

**Math 15, Winter 07 “Survey of Mathematics” (Non-majors distribution-requirement course)**

**Student year:** 1 5%, 2 16%, 3 32%, 4 42% 5 5%

**Student area:**

Science 5%  
 Social Science 26%  
 Humanities 63%  
 Engineering 0%  
 Education 0%  
 Undecided 5%

**Reason for Course**

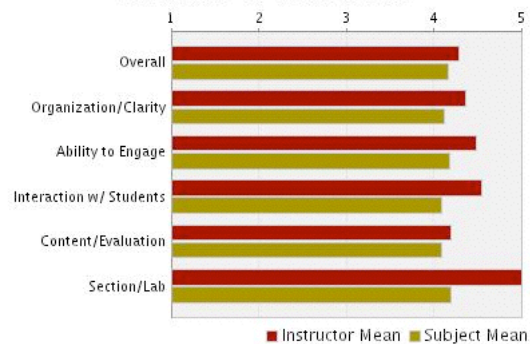
Major/minor 5%  
 GER 85%  
 Reputation 0%  
 Interest 10%

**Summary of student response statistics**

**Teaching Evaluation Summary (2006-2007 Winter)**

Instructor: **Devlin, Keith**  
 Subject: **MATH**  
 Catalog & Section: **15, 1**

**Elements of Instruction**



	<b>P (1.0)</b>	<b>F (2.0)</b>	<b>G (3.0)</b>	<b>Vg (4.0)</b>	<b>Ex (5.0)</b>	<b>N/A (-1.0)</b>
<b>Course</b>	0	1	2	7	9	0
<b>Instructor</b>	0	1	2	6	10	0
<b>Objectives</b>	0	1	1	7	10	0
<b>Knowledge</b>	0	0	0	2	17	0
<b>Clear Expl.</b>	0	1	2	5	11	0
<b>Prioritizing</b>	0	1	4	5	8	0
<b>Pace</b>	0	3	2	4	10	0
<b>Concpt. Emph.</b>	0	0	1	8	9	0
<b>Rel. to Course</b>	0	0	2	5	12	0
<b>Concern</b>	0	0	2	3	14	0
<b>Inspiring</b>	0	0	1	6	11	1
<b>Availability</b>	0	1	1	5	11	1
<b>Content</b>	0	0	4	7	8	0
<b>Logical</b>	0	0	3	6	10	0

<b>Approp.</b>	0	2	1	6	10	0
<b>Evaluation</b>	0	2	2	4	11	0
<b>Grading</b>	1	2	4	3	9	0
<b>Section/Lab</b>	0	0	0	0	1	16

### **Selected student comments**

#### **Instructor's effectiveness and attitude toward students:**

One of the best classes I have had at Stanford.

Great teaching style. Very enthusiastic and made class interesting.

Was knowledgeable about course content and helped me understand concepts.

Very engaging, passionate, and knowledgeable professor made lectures very interesting even for a non-math-oriented student. Professor was also very concerned about the class's learning, and made him self available for questions and advice at all times.

Good at explaining things

Wonderful and kind personality. Constructive with his ideas, and expressed a deep concern for how students were doing.

I thought his teaching was very effective. good helpful attitude

Very approachable, very available over email, which really helped with any insecurities that arose about quizzes or the paper.

Very effective. Professor Devlin has a great attitude and is very interested in students and making sure they get the best out of the class.

Really passionate about the material, Extremely friendly, realistic about why kids were taking the course and taught accordingly

Incredible enthusiasm and kindness for a teacher who is given the task of teaching in an introductory course.

#### **Strengths and weaknesses, if any, of the textbook(s) and reading(s).**

All readings were good. I'm glad I read them all because it helped me appreciate mathematics.

Loved the book!

The book was a great overview of math and was easy enough to understand while still being conceptually challenging. Very effective.

The book was awesome. I'm really glad we read it; I have a very good understanding of math's importance now that I lacked before.

I liked the book overall; it explained the concepts in a clear way, especially for a non-math person.

The book is obviously well suited for the purpose of the course.

### **Assignments and exams**

Quizzes were hard, but forced me to really think about the concepts that we studied. I didn't like the final paper because it was too short amount of time to write a paper on math.

I'm really excited about the paper.

Quizzes were difficult but fair, and at a good pace.

The quizzes were good, they really made me read.

Very well-done.

I felt the quizzes were useful in ensuring student understanding.

I think that the one quiz per week system is effective and appropriately paced for a one quarter class. The chance at the end of the quarter to relate something you have learned to something that you care about is a worthwhile exercise...and probably not much more would fit in the time allotted.

Strengths: quizzes...unfortunately

### **Additional comments**

Great class.

Very interesting class; I enjoyed it even though in the past I generally hate math. Material was well-chosen and well-presented.

Amazingly well-done for a first-time course. Thank you so much for teaching it!!

I thought it was a great way to engage non-math students in the study of mathematics; I was much more engaged than other math classes and I would definitely recommend it--not just for satisfying GERs!

Good course in that I have left more interested in math than I was previously.

Course topics/readings made me more interested in math, and now i am also a big fan of the tv show Numb3rs

Enjoyed the lectures, but also would have liked to have had more class discussions