

Instructor: Christensen, Jens

Course: Real Analysis II

5 surveys / 5 enrolled in MATH 487 A (W 1320)

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Student: 1

Reason: Elective within major or minorReason: Interest in the course materialAdditional Reason(s): Recommended for graduate school in mathematics.Effort: A great deal; reading the textbook, rereading notes, asking questions, making study guides, making sure I did not leave class without understanding the topics presented, doing the homework with enough time to ask questions should I get stuck.Understanding & Appreciation: I really enjoyed seeing analysis in a format beyond regular coursework. We were able to see actual applications of real analysis to mathematical problems, and there are open questions that may be solvable by undergraduate students. The take-homes were helpful in seeing how my understanding of the course's concepts had developed, with interesting and cute questions.Intellectual Growth: I gained a greater attention to detail than I previously had before this course.Quality: Professor Christensen is really caring about his students and works hard to ensure a positive class environment. He also ensures that we are able to go in with questions in order to check our understanding of the homework and the concepts we are learning. I really enjoyed and made use of this being part of the course. In class lectures are interesting with many interesting mathematical sidenotes. However, Professor Christensen often becomes lost at the blackboard. This sometimes leads to minor erasures in class notes and very rarely to entire sections crossed out, which can be frustrating. Over time I learned not to write anything down unless it made sense to me, which I think has improved my overall mathematical ability.

In office hours Professor Christensen is helpful and explains well, but sometimes interrupts and assumes the question I am asking. While this is done with good intentions, it halts my progress in learning as I need to both parse what he is saying and figure out how to continue asking my question. It is also sometimes difficult to do math across a table; I wonder if it might be more useful to change the office set-up so that students don't have to be reading upside down or feel as if they are in an interview setting.

Overall, I really enjoyed this course and learned a great deal. I have a greater confidence in my mathematical ability as a result of this course, and feel that I have a solid grasp of the material. A great part of that is due to Professor Christensen's attention to detail. Thank you for a wonderful semester!

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Student: 2

Reason: Major or minor requirementReason: Reputation of the instructorReason: Interest in the course materialAdditional Reason(s):Effort: Listening to lectures, taking notes, and doing homework are certainly not enough for me to do well in this course. I put in some efforts in doing some problems in the book to get more practice. I also read all the materials in the book covered in class in addition to notes to refresh my memories of the subject.Understanding & Appreciation: This course is very relevant to other courses and has applications to many areas. I learned a lot from the course and I think this class will be important to me in the future.Intellectual Growth: I think I will be able to apply what I learned in this course to my future research in mathematics. This class makes me interested in the material and establishes a very good foundation for my future study in math.Quality: Prof. Christensen is clear in his teaching. I hope we were able to do more examples to understand the theories, since most of them are very abstract. Especially when we were doing Lebesgue integration, I think it would be beneficial to have a few examples in class where we integrate some function instead of saving the examples in the homework. I personally use homework as a way of testing my own learning, so quite often I do not do so well on it. I think we could have homework contribute less to the total grade because doing homework is an essential way to learn, not as a way to test ability? However, I think he grades homework fairly and offers a lot of help!

Student: 3

Reason: Interest in the course materialAdditional Reason(s):Effort: I spent approximately 3-4 hours or more on the homework assignments, about from 4 to 9 or so hours for the preparation and (taking for the take-home) exams.Understanding & Appreciation: This course helped me acquire some knowledge on the actual mathematical foundations of certain areas of theoretical physics, but also showed what things are like in the more abstract parts of math.Intellectual Growth: The course drew connections to certain areas in theoretical physics and showed how research in abstract math and theoretical physics can possibly overlap.

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Quality: I think Prof. Jens did a very good job of teaching the course.

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Student: 4

Reason: Major or minor requirement

Additional Reason(s):

Effort: I showed up to every class, completed the homeworks and exams, and went to office hours.

Understanding & Appreciation: This course taught me about measure theory and Lebesgue integration, both concepts I hadn't encountered before.

Intellectual Growth: This class taught me concepts that are present in other areas of math and further developed my ability to think abstractly.

Quality: Professor Christensen genuinely cares about the success of his students and puts in the effort to make sure they succeed. One weakness is that the class does occasionally run long.

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Student: 5

Reason: Elective within major or minor

Additional Reason(s):

Effort:

Understanding & Appreciation:

Intellectual Growth:

Quality:

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