

University of Michigan

Winter 2023 Instructor Report

MATH 462-001: Math Models

Ruby Kim

15 out of 15 students responded to this evaluation.

Responses to University-wide questions about the course:

	SA	A	N	D	SD	N/A	Your Median	School/College Median	Univ-Wide Median
This course advanced my understanding of the subject matter. (Q1631)	9	6	0	0	0	0	4.7	4.5	4.5
My interest in the subject has increased because of this course. (Q1632)	10	5	0	0	0	0	4.8	4.1	4.2
I knew what was expected of me in this course.(Q1633)	10	4	1	0	0	0	4.8	4.6	4.6
I had a strong desire to take this course.(Q4)	6	9	0	0	0	0	4.3	4.0	4.1
As compared with other courses of equal credit, the workload for this course was (SA=Much Lighter, A=Lighter, N=Typical, D=Heavier, SD=Much Heavier). (Q891)	1	5	9	0	0	0	3.3	3.1	3.0

Responses to University-wide questions about the instructor:

	SA	A	N	D	SD	N/A	Your Median	School/College Median	Univ-Wide Median
Ruby Kim seemed well prepared for class meetings. (Q230)	12	3	0	0	0	0	4.9	4.8	4.8
Ruby Kim explained material clearly.(Q199)	13	2	0	0	0	0	4.9	4.7	4.7
Ruby Kim treated students with respect.(Q217)	13	1	1	0	0	0	4.9	4.8	4.8

Responses to questions about the course:

	SA	A	N	D	SD	N/A	Your Median
Overall, this was an excellent course. (Q1)	10	5	0	0	0	0	4.8
The textbook made a valuable contribution to the course. (Q64)	1	1	7	1	0	5	3.1
The amount of material covered in the course was reasonable. (Q240)	8	6	1	0	0	0	4.6
Working with other students helped me learn more effectively. (Q256)	7	4	2	1	0	1	4.5
The grades in this course were fairly determined. (Q894)	8	6	1	0	0	0	4.6
My expected grade in this course is (SA=A, A=B, N=C, D=D, SD=E). (Q896)	13	2	0	0	0	0	4.9

Responses to questions about the instructor:

	SA	A	N	D	SD	N/A	Your Median
Overall, Ruby Kim was an excellent teacher. (Q2)	12	3	0	0	0	0	4.9
Ruby Kim handled questions well. (Q200)	12	3	0	0	0	0	4.9
Ruby Kim was willing to meet and help students outside class. (Q219)	13	2	0	0	0	0	4.9
Ruby Kim used class time well. (Q229)	14	1	0	0	0	0	5.0
Ruby Kim was concerned that we learn. (Q509)	13	2	0	0	0	0	4.9

The medians are calculated from Winter 2023 data. University-wide medians are based on all UM classes in which an item was used. The school/college medians in this report are based on classes that are upper division with enrollment of 1 to 15 in Division of Natural Sciences in the College of LS&A.

Written Comments

Comment on the quality of instruction in this course. (Q900)

Comments

The course was very well taught. The lecture slides were incredibly detailed and helpful at explaining difficult concepts. One recommendation I would have to improve the lectures would be maybe iclicker questions during the lecture(graded on participation) to ensure that everyone is following along with the content. Sometimes towards the end of lecture, I would find myself not 100% paying attention, I think iclicker would help keep me fully engaged .

The course was interesting and I liked the projects as they allowed for an application of the material.

Ruby was one of the most welcoming professors I've had here. This, combined with the material she covered and the structure of the course have made my favorite math class I've taken. The material was a good interdisciplinary mix, and Ruby frequently checked in to see how she could incorporate our other interests, such as double majors, minors, or research area. The grading of assignments was based on completion, which I feel like made me more likely to do them. With a quiz in class relating to the key concepts of the last homework, it was easy to fully understand the assignments and be able to discuss them. I think the projects for the midterm/final works really well for this class, and it was fun to be able to actually formulate some models.

Ruby is a really nice instructor. She always tries her best to help us. I'm so glad that I choose this course this semester. And I will definitely suggest my friends take her class in the future.

good job

I really appreciated the way this course was run. I liked that we were given a glimpse of several of the most common math modeling techniques, with the option and resources to explore in depth the ones we were interested in. Professor Kim was very accomodating to the interests of the class and was willing to shift around the schedule and covered topics to address interests of the class, in a handful of disciplines which was very illuminating. I think that gaining at least some familiarity with modeling techniques used in areas like biology, economics, etc. is very useful even if I am not working in those areas as I can see connections with projects I decide to work on. One comment or area of improvement that I would consider was the difficulty of the homeworks. While I appreciated that they were on the shorter side, I really would have liked the option to engage with the material and learn more about it as I felt that at times the labs and homeworks were a bit too simple. I engaged more with particular topics when working on the projects but it would have been nice to have a bit of a (perhaps optional) challenge on the homeworks as well. Overall I really enjoyed the course and the material learned will definately be helpful in my future career.

Ruby did amazing as a professor, and was constantly attentive to students' needs and interests. The course was interesting, and assignments were fairly graded and of a reasonable workload. Ruby also worked hard to ensure we covered topics that the class was interested in, working to make sure that everybody was involved and engaged.

The instructor would often come to class with simulations of the math models we would be discussing in that class and share her code on canvas with us so we could also run and modify it. This made the class much more fun and engaging for me and increased my understanding of the material. The instructor really helped us understand what was expected from us by allocating time to evaluate math models that students or her peers have created. This understanding was helpful when creating our midterm and final projects and made the class more interactive by giving us a sense of what is happening in the field rather than looking at just the classic/famous models, such as the SIR model.