Math Camp 2020: Course Evaluation

6 responses

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6 responses

Level was appropriate, but slightly too much content, making the pace a bit fast at times.

Normal

It is proper.

A little fast

A little fast.

I enjoyed the math camp course. The material was fairly difficult yet Ricardo provided great notes and resources to learn the material. The course was a little too faster. I wish we had more time to cover the material.

2. How would you describe your learning experience? Do you think you learned a lot? Please provide an estimate pf how much of the covered material you already knew/werealready comfortable with.

6 responses

In theory, I had seen about 80-90% of the material, but that was five years ago, so a refresher was welcome.

95%

It is very helpful for studying what I will learn.

I knew about 75% of the materials, but it is good to review.

I'd say I already knew or was comfortable with around 70 percent of the material. The final 30 percent went a little fast to learn in depth, but I guess that's to be expected for a 6 day crash course. I think the problem sets were difficult relative to the material covered in the lectures.

I did learn a lot from this course. I already knew about 75% of the material, so this course was a great way to review old material as well.

3. Are you satisfied with the covered material? Do you think the course should cover moretopics? Less topics?

6 responses

Right amount, but would be nice to add an extra day as well as a tutorial for discussing the problem sets.

I think it was best considering the limited time.

It is proper.

Not sure.

Satisfied, although it's hard to say before starting other classes. I do think that in it might make sense to cover linear algebra earlier. I know that covering linear algebra after calc concepts is pretty standard at US colleges. But I feel like calc, especially multivariate calc requires a level of comfort with higher dimensions and lin alg concepts. The reverse is not necessarily true. You can do pretty much the whole lin alg section up to differential equations with no calculus whatsoever. So it might make sense to reverse the order.

I'm satisfied with the covered material.

4. What is your opinion on the material provided, like lecture notes, problem sets, solutions? Was it adequate?

6 responses

Ricardo was super responsive in fixing a few remaining typos. Slightly more discussion of problem set solutions or maybe more details on how solutions came about.

Adequate.

It is adequate.

Okay

Lecture notes were definitely useful, but I did find myself occasionally reaching for textbooks or googling for more details. Potentially having some alternative or equivalent definitions might be useful in certain areas. We don't need to cover them in the lecture, but just as a reference. I also thing it's useful to have the proofs written up, both as an example of what level of detail is required when we prove something and because it makes it easier to follow when the pace is fast.

I really appreciated the lecture notes, video recordings, problem sets, and solutions. It made learning the material easier .

5. Please provide some feedback on my teaching and, if you wish to, suggest any changes I could do or particular points where I could/should/must improve.

5 responses

Well done! Teaching online is really hard. There might be ways to use features like hand raising on Zoom to check if there are no questions.

Thank you!

The teaching was excellent.

The pace was a tiny bit fast for me in parts, but that is just what needed to happen to cover the material. I think it would have been helpful to have 5 days of classes but 2 hours per day instead of 3 hours on 3 days. That gives a touch more time to cover the material and also breaks up the sessions to give it more time to sink in for us as well.

Overall, your teaching is great. You were very open to questions and discussion.

6. Please feel free to add any other comments/suggestions about anything you want, including my teaching style, the course, the department, etc.

3 responses

Please add non-mandatory tutorial for discussing problem sets.

Thank you very much

I think that in future it would be useful to have group work times set up in advance by the department. I know from a couple of friends in other programs that this is what some other schools did. Having a preset time for us to work in groups on zoom would facilitate more interactions within the cohort. As it happened, we barely worked together on the problem sets at all. Putting the onus to organize zoom meetings on the students, who don't know each other yet, is tough. It makes it unlikely that we'll end up working together and getting to know each other. I also think that we would have benefited from some sort of orientation style meetings in the first week. Just to get to know each other a little and to get to know the department. These are not criticisms of the math camp per se but more of the overall first couple of weeks. I think once again this is a situation where the department could have taken more initiative rather than putting the onus on incoming students. Again, I know from friends that this was true of other departments.