

Clemson University Student Evaluation of Teaching

Evaluation Report for James L Brown teaching MTHSC 852 001 during Spring Semester 2011
 Respondents = 4; Enrolled = 6; Response rate = 67%

University Questions(3686)

G1. The instructor clearly communicated what I was expected to learn.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	5.000	0.000	5	4		
Same Level	4.277	1.105	5	148		
Same Discipline	4.309	0.941	5	2734		

G2. The instructor made the relevance of the course material clear.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	5.000	0.000	5	4		
Same Level	4.304	1.164	5	148		
Same Discipline	4.170	1.031	4	2735		

G3. The course was well organized.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (50.00%)	2 (50.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.500	0.577	4.5	4		
Same Level	4.247	1.166	5	146		
Same Discipline	4.337	0.950	5	2732		

G4. There was a positive interaction between the class and the instructor.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	5.000	0.000	5	4		
Same Level	4.272	1.191	5	147		
Same Discipline	4.248	1.021	5	2722		

G5. The instructor's teaching methods helped me understand the course material.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	5.000	0.000	5	4		
Same Level	4.115	1.327	5	148		
Same Discipline	4.029	1.165	4	2721		

G6. The instructor's verbal communication skills helped me understand the course material.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	5.000	0.000	5	4		
Same Level	4.136	1.286	5	147		
Same Discipline	4.009	1.172	4	2717		

G7. The instructor clearly explained what was expected on assignments and tests

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (25.00%)	3 (75.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.750	0.500	5	4		
Same Level	4.238	1.161	5	147		
Same Discipline	4.243	1.012	5	2728		

G8. The instructor kept me informed about my progress in the course.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (25.00%)	3 (75.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.750	0.500	5	4		
Same Level	4.284	1.088	5	148		
Same Discipline	4.097	1.094	4	2722		

G9. The feedback I received on assignments and tests gave me the opportunity to improve my performance.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	5.000	0.000	5	4		
Same Level	4.041	1.245	5	148		
Same Discipline	4.052	1.082	4	2729		

G10. Overall, the instructor is an effective teacher.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	5.000	0.000	5	4		
Same Level	4.216	1.275	5	148		
Same Discipline	4.197	1.085	5	2722		

G11. The instructor's grading procedures gave a fair evaluation of my understanding of the material.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (25.00%)	2 (50.00%)	1 (25.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.667	0.577	5	3		
Same Level	4.284	1.088	5	148		
Same Discipline	4.163	1.049	4	2716		

G12. How much work did you put into this course relative to your other courses?

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (50.00%)	1 (25.00%)	1 (25.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.333	0.577	4	3		
Same Level	3.898	0.998	4	147		
Same Discipline	4.052	0.926	4	2711		

G13. How difficult was this course for you relative to your other courses?

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	3 (75.00%)	1 (25.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.250	0.500	4	4		
Same Level	3.797	1.069	4	148		
Same Discipline	3.904	1.059	4	2719		

G14. To what extent was this course a requirement for you?

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	2 (50.00%)	2 (50.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	2.500	0.577	2.5	4		
Same Level	4.291	1.025	5	148		
Same Discipline	4.551	0.908	5	2718		

G15. Was this course in your major?

Type: Yes - No

Yes	No	NR
4 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

G16. Was this course team-taught?

Type: Yes - No

Yes	No	NR
0 (0.00%)	3 (75.00%)	1 (25.00%)

G17. Please indicate your satisfaction with the availability of the instructor outside the classroom by choosing one response from the scale. In selecting your rating, consider the instructor's availability via established office hours, appointments, and other opportunities for face-to-face interaction as well as via telephone, email, fax and other means.

Type: Satisfaction

Very Dissatisfied				Very Satisfied
	1	2	3	4
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
Class	4.000	0.000	4	4
Same Level	3.664	0.625	4	146
Same Discipline	3.494	0.716	4	2730

G18. Please comment on the strengths of the instructor and the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Dr. Brown is the most organized instructor I have had at this University. He not only has a firm grasp on all material covered, but can communicate even the most difficult subjects to those willing to try.
- #2 - Jim did an excellent job presenting Algebra in a clear and concise manner. The course was highly organized with all notes, homework, and previous exams available on the website. In particular, as an aspiring Number Theorist, I enjoyed seeing the connections to Number Theory (such as Kummer Theory) and was very pleased with the coverage of cohomology towards the end of the course.
- #3 - Jim Brown posted the notes online, which was extremely helpful for studying and reviewing the material. The amount of homework and the option to work with other students on the homework made the course more realistic this semester.
- #4 - He always is very organized and has very helpful notes. I like that he makes the note available online also.

G19. Please comment on the weaknesses of the instructor and the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #3 - While I was extremely interested in learning about cohomology and its connections to quadratic reciprocity. It was a little difficult to keep up with the material.

G20. Please comment on any teaching methods you found particularly helpful, and suggest alternative methods that you feel would improve the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #2 - I particularly liked connecting the materials to other areas of mathematics such as Number Theory.

G21. I would recommend this instructor to a friend. Yes or no? Why?

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Absolutely. He will push you to learn the material at a suitable pace, prepare you for the prelim/subsequent courses and you will walk away from the course actually feeling like you learned something.
- #2 - I would certainly recommend this instructor to a friend. You will learn a lot of information and ultimately come to really understand it - not just know a plethora of technical details. In addition, you will probably learn topics that you would not see if the course was taught by a different

instructor (as Jim is one of several instructors who are well-known for going beyond what is typically covered in a given course).

#3 - I would only recommend this course to someone who is extremely interested in algebra and was quite successful in 851.

#4 - Yes.