Final Evaluation (CTEF) for Pantano, Alessandra MATH 120A LEC A (44700), Fall Qtr 2012

Responses: 21/28 (75%)

A. Please comment on the following areas and be as specific as possible:

1. What are the instructor's teaching strengths?

- Alessandra does a fantastic job including everyone and promoting participation, which really engages the students. The instruction is clear, and she is amazing at explaining things in a way that make it sound so easy and logical and do-able. Color codes notes on the board which is, again, very engaging and makes things easy to understand. Her enthusiasm about the course is contagious.

- Good explanations

- Her explanations are very clear and she makes the lectures somewhat into a discussion, where we learn the material by participating as well as listening.

- I love her passion for mathematics; she has a real talent for transforming a concept that initially looks obscure into something easy to understand. One of my favorite professors thus far. Amazing lecturer, and overall, just an amazing person who genuinely cares for her students.

- Knows everything. Very excited about what she teaches and goes over everything and tries to help every student as much as possible. Very encourage. Best professor.

- Knows how to relate to students. Gives good example. Office hours are helpful. Always willing to give extra help. Engaging lectures.

- Passionate about the subject, lectures easy to follow, approachable.

- Presents material in clear manner. Shows interest about students doing well. Always willing to help.

- Really cares about students and always willing to offer help for class.

- She gives a lot of examples and overall cares for the students.

- She is passionate in what she does, loves her students, and is willingly to give up more of her free time to help her students. She is fun to be around and teaches very well. She makes sure her students understand and can clearly explain how to solve problems. Overall she is just a caring, loving, happy, and enjoyable teacher.

- She is very open to helping her students. She is very available. She is somewhat clear in teaching such hard and abstract course.

- She really enjoys teaching this subject and is very enthusiastic.

- She wants the students to succeed and does her best to help us learn. She is very helpful in office hours as well

- She works very hard as a professor, and I am very impressed by her patience and diligence. She grades homework and midterm in great detailed. I am very appreciate with her efforts for this class and for me.

- Understands the students weakness and tries very hard to make students understand the intention of the subjects.

- Very clear with EVERY step of a proof. Very kind and always thinking of the students.

- 4 blank answer(s).

2. How can this instructor improve as a teacher?

- Already a good instructor, no need to improve.

- I honestly don't know; so far, she is the best math professor that I have had, hands down. I wish I could take all of my math courses at UCI with her. She's just that amazing.

- I think she should make it clear as to what is going to be on the quiz (for example what chapters and sections). I think she should assign or randomize group work or at least not have them. (This is because I feel like students come into the class already knowing each other and it is hard/ intimidating to join a group)

- It is fairly easy to understand the lecture because you are talking and using multiple colors, however when I go home to look at the notes it is a little bit harder to understand. The notes sometimes are all over the place and hard to follow so you can separate different thoughts with a line or some indication more clearly after each example on the board. I also like how in math 13 you gave us a heads up at the end of the class what section and topics we are going to go over explicitly and on e-mail. I also thought you should tell us what specifically what the quiz is going to cover because sometimes it varies on how much we covered in class and homework, overall it was not consistent. Moreover, I think that the friday project was a waste of time or unproductive because I think half the people were not even paying attention since they worrying about their own presentations or for some other reasons. Moreover, I noticed that a lot of people didn't even attempt to do the problem and waited until friday to get the answer from the people who actually did it. I was one of those who tried to do it at least and that was kind of unfair for them to do that.

- Make the practice problems we do in class, review sessions, and homework more applicable to our midterm/final.

- N/A

- Not sure, I like her.

- Personally, I wish she has more time to teach slowly. For me, I can't write and listen at the same time, a bit difficult.

- Plan of quarter was unorganized. The Friday projects seemed to waste time, as perhaps then we would have been caught up with other class. We are two weeks behind. It seemed like there was a lot of busy work, not always best way to learn.

- She done very well as a professor. The only thing I think is that there can be a little less definition problem both on quiz and exam will be better.

- Sometimes the notes aren't very linear, meaning she'll write one thing on the top of the board and then write a few more things somewhere else and then go back to the top. It's just hard to take notes like that because I am never sure where I need to leave extra room for her later added comments.

- Spend less time reproving everything and more time on the subject matter.

- The midterm was appropriately difficult but it was far too long for an hour. I hear this is a problem from other students in her other classes.

- 8 blank answer(s).

3. Any other comments about this course?

- Good introduction into abstract algebra and helps students refine proof writing skills.

- I love this professor, she will help us on anything!

- It is not my favorite, but I unfortunately think that I finally know how to handle this course at the end of the quarter and not in the beginning. It took me awhile to get use to this kind of math and way of thinking.

- It was a great class, I love Dr. Pantano as my professor and would want her as my professor again.

- Just because of her teaching techniques and positive personality, she makes upper division math so enjoyable.

- N/A

- Students arrived late often.

- Thank you for teaching this class.

- The pace of the course before the midterm was incredibly slow. Mainly due to the friday presentations taking away a lecture. Only lecturing twice a week in the beginning was a bit of an issue.

- This course is really great.

- This was a VERY fun course.

- 10 blank answer(s).

B. Please choose the appropriate rating on the letter grade scale A to F:

'A' indicating an excellent and 'F' indicating a wholly inadequate performance. If you have no opinion on the question asked or if it does not apply, please select NA.

4. The course instructor shows enthusiasm for and is interested in the subject.

A	A-	B+	B	B-
17	4	0	0	0
Value: 4	Value: 3.7	Value: 3.3	Value: 3	Value: 2.7

C+	C	C-	D	F	NA
0	0	0	0	0	0
Value: 2.3	Value: 2	Value: 1.7	Value: 1	Value: 0	No Value

Mean	Median	Std Dev
3.94	4.00	0.12

5. The course instructor stimulates your interest in the subject.

A	A-	B+	B	B-
12	3	3	2	0
Value: 4	Value: 3.7	Value: 3.3	Value: 3	Value: 2.7

C+	C	C-	D	F	NA
0	1	0	0	0	0
Value: 2.3	Value: 2	Value: 1.7	Value: 1	Value: 0	No Value

Mean	Median	Std Dev
3.67	4.00	0.51

6. The course instructor meets stated objectives of the course.

A	A-	B+	B	B-
14	4	0	1	1
Value: 4	Value: 3.7	Value: 3.3	Value: 3	Value: 2.7

C+	C	C-	D	F	NA
0	0	1	0	0	0
Value: 2.3	Value: 2	Value: 1.7	Value: 1	Value: 0	No Value

Mean	Median	Std Dev
3.72	4.00	0.57

7. The course instructor is accessible and responsive.

A	A-	B+	B	B-
19	1	1	0	0
Value: 4	Value: 3.7	Value: 3.3	Value: 3	Value: 2.7
C+	C	C-	D	F	NA
0	0	0	0	0	0
Value: 2.3	Value: 2	Value: 1.7	Value: 1	Value: 0	No Value

Mean	Median	Std Dev
3.95	4.00	0.16

8. The course instructor creates an open and fair learning environment.

A	A-	B+	B	B-
17	1	0	2	1
Value: 4	Value: 3.7	Value: 3.3	Value: 3	Value: 2.7
C+	C	C-	D	F	NA
0	0	0	0	0	0
Value: 2.3	Value: 2	Value: 1.7	Value: 1	Value: 0	No Value

Mean	Median	Std Dev
3.83	4.00	0.39

9. The course instructor encourages students to think in this course.

A	A-	B+	B	B-
19	1	1	0	0
Value: 4	Value: 3.7	Value: 3.3	Value: 3	Value: 2.7
C+	C	C-	D	F	NA
0	0	0	0	0	0
Value: 2.3	Value: 2	Value: 1.7	Value: 1	Value: 0	No Value

Mean	Median	Std Dev
3.95	4.00	0.16

10. The course instructor's presentations and explanations of concepts were clear.

A	A-	B+	B	B-
14	3	2	0	2
Value: 4	Value: 3.7	Value: 3.3	Value: 3	Value: 2.7
C+	C	C-	D	F	NA
0	0	0	0	0	0
Value: 2.3	Value: 2	Value: 1.7	Value: 1	Value: 0	No Value

Mean	Median	Std Dev
3.77	4.00	0.41

11. Assignments and exams covered important aspects of the course.

A	A-	B+	B	B-
16	1	0	2	1
Value: 4	Value: 3.7	Value: 3.3	Value: 3	Value: 2.7
C+	C	C-	D	F	NA
0	0	1	0	0	0
Value: 2.3	Value: 2	Value: 1.7	Value: 1	Value: 0	No Value

Mean	Median	Std Dev
3.72	4.00	0.59

12. What overall grade would you give this instructor?

A	A-	B+	B	B-
13	4	2	0	2
Value: 4	Value: 3.7	Value: 3.3	Value: 3	Value: 2.7

C+	C	C-	D	F	NA
0	0	0	0	0	0
Value: 2.3	Value: 2	Value: 1.7	Value: 1	Value: 0	No Value

Mean	Median	Std Dev
3.75	4.00	0.40

13. What overall grade would you give this course?

A	A-	B+	B	B-
10	4	3	3	0
Value: 4	Value: 3.7	Value: 3.3	Value: 3	Value: 2.7

C+	C	C-	D	F	NA
0	1	0	0	0	0
Value: 2.3	Value: 2	Value: 1.7	Value: 1	Value: 0	No Value

Mean	Median	Std Dev
3.60	3.70	0.51

C. Please answer:

14. Based on completed assignments thus far, what is your current course grade or approximate standing?

A	B	C	D	F	NA
5	9	5	0	0	1
Value: 4	Value: 3	Value: 2	Value: 1	Value: 0	No Value

Mean	Median	Std Dev
3.00	3.00	0.73

15. How much academic dishonesty seemed to occur in this course? If applicable, please describe the type of academic dishonesty that occurred (not the particular students involved).

1.

A lot	Some	A little	None I could discern
0	0	1	19

2. Examples:

- 21 blank answer(s).

16. How helpful were the textbooks and/or readings to your overall learning experience?

Very	Adequately	Somewhat	Not at all
8	10	2	0

17. How challenging was this course?

Very	Adequately	Somewhat	Not at all
10	9	1	0