

Cherry Ng - Teaching Evaluations

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BACKGROUND ON COURSE EVALUATION DATA

Method of Administration

Teaching evaluations at CU Boulder are administered during Week 14 of the fifteen-week semesters. The course evaluations were redesigned in 2019, so there were two different methods for collecting student feedback. Prior to 2019, paper questionnaires were distributed to students by the instructors in the last ten minutes of a class period. The instructors explained the purpose of the questionnaire and mentioned that student responses were anonymous. Then the instructor left the room while students filled out the evaluation. A student volunteer collected all the questionnaires and returned them to the math department. Responses were returned to the instructor after the semester was over. After 2019, students received a link in their email that led to an online questionnaire, which was open for 10 days. Instructors could track how many students had responded, but had no other data about student responses. Instructors received the results after the semester was over.

Data from before and after 2019

When the course evaluations at CU Boulder were redesigned in 2019, the questions also changed. The summary data on the next page reflects this. Data from before and after 2019 are presented separately. Data from classes where I was the instructor versus the TA are also presented separately.

Summary of Course Evaluations for Cherry Ng as Sole Instructor

Term	Fall	Spring	Summer	Spring	Summer	Fall	Averages
Year	2015	2016	2016	2017	2017	2017	
Course	Calculus 1	Calculus 1	Calculus 1	Calculus 2	Calculus 1	Calculus 1	
Role	Instructor	Instructor	Instructor	Instructor	Instructor	Instructor	
Enrolled	32	34	24	32	25	33	30.0
Response rate	81%	74%	58%	84%	68%	85%	75%
Rate each aspect of the course out of 6:							
Challenge of the course	4.3	4.8	5.3	5.3	5.1	4.7	4.9
How much you learned	4.9	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3	4.9	5.2
Course overall	5.4	5.6	4.6	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.1
Instructor effectiveness	5.5	5.7	5.2	5.7	5.5	5.7	5.5
Instructor availability	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.9	5.6	5.6	5.7
Instructor respect	5.9	6.0	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.9
Instructor overall	5.8	6.0	5.4	5.8	5.6	5.8	5.7

These classes were taught online during the pandemic

Note: Course evaluations were redesigned in 2019, so evaluations using the new format are presented here separately

Term	Fall	Spring	Averages
Year	2020	2021	
Course	Calculus 3	Calculus 3	
Role	Instructor	Instructor	
Enrolled	27	24	25.5
Response rate	81.50%	75.00%	78.25%

Rate each statement out of 5.

In this course, I was encouraged to:			
interact with other students respectfully	4.7	5.0	4.9
reflect on what I was learning	4.6	4.8	4.7
connect my learning to the real world	4.0	4.2	4.1
collaborate	4.4	4.5	4.5
contribute my ideas	4.5	4.5	4.5
think critically	4.3	4.7	4.5
synthesize ideas	4.3	4.7	4.5
consider diverse perspectives (gender, political, etc)	3.6	4.1	3.9
In this course, the instructor:			
respected diverse points of view	5.0	4.9	5.0
challenged me to develop my own comprehension	4.9	4.7	4.8
gave assignments that required creative thinking	4.9	4.8	4.9
provided opportunities for questions and discussion	5.0	4.9	5.0
provided feedback that helped me improve	4.9	4.8	4.9
explained grading criteria	4.9	4.8	4.9
was available to provide assistance	5.0	4.9	5.0
effectively used technology	4.9	5.0	5.0

Summary of Course Evaluations for Cherry Ng as TA

Term	Fall			Spring			Fall			Spring			Reduced teaching load as Asst Coord in these semesters			Averages	
	2014			2015			2016			2018			Fall	Spring	Fall		
Year	2014			2015			2016			2018			2018	2019	2019		
Course	College Algebra (4 sections)			Calc 1 (3 sections)			Calc 2 (3 sections)			Calc 3 (3 sections)			Calc 3 (1 sect)	Calc 3 (1 sect)	Calc 1 (1 sect)		
Role	TA			TA			TA			TA			TA	TA	TA		
Enrolled	28	27	27	21	33	34	33	35	34	35	15	29	25	23	25	19	28
Response rate	61%	59%	74%	43%	73%	68%	79%	71%	53%	57%	60%	59%	52%	61%	60%	26%	60%
Rate each aspect of the course out of 6:																	
Challenge of the course	4.5	3.8	4.0	4.3	4.8	5.0	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.5	5.0	5.5	4.6	4.9
How much you learned	5.1	4.2	4.2	4.8	4.9	4.5	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.4	5.0	5.0	5.5	4.0	4.9
Course overall	5.2	4.5	4.5	4.9	4.8	4.6	5.2	4.9	4.8	4.3	5.1	4.9	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.6	4.8
Instructor effectiveness	5.1	4.7	4.8	5.1	4.7	4.7	5.3	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.8	5.4	5.4	5.1	5.7	5.2
Instructor availability	5.4	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.7	5.8	5.2	5.8	5.2	5.6	5.0	5.7	5.4
Instructor respect	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.9	5.6	5.9	6.0	5.6	5.5	6.0	5.9
Instructor overall	5.7	5.7	5.3	5.6	5.4	5.1	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.4	5.8	5.3	5.6	5.0	5.7	5.5

Selected Student Feedback for Cherry Ng

Term	Year	Role	Student feedback
Fall	2017	TA	Your class is actually one of the few classes that I can take handwritten notes in. I really like the pacing you have when describing a math topic on the chalkboard as it's easy to follow and understand.
Fall	2017	Instructor	While I have taken this course already, the people who taught it managed to still attract my attention to the course even when all the material was already known.
Fall	2018	TA	Cherry was an excellent teacher. I have taken Calc 1 and 2 at this university and Cherry was BY FAR the most passionate and experienced instructor I have met. She cares deeply about the subject matter and gives students the opportunity to get the most out of the class and succeed. Well done Cherry!
Fall	2018	TA	Thank you for encouraging me to become an LA and for making the recitations enjoyable. I had a great semester!
Spring	2019	TA	Cherry is an incredible teacher with a passion for math and the welfare of her students.
Fall	2020	Instructor	Cherry is one of the most fantastic teachers I've ever had the pleasure to study under. Out of the 5 teachers that I can say have had a direct impact on my life through their teaching Cherry is definitely on that list. Right from the start, her organization and dedication to this class helped give momentum to myself and my peers to treat this class just as seriously as any in-person class we would have taken. Cherry was kind, but not distracting; firm but understanding; and above all else empathetic. Her sheer joy of teaching nifty tricks and cool calculus phenomena was infectious (pun intended), and the drive my classmates showed both in and outside class for our learning was definitely due to (in a not insignificant part) to Cherry. Her teaching style's adaptability, and her willingness to roll with the tide, whether it be for individual circumstances or for the class overall ensured that we were never behind schedule and understood the concepts. The beginning of the semester was a bit rough; people were shy, and that was to be expected given the MATH2400 team's entirely new modus operandi for classes. But Cherry enthusiastically pushed through. The pacing was a bit rushed in the beginning as she tried to figure things out right alongside all of us, but given a week or two she found a rhythm that worked for both parties. Her frequent tie-ins to more applied and creative thinking of these somewhat abstract (difficult to visualize) concepts ensured not only a technical understanding, but also an intuitive one. The 3D graphing project was some of the most fun I've had all semester. Her attitude to the class ensured that nobody treated this class as just another chore: most of us were happy to share her enthusiasm for learning these things. Cherry used technological tools to great benefit. Whether it be Mathematica for integrals or graphing, Piazza for sharing files and posting notes, discord for discussions: I have personally used every single instance of technological help she's given, and I think that I owe a huge chunk of my academic success in this class to that. Cherry also utilized office hours extremely effectively. Her availability after every class ensured that students could come in and get help, regardless of how far along they were for the week's work. I went in and got help with concepts for class, others got help for weassign, others for the written homework. And she was equally patient and helpful with all of us. She's also been extremely helpful in office hours outside of the scope of this class, having given me guidance on graduate school, the studying of higher level math, tips for research, getting rec letters, and teaching. I've started to steal little tricks I've learned from being in Cherry's class in my own teaching/tutoring. Thank you Cherry for everything that you've done to help us all this semester, keep doing you. You are the true G.O.A.T
Fall	2020	Instructor	I think calling on people at random when working on problems and how you real problems to the real world are effective aspects of this course. There are no aspects to this course that are not effective.
Spring	2021	Instructor	Always there to help! Made sure students knew that she would not judge us on what we needed help. I always felt very comfortable reaching out to her. She also would work with students when cold calling on them, turning what usually is a stressful situation into one where there is actually learning involved. Might be the best professor I've ever had.