything Justin, hope to see you around.
- Really prepared minus a few occasions where problems didn't work out. Enjoyed all the study sessions before class. Really cared about students' success and I appreciated that immensely. Overall, a B.A.M.F.

Math 160: Calculus I, Spring 2008

- Should have students do problems on board.
- Justin is an excellent teacher. Very knowledgeable about subject, patient as a teacher, receptive to questions from students, set aside extra time (extra office hours, etc) for students quite often. He's very helpful, and he explains the material in a very clear, lucid way. I hope he becomes a professor! Dr. K's course is tough but I learned a lot. I liked the concept-oriented approach even though it seemed tedious at times because I learned the material quite easily.

- When returning Calc labs/hw assignments/quizzes during class time it is at times disruptive to taking accurate notes which affects, adversely, the grasping of the concepts.
- Examples in class helped a lot. Also office hours after class made it easy. Thanks for a great semester. P.S. go paintballing.
- Very nice how you write out things on the board instead of just leaving them unclearly verbally stated. Very good teaching style.
- Tough course. Justin has done an amazing job in and outside of the class. Keep up the good work, Justin! But manage your class periods a little more effectively!
- Justin is a good teacher. But he writes unnecessary info on the board that can be abbreviated. He's helpful. Should have more office hours. I didn't understand much.
- Justin is great!
- I may be able to get a B in the class because you are such a good teacher and I wish I was taking Calc II here to have you as an instructor again. You also made Calc fun for me which is good after talking to all my friends.
- Justin: thanks for all the help. Maybe if the Director of the Math Department worded the test easier I would have done better.
- Thanks!
- This is my second time through the class and it helped a lot to repeat it.
- You're a good teacher. But you're rugged handsomeness makes it hard to concentrate. ^_-
- Justin was the best teacher ever. I only passed this course because of his willingness to help. He clearly explained things and was always willing to help. :v)
- You're the best math teacher I've had. Nice work.
- Class was really helpful to understanding the material!
- Very good at explaining things and helping us to understand the topics.
- I really enjoyed this course. I was aware it would be very challenging but was pleased that I had a teacher that was more than willing to help and discuss issues.
- I have taken pre-calc, calc AB, and Math 160 twice and Justin is by far the best instructor I have had.

Math 160: Calculus I, Fall 2007

- I believe that Marks is a good teacher. He explains the concepts fairly well, and understands the material. I believe that he could do a better job of explaining what will be on the tests and knowing what will be on the tests. I wish the grader gave more feedback, maybe explaining problems commonly wrong. I disagree with the way that Klopfenstein (course coordinator) has structured the course.
- He had a tendency of giving up on some of the most challenging problems. It only happened twice but it was disconcerting. He was a good teacher and did a good job otherwise explaining new concepts.
- I thought you did a great job teaching the class. Good luck in the future.

- Justin did a very good job of making the concepts understandable, and then converting them into examples. He was very clear and helpful. Would definitely take a course with him again.
- Good lectures, but slow down a little bit/explain everything clearly. Skipping steps causes confusion. Homeworks were too big.
- Justin did a good job with the course. I do feel though that the course focuses on theories too much and not enough on doing problems themselves. The third test was also ridiculous.
- Klopfenstein makes the test unnecessarily hard. The entire class is very hard.
- This was a good class, just difficult personally, but Justin did everything he had to do to try to help, like homework questions, test questions, etc. He did well and I enjoyed being in his class.
- I think that it would help a lot if you were more confident and prepared with the material. Less random writing and more organized examples.
- I think one thing that would help would be more directed interaction during the lecture.
- Great job! I really like your teaching style and you were always well prepared! Office hours were also very helpful. Thanks!
- Justin was a treat as an instructor: prepared, knowledgeable, and truly caring. Simply excellent choice for an instructor. Course lacked materials to back its heavy emphasis on concept. Felt as if the course was designed to fail students rather than prepare them to succeed. Awful.

Math 155: Calculus I, Spring 2007

- We could use an easier textbook. Too many word problems and too few conceptual problems. I had to dive into the applications without enough knowledge about the subject. Left me unable to complete some problems without assistance. It would be better if all the homework from a section could be collected before the test instead of having them due each week so that students can do it at their own pace.
- Fun class, great teaching, extra credit was very helpful since the tests were somewhat difficult. Overall, good course!
- It helps a lot when you go over the material and examples before quizzes!
- Justin is a great teacher who really helps you to understand the material.
- The class was very thorough and entertaining at times. Justin's lecturing greatly increased my understanding of the material.
- Quizzes could be harder to better prepare for the tests.
- Justin is very enthusiastic about the subject, which was mostly helpful, but he started to move very fast when working on the board toward the end of the course. Weekly homework and quizzes helped tremendously!
- The teacher was awesome and did a good job of teaching the course. The person who was in charge of all the sections of this course did a horrible job at this and should not be allowed to keep this same position next semester. The material, book material and tests did not reflect the rest of the course.
- Great job! I like the personal questions on the quizzes.

- If there were more problems in the homework that were easy just for repetition. It would be better if we had a 20 point quiz every other week rather than a 10 point quiz every week. Justin was a really good teacher, even better than a lot of normal professors.

Math 155: Calculus I, Fall 2006

- I thought overall that the homework was the big trouble spot in this course. I did not feel that all the lectures prepared us for homework and more importantly I didn't feel that the homework prepared me for exams because the book was so different than the course. The teaching, however, was good and I felt comfortable communicating with the instructor.
- Some days were hard to follow due to jumping around from topic to topic. Try to find straightforward/clear ways to explain problems. Overall, Justin did a good job teaching this course.
- I had no idea what to expect from this course, and Justin made it easy to learn, and was very helpful throughout the semester. I enjoyed this class. =)
- Thanks. Thought you did good. My only comment is try not to switch between your formatting (how you write the problem). You did a few times where the book wrote it differently and it was confusing (one of those Hillary told you to though, if I remember).
- Overall Justin did well. A few lectures were confusing, so maybe a bit more preparation. Also his office hours did not work for a lot of people, but I never asked him if he could meet at another time, so not all his fault.
- I thought he did a great job teaching the course. His enthusiasm for the subject really helped me learn and become interested in calculus.
- Thanks for always having a positive attitude and coming well prepared. You are very knowledgeable and were always very approachable.
- You did a great job. Very enthusiastic and always did well with having homework and quizzes back to us quickly. Keep up the good work.
- The teacher was great, the class seemed like a waste of time. None of it seems relevant, although it was supposed to be tuned for people in my major. Homework assignments seemed unfair, as they were always more difficult than the exam.
- Excellent job teaching!
- Justin was an awesome teacher...a little nervous at first but overall very helpful and easy to understand.
- Good job, I think you did a great job teaching!
- You rock, hope next semester goes well!