

Elise Askelsen Course Evaluation Summary

MATH 1440: Mathematics for the Biological Sciences (Spring 2023)	Course Mean	Dept. Mean
Organization- The instructor used class time well	5.79	4.84
Clarity- The instructor communicated course material clearly	5.79	4.62
Learning Focused- The instructor's teaching methods helped students learn	5.79	4.56
Learning Materials- The assignments, readings, and activities facilitated student learning	5.64	4.80
Assessment- Assessments (such as quizzes, papers, and exams) aligned with course objectives	5.64	4.96
Support- Help was available for students	5.85	5.03

*The above table gives the mean scores valued out of six that Elise Askelsen received for questions answered by students on the end-of-semester course evaluation forms for courses and discussions taught at The University of Iowa. The right most column provides the department mean scores out of six for comparison.

Fourteen of eighteen students completed this survey.

Individual Student Comments:

In response to the question: What aspects of the course were most useful for your learning?

- I really think the review before the quizzes really helped! as well as the feedback that was almost immediate from quizzes and other assignments.
- I think the worksheets were helpful and I liked that we were able to take them home - I used them for review before the exams. I also think you are a great teacher and helped make the class engaging which helped a lot!
- Literally everything Elise did was amazing and helpful. There are not enough positive things that I could say about her! She was super helpful in setting up a time to meet with me each week to help me with homework, etc. She has a positive attitude everyday, she is eager to help ALL students learn. She wants her students to succeed, she sets up times outside of her schedule for reviews, just everything was so helpful.
- Everything! Very good at explanations and also giving examples, group activities!
- Elise would always find time after class hours to help me with problems and helped explain stuff clearly during class.
- I really liked the activities in class, they were fun to complete and helped deepen my understanding of the material. I also liked the reviews we would do before the quizzes because it helped me refresh and have time to ask a question.
- Elise was very helpful when it came to being able to explain the material we were learning in a simple way that was easy to remember. I feel like the activities given in discussion correlated very well to the homework and what we did on the quizzes.
- I loved that Elise was always there to help answer questions in class, during her office hours, and any other time that she was available. It made me feel like she was always there to help me if I needed it.
- Working in small groups in discussion where we were able to ask more questions to classmates and Elise.
- Elise actually explained a lot and when a student did not understand she would try to find another way to explain it. One of the better TA's I have had.
- Elise genuinely wants to help her students and cares about our learning and well-being. She's always willing to go above and beyond if she thinks it will help us learn. She's also very good at making the information easy to understand and communicating it in different ways for different learning styles.

In response to the question: When this class is taught again, what changes would you suggest?

- Nothing in particular, I think Elise did an amazing job teaching to help the class understand rather than memorize.
- I like group work but I do feel like it can sometimes go slower and sometimes we weren't able to fully complete the worksheet during class time - besides that I loved the way discussions were set up.

- Maybe some of the activities being different, but we talked about that and they got better after the first few.
- I don't think that anything stands out to me as bad. I think that everything we do in the class is helpful and really makes learning easy.
- When this class is taught again I think discussion could be more frequent than lecture. I personally feel like I learn more from what is being taught in discussion in small groups.
- Possibly a separate supplemental worksheet that would help prepare me for the quiz, often if felt like the worksheets from Tuesday only went over certain concepts when other ones were present on Thursday quizzes.
- I really didn't like the small group activities, I feel like it can make activities take longer than they need to and we cant cover as much material as if we did them as one whole group.
- Subjective but adopt a more straightforward style of teaching. Group activities can sometimes waste time and quality of material absorption. Discussion time is very short and did not allow proper time to finish activities.

In response to the question: What else would you like your instructor to know about your experience in this course?

- I understand math now probably more than I ever have. like normally math is a class I normally really struggle with and I actually have the best grade than I ever have and I feel like I actually understand. Also I feel like it was as environment that I could actually speak up and participate as for normally I do not necessary feel comfortable doing so.
- Pretty much all of my learning was done in discussion and Elise made it easy to understand and was the most helpful TA I've had.
- I really enjoyed this class and had a great experience with my TA.
- KEEP DOING WHAT YOU'RE DOING! You are such a light in this world and make our lives as students so much better. You truly make such an impact, so thank you!!
- Elise made this class much easier and I appreciate the extra effort she put into helping me.
- I have enjoyed math probably the most in this class and I understand it more than I ever have. The things we do in class and connections we make really made an impression on me and it is something I will miss.
- I think that having a personal connection with a question at the beginning of class made it a lot easier to approach Elise with questions as well as go to her office hours.
- Elise was an extremely helpful teacher and often helped me more than going into the lecture itself. I really hope she remains a TA as she is a great resource/asset to the math department.
- I loved this class and Elise, I had her for college algebra as well and she was even better in this class.