



Dear Professor Bogdan Ion:

## Student Opinion of Teaching Questionnaire Results

This form contains evaluation results for ALGEBRA 3(MATH-2505)-1010.

Attached is a report in PDF format containing your Student Opinion of Teaching Survey results from last term. The report is best viewed and/or printed in color.

The evaluation results are broken down into three distinct categories. The first part of the report shows a breakdown of student responses to the quantitative questions. For each item, the number of students ( $n$ ) who responded, the average or mean ( $av.$ ) and standard deviation ( $dev.$ ) are displayed next to a chart or histogram that shows the percentage of the class who responded to each option for that question. The percentages are above the number on the rating scale which increases from left to right, i.e. the number 1 equals the least favorable rating and the number 4 or 5 (depending on the scale) equals the most favorable rating. The sum of percentages will equal 100%. A red mark is displayed on the chart where the average or mean is located. To calculate how many students responded to each option, multiply the number of students who answered the question by the percentage for that option. For example, if 14 students answered the question and 50% responded to option 3 then 7 students marked option 3 for that item ( $14 \times .50 = 7$ ). The standard deviation is a common measure of dispersion around the mean that may be useful in interpreting the results.

If your school had previously calculated norms, they will be on OMET's website ([omet.pitt.edu](http://omet.pitt.edu)).

The second part displays individual comments to each question in the open-ended section of the evaluation. All the responses to the first question will be listed together after the first question and then the responses to the next question will be listed together after the next question, and so on.

The final part gives you a profile of the student responses to the quantitative section of the evaluation. This is a chart listing all of the means for the scaled items with a dashed red line connecting the means.

If the number of respondents for any of the scaled items is fewer than seven, please be cautious in interpreting the quantitative results.

Office of Measurement and Evaluation of Teaching (OMET)

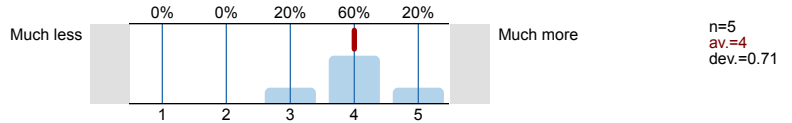
# Professor Bogdan Ion

ALGEBRA 3(MATH-2505)-10102151\_UPITT\_MATH\_2505\_SEC1010  
 Fall 2014  
 5 RESPONDENTS = 71.43% OF NUMBER REGISTERED

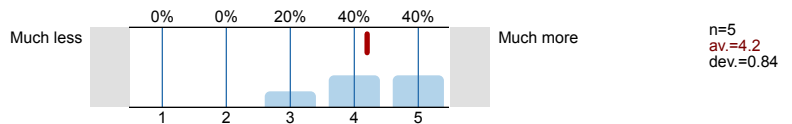


## 1. SELF RATINGS

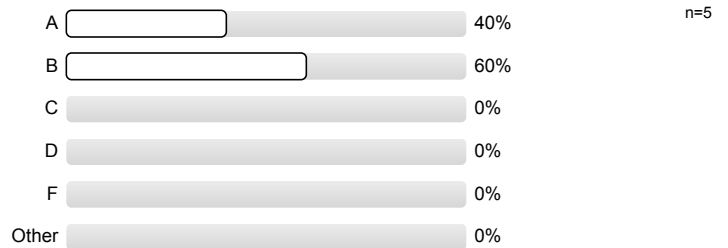
1.1) Compared to other courses at the same level, the amount of work I did was:



1.2) In this course I have learned:

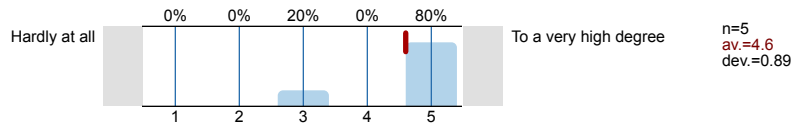


1.3) The grade I expect in this course is:

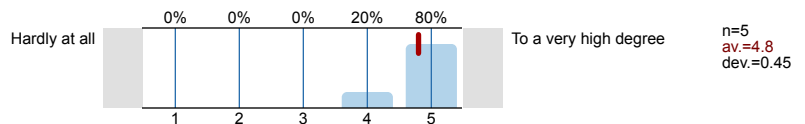


## 2. TEACHING EVALUATION

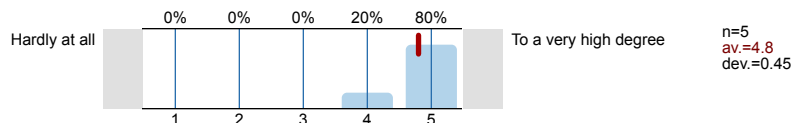
2.1) The instructor presented the course in an organized manner.



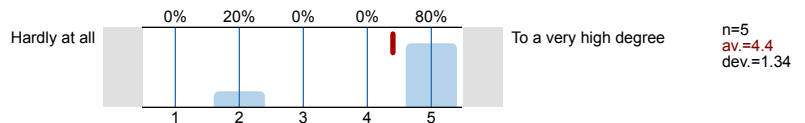
2.2) The instructor stimulated my thinking.



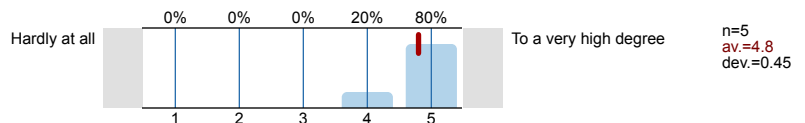
2.3) The instructor evaluated my work fairly.



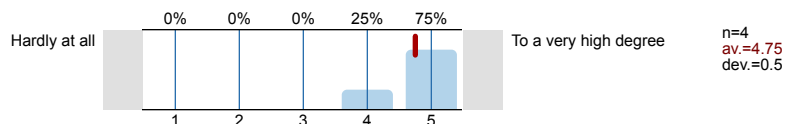
2.4) The instructor made good use of examples to clarify concepts.



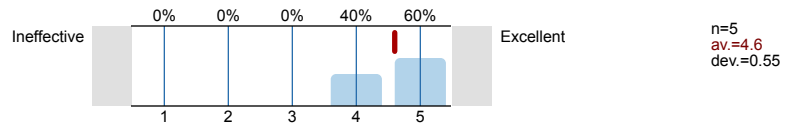
2.5) The instructor maintained a good learning environment.



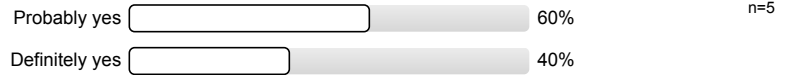
2.6) The instructor was accessible to students. (Do not answer if no basis to judge)



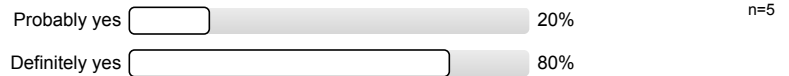
2.7) Express your judgment of the instructor's **overall teaching effectiveness**:



2.8) Would you recommend this course to other students?



2.9) Would you recommend this instructor to other students?



### 3. TEACHING COMMENTS

3.1) What were the instructor's major strengths?

- Dr. Ion is obviously extremely well versed in Algebra. He did a good job trying to keep everyone on the same page and explaining concepts that not everyone had seen before. Also, available and willing to discuss homework problems during office hours.
- Extremely knowledgeable about material. Able to lecture without the use of notes, and present material in an organized fashion. That is he didn't often need to go back and fix holes, or a missed definition. He had a clear view of what he wanted to discuss and was able to lead our discussions in that direction.
- He really knows the material and gives a good presentation.
- Professor Ion has a great way of making everything seem very clear, even very abstract concepts.

3.2) What were the instructor's major weaknesses?

- He doesn't know what sorts of things we know and do not know.
  - I found the large homework assignments a bit daunting and hard to keep up with. Maybe more frequent smaller assignments would help to keep us focused on the material at hand instead of trying to recall things from the last topic. Although admittedly we could have done a better job at keeping ourselves in check with difficult material.
  - I found the learning curve for this course was extremely sharp. Often by the time I really understood what was going on with a lecture we were already on a different subject.
- I understand the goal was to talk about particularly interesting topics but the rate we went left more questions than understanding.

### 4. COURSE COMMENTS

4.1) What aspects of this course were most beneficial to you?

- It was a great introduction to representation theory - I'm more interested in the subject than I was before taking the class.
- It was good to see some advanced topics in algebra and play around with the basic ideas in some current research areas.

4.2) What suggestions do you have to improve the course?

- Although I learned a lot, I think that rather than having a few homework assignments with many problems, it would be better if there were more assignments with fewer problems.
- Even though it was student-suggested, I would not run the class two days a week. The class periods were just too long to be able to maintain a high level of concentration throughout, which is definitely needed to keep up with lecture.
- Focus the topics a bit more. He mentioned we couldn't delve too far into some areas without spending multiple semesters on a topic, but it would have been nice to cover less topics and go a bit slower through some of the more dense topics.
- It would be very helpful to have smaller, more frequent homework assignments. If we could be working on problems related to what we're

learning in class at the same time we are learning it would help solidify all of the concepts and ideas. It's a bit overwhelming to have so many problems given at once, and would be more accessible in smaller doses.

