



Course Evaluation Fall 2024

Report grouped by students without names

MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Ryan Alvarado



Report prepared by **Explorance Support**
Created **Thursday, January 2, 2025**



Course Audience: 28
Responses Received: 20
Response Ratio: 71.43%

Individual Student Responses

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Always

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Always

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Always

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

I completed all homework assignments on time and attended as many office hours as possible.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

Professor Alvarado encouraged me to explore the material on a deeper level through the homework problems and exercises.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

I am better at thinking analytically and systematically. Additionally, I write in a more thorough and concise way in proofs,

- 05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?**

The pace was just right and the homework gave me plenty of practice with the material.

- 06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.**

Professor Alvarado was always helpful in office hours and guided me through answering the homework problems.

- 08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).**

Thank for everything you did this semester. I enjoyed your class.

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Always

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Rarely

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Rarely

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

I did all the homework to the best of my abilities which allowed me to reinforce what I learned in class and prepare for exams.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

Prof. Alvarado gave us specific examples in class that directly connected to the homework. All of our homework was very specific problems that were necessary to preparing us for exams and giving us the best understanding of the material.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

I learned how to make connections between in class examples and extrapolate them to slightly more difficult problems on homework.

05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?

I think it was a fast-paced course with a lot of work outside of class but I felt like all of it gave me a good understanding of the material and made me feel very comfortable in my ability to explain topics to others if needed.

06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.

Prof. Alvarado was always very open to meeting outside of class and providing us with more office hours than lecture time which allowed us to have the best possible comprehension of the material. We received great feedback on our exams and if we asked questions in class he would dedicate however long it took to explain them immediately.

08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).

I love taking classes with Prof. Alvarado, this is my second, and I always feel like I walk out of class feeling confident in my understanding of the material and my ability to complete exercises and difficult problems with what we learned in class.

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Rarely

Attend class

- Sometimes

Participate in class

- Rarely

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Sometimes

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

The notes system was very helpful in learning the material

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

He made sure I was doing well in the class and taught in an enjoyable way.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

Writing proofs and linear algebra

05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or

discussions in the course impact your learning?

It went well.

- 06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.**

He was a very nice professor.

- 08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).**

I was generally happy with the entire class so I don't have any negative comments

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Always

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Always

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Often

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

One particular thing that I always did that improved my learning in this course was to review all lecture notes after every class and before the next class. Linear contains a lot of information, and I found that the only way that I could support my learning was to review a lot.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

Professor Alvarado's classes are always super interactive, and he always creates an interactive learning environment that keeps the course interesting. Professor Alvarado always took the time needed to explain concepts thoroughly, making it a little easier to understand the course concepts

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

Since the course contained a lot of information and content, I had to develop a lot of organizational skills. I also became more proficient at managing my time through this course.

05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?

The pace of the class was very quick. In class, there was always a lot of information presented, and it was very difficult to keep up with the pace of the class. However, Professor Alvarado always gave a lot of examples to make it easier to understand the course content

06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.

In class and during office hours, the nature of my interactions with Professor Alvarado primarily involved asking clarifying questions and getting help with homework assignments.

08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).

Thank you!

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Always

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Sometimes

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Rarely

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

Since this course builds on itself throughout the semester, it was really helpful for me to make a comprehensive study guide so that I can easily reflect

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

Professor Alvarado is energetic in all of his classes (even when sick). He pushes us to think about concepts weeks back and connect them to what we're learning that day which is a really helpful skill to have. This is also a course that introduces proofs to people who haven't taken MATH 220, and I feel like the way he presented new proof techniques were clear.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

This course helped me improve on the proof skills in a way that improved on the way I present my proofs to be more concise and organized.

05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?

The decision to do lectures on a tablet and projector is a really smart decision because with how much content is in Linear Algebra we have to go fast-paced. Even if we go fast-paced, Professor Alvarado doesn't go super fast-paced to the point where we can't keep up, he makes sure his presentation is clear to follow and makes space for questions or people to catch up with the notes.

06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.

Professor Alvarado pushes us to ask questions like a mathematician and encourages us to share when we feel stuck and this creates a very interactive and inclusive learning environment. Alvarado often provides feedback on exams or homework problems at the start of the class.

08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).

[No Response]

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Often

Attend class

- Often

Participate in class

- Rarely

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Always

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

Bringing genuine passion for the subject. Math can be boring and long, but Professor Alvarado was always energetic and it really carried the class during long stretches

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

He always gave good direction during office hours without revealing too much. It allowed us to understand just enough before we could take off on our own.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

Math composition. Now that I've taken 271, I can take any math class basically. Professor Alvarado really helped me with my proof writing.

- 05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?**

The information was great and office hours were very accessible. Definitely a great class

- 06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.**

He was great. He was a little nit picky as a grader but that was to strengthen the students. But incredible connections with all of his students.

- 08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).**

Enjoyed the class because of him

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Often

Attend class

- Often

Participate in class

- Often

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Often

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

I think that re-reading the notes multiple times, particularly the propositions and the examples he provided in the lessons/notes, was very useful, especially right before the exam.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

It is hard to describe but Prof. Alvarado was an incredible teacher. His lessons all tied in together so if I understood one lesson, the other lesson became easier to understand for me. His lesson flowed smoothly and logically. And of course, he was very kind and helpful and very clear with his words, so it was easy for me to keep up in class, though I think the topic itself was not that difficult

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

Proofs! I learned how to write good, solid proofs for the first time in my life (though I am not the best at it yet)

05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?

The pace was perfect, and so was the presentation (because of the examples and proofs he provided in class). The syllabus outlined the expectations well, including participation credits. I was sometimes confused about questions in the assignments but that's what office hours are for. The discussion in office hours when others asked him questions that I also had was very useful.

06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.

Prof. Alvarado is very fun! He has this childish personality which I think is very cute and endearing. He is of course very helpful and answers all student's questions thoroughly. He is a very fun professor in class too and has a good number of office hours. His feedback is also thorough too

08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).

He is one of the best Profs I've had at Amherst!! I loved learning linear algebra with him :D

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Always

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Always

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Always

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

Focusing on the class materials in class then after class take notes for what is said in class.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

Professor Alvarado constantly gave us practice problems in class and instead of just lecturing us on the material he would make it extremely interactive asking us questions and even giving us the chance to ask him questions.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

I believe my abilities to parse proofs has improved immensely, I am a lot more confident in solving a proof or at least building a skeleton to solve it.

- 05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?**

The pace was great in my opinion and I felt my ability to learn was not hampered at all.

- 06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.**

The professor was always willing to help with any math problems in class or out of class and he constant offered improvements and tips students could take to add on top of their work. Furthermore, I never felt like I was just given the answer I felt like I earned every answer and if I was given the same problem I would be able to solve it by myself.

- 08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).**

You were a great professor and I immensely enjoyed your class in all facets, but in my opinion you were an even better human than professor. Also I apologize for sometimes nodding off in your class.

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Always

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Often

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Rarely

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

[No Response]

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

He has engaging lectures and really enjoys when students ask questions.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

[No Response]

05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or

discussions in the course impact your learning?

The pace was fast, but it needed to be that way.

- 06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.**

He was supportive and outgoing bringing a positive energy to math.

- 08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).**

It makes sense that we have to go through a lot of material, but when it comes to examples, I think it would be more useful to go through less of them at a slower pace. Everything else was great though.

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Rarely

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Often

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Sometimes

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

The course was extremely organized and Alvarado was very straightforward when it came to explanations and expectations.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

He was dedicated to organization and straightforwardness. Everything was transparent and clear.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

I believe by the end of the course, I synthesized an intuitive understanding of linear algebra.

- 05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?**

Everything was very deliberate and effective.

- 06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.**

His office hours were quite busy, but he still handled them well. He was eager to answer questions in lecture as well.

- 08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).**

[No Response]

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Sometimes

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Rarely

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Often

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

Things that were effective for improving my learning in this course were going to office hours and math fellow hours, as well as doing the theorem sheet assignments and using those to complete the homework.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

[No Response]

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

Skills that I gained from this course were I learned how to write mathematical proofs, and I also learned how to use given theorems/proofs/ideas to solve other problems.

- 05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?**

The presentation of information was very clear, the professor was a very engaging lecturer, and the expectations were always clear.

- 06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.**

The professor was very enthusiastic and engaging in lectures, which made the topic more interesting and made me more interested in understanding it and paying attention. Additionally, he was very available to help students during office hours and always willing to answer any question, sometimes multiple times, even if it was a very simple question. The feedback on midterms was also very clear.

- 08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).**

[No Response]

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Always

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Never

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Sometimes

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

Attending office hours, math fellows, and the Q-center allowed me to get help outside of class.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

Prof. Alvarado was a very engaging lecturer and explained concepts clearly. He was always willing to answer questions in and out of class.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

I had no experience with proofs prior to this course, so learning about how to create proofs definitely helped me.

- 05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?**

The pace of the course was fast, but not unreasonably so. This course definitely challenged me, but in a positive way. Presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments and activities were very clear.

- 06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.**

I attended office hours a few times and Prof. Alvarado very clearly answered questions. It was clear he genuinely cared about students.

- 08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).**

[No Response]

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Often

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Always

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Always

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

Attending office hours at least once weekly, asking for help when needed and asking questions when they arose in class, studying with the provided study materials and reading the textbook alongside lectures, discussing the material with my peers, sometimes attending TA help sessions, doing homework independently on the first pass and then collaborating with peers in fixing mistakes.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

Prof. Alvarado provided lots of opportunities in class for students to predict what was coming next, keeping us curious about the material and always hoping to catch the next big proposition before it comes. Several parts of the course encouraged me to apply my learning to my other subjects and world view, notably in terms of physics and computation, but also in terms of language and philosophy.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

I am much more confident in proof writing and mathematical communication, being able to apply logic with varying degrees of rigor in a mathematical argument. I feel that the content from this course fits together in a very cohesive and progressive manner, and that I feel confident with the earlier content even after moving on to later content because of its applicability to many topics within the course.

05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?

Pace was generally good, but I needed to be ready to hit the ground running every lecture (which is a good thing!). Presentation of information was clear, Prof. Alvarado is very prepared and well-versed in the material, able to give us definitions and theorems and proofs from memory and having good answers to every question. Expectations were clear (come to class on time, do assignments, go to OH, prepare for tests, etc) and fulfilling these expectations were sufficient in doing well in this course, as Prof. Alvarado implied, which I believe is a fundamental component to students' success. Questions raised and answered in class were especially helpful.

06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.

Prof. Alvarado was always both accurate and patient in answering questions, never made any student feel bad for asking genuine questions, both in class and in office hours. Availability was sufficient and diverse enough for me to attend the hours that I could attend, and Prof. Alvarado made himself available when I asked for an appointment. Feedback on both exams and homework-in-progress were detailed and useful, helping me become a better mathematician. Prof. Alvarado cultivated an inclusive learning environment and makes students feel capable of succeeding, and delivers on the promise that hard work reaps rewards.

08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).

Thank you so much for a wonderful semester, truly an inspiring experience

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Always

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Always

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Sometimes

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

Having notes available after class. This meant that I could focus on the lecture and understanding the big idea without having to worry about taking notes. Then I could review them after and solidify my understanding.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

He helped me understand how to make an argument in mathematics – how to prove that a mathematical statement is true. He also made me really appreciate linear algebra and how concepts are connected.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

Proof-writing, mathematical thinking and reasoning, understanding the fundamentals of

- 05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?**

Everything was clear and helped my learning!

- 06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.**

He made everyone feel welcome, provided ample office hours, carefully answered all student questions, and made me enjoy coming to class!

- 08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).**

Normally when professors provide notes, there is an incentive not to come to class. However, our linear algebra class was well-attended. The reason I share this observation is because it is a testament to how good of teacher Prof. Alvarado is! His lectures were engaging and brought to life his lecture notes in a way that made going to class a valuable and enjoyable experience. He is one of the best professors I've had at Amherst College. Since I'm aware that evaluations are used in decisions on tenure, I just want to comment here that I strongly believe Prof. Alvarado should be granted tenure when the time comes! This is the first time I made a point to write this in a course evaluation, however, I think he brings an amazing energy to the math department. I've have taken other math classes at Amherst but this is the first one I fully understood and looked forward to!

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Often

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Often

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Often

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

I went over the concepts taught in the class again while doing homeworks and after class, and did practice problems to enhance my learning and understanding of the concepts.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

Professor Alvarado was amazing! In class, he helped us think through mathematical reasoning and pushed us to ask questions about the concepts which helped us not only get a better understanding of the concept but also develop our mathematical intuition. I enjoyed working on math, and am considering majoring in it because of this class, and I feel like I greatly benefitted from Professor Alvarado's office hours and way of teaching.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

I have developed the ability to write mathematical proofs, which I did not have much exposure to before this class. When given a problem, I can now think about the various ways we can go about to devise a proof and the logical questions we should ask ourselves about the problem

05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?

The course was well-paced to constantly challenge us to do well and become better learners, but at the same time enough resources were provided so that it does not feel overwhelming and I am still able to understand everything. Professor Alvarado provided us with lecture notes which was super useful, his assignments were thought-provoking, and we had healthy discussions in class where I always felt welcome to ask any questions that I had. Additionally, the deadline of the homeworks were set late making it very student friendly.

06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.

I had very engaging and useful discussions with Professor Alvarado about the course material, as well as other mathematical topics that I had an interest in. He always made himself available for office hours (even though many students came) and explained the concepts thoroughly to support our learning. He also provided detailed feedback on our exams and even though the mistakes seemed minor at times, it helped me remember where I was going wrong and make a conscious effort to improve myself in those areas.

08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).

He was wonderful to learn from! He was also very accommodating and kind.

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Often

Attend class

- Often

Participate in class

- Rarely

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Sometimes

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

I would say there are a few things that make Professor Alvarado such an exceptional lecturer. First off, he explains topics very clearly, making sure to always give concrete examples while also covering the broader theory behind everything we learn. He also answers questions well and is always happy and open to answer any question, no matter how lost someone may seem.

The course was also very well structured, with the homework assignments pushing you and forcing you to really understand the material. But what really differentiates Professor Alvarado is his clear passion and dedication to teaching, math, and his students. The passion he has for the subject and the care he has for his students are infectious, pushing me to work hard while also enjoying the material.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

I'd say this is similar to what I mentioned above — his clear passion for the subject and

his dedication to teaching make him an exceptional lecturer. He explains topics clearly, gives concrete examples, and is always happy to answer any question.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

I'd say the primary skill I gained is how to write proofs and think logically — in other words, how to handle upper-level math classes.

05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?

See above and below.

06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.

Professor Alverado is the best professor I've had at Amherst. I had the pleasure of taking Math 121 with him last year, and the enthusiasm and clear dedication he brings to every class is infectious. He consistently arrives with energy, a smile on his face, and a seriousness that makes me feel excited and happy to be in his class.

He strikes a rare balance between being extremely supportive and pushing students to be the best they can be. I experienced health problems during the semester, to the point where I was close to not completing it. Despite this, I felt supported, comfortable, and excited in Professor Alverado's class. His class was one of the reasons I decided not to take a gap semester and finish the semester.

His assignments are challenging but fair, and he is always available to help and answer questions in office hours. His lectures are clear, and he posts his notes on Moodle, which is especially helpful for me since I struggle with taking notes. This allows me to focus on understanding the material rather than frantically writing everything down.

In summary, Professor Alverado's clear passion for teaching and his incredible care for his students make him an exceptional professor. Amherst is lucky to have him.

08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).

Thank you.

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Always

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Sometimes

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Rarely

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

Completing homework assignments and attending lectures was very good for my learning.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

Professor Alvarado brought so much energy to his teaching, and made the subject feel like a narrative. Topics built logically off of each other, and I always felt like I knew where I was within the material and how we had gotten there.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

This was my first experience with proofs, and I think it was a nice way of learning that skill.

- 05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?**

Lectures were well paced, and assignments were very helpful for gaining a deeper understanding of lecture material.

- 06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.**

Professor Alvarado encouraged students to engage in class and seemed to build a connection with each student.

- 08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).**

[No Response]

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Often

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Sometimes

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Often

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

Something that I felt was particularly effective for improving my learning in the course was reviewing my notes after class and doing the exercises left for us to complete after class. This helped so that I really got the material in my head and so I didn't have to relearn the material when I later went to do the homework or study for the midterms. Going to office hours was also very helpful for improving my learning in this course.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

This course stimulated my intellectual interests because Professor Alvarado always brought high energy into the classroom that made me excited about what we were learning. He also shaped our thinking by encouraging us to ask questions after introducing a new concept—in this way students were challenged to think of what information they needed and the questions would guide the structure of the course; this shaped my intellectual curiosities.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

This course really improved my proof writing skills, both in how to approach proofs and also in how to write proofs in the clearest way for other people to follow. The course really emphasized the importance of writing proofs, and it challenged me in order to prepare me for higher level math courses.

05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?

The overall design of the course supported my learning. I felt like expectations were very clear, and assignments and exercises helped me to learn the material. The pace was definitely fast, but it helped that Professor Alvarado posted notes in an online notebook so that students were able to focus on understanding the lecture in class instead of just rushing to write down notes.

06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.

I had very positive interactions with Professor Alvarado. He cultivated an inclusive learning environment and was very encouraging of students when they asked questions in class or in office hours. He went above and beyond in getting to know students on a personal level, as he asked students about their personal lives and also went to events (such as orchestra concerts) to support students. He also made a lot of effort to ensure his office hours worked with people's schedules.

08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).

[No Response]

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Often

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Rarely

Complete assignments

- Often

Meet with professor outside of class

- Rarely

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

I think that the homeworks always did a good job of affirming what we learned, and the theorems/definitions sheets forced me to actually go back and look through the notes which i rarely do in other classes (even though I really should) but also then allowed me to put the most important information in an easily reviewable manner that made cramming for tests much easier.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

He had great energy and made learning the material actually pretty interesting. Going in, I was dreading this class but by the end of the semester it became my second favorite class (and favorite math class I've taken thus far)

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

Learned how to solve linear equations and transformations in all sorts of finite dimensions.

- 05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?**

It was a very well–designed, well–run and well–taught course that significantly helped my learning.

- 06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor’s engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.**

He's very fun and engaging and makes the material interesting to learn.

- 08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).**

W professor

Individual Student Responses (continued)

Please note: If the customizable 7th question is not displayed, it indicates that the instructor has not provided a question for this section.

Course Name: MATH-271-01-2425F Linear Algebra

Instructor Name: Ryan Alvarado

01. How often did you:

Prepare for class

- Often

Attend class

- Always

Participate in class

- Rarely

Complete assignments

- Always

Meet with professor outside of class

- Often

02. Using specific examples, please briefly describe what you did that you feel was particularly effective for improving your learning in this course?

Prof. Alvarado was incredibly kind, supportive, and brought so much energy and enthusiasm to the subject matter.

03. In what ways did this course and instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) stimulate or shape your intellectual interests, thinking, and/or imagination?

This class confirmed that I want to be a math major and that it is something I am capable of. I felt like I was able to really find joy in the process of learning this material, especially when I was able to talk through concepts one on one with Prof. Alvarado.

04. Please describe the most significant skills and/or knowledge that you gained or further developed during this course.

I think I learned to trust myself more to do things independently and really push myself before asking for help on assignments and problems.

05. Considering the overall design of the course, how did the pace, presentation of information, clarity of expectations, assignments, activities, and/or discussions in the course impact your learning?

The structure of the course was very clear and I enjoyed getting into the rhythm of a weekly pattern. While the pace of the course was somewhat fast, I was incredibly grateful for all the outside help available, specifically Prof. Alvarado's office hours. The fast-paced lecture-style nature of class was well-accompanied by opportunities to ask questions and engage with other students in office hours.

06. Please describe the nature of your interactions with the instructor [Ryan Alvarado](#) in this course, including the instructor's engagement with student questions and ideas in class, their cultivation of an inclusive learning environment, their availability outside class, and the feedback you received on your course work.

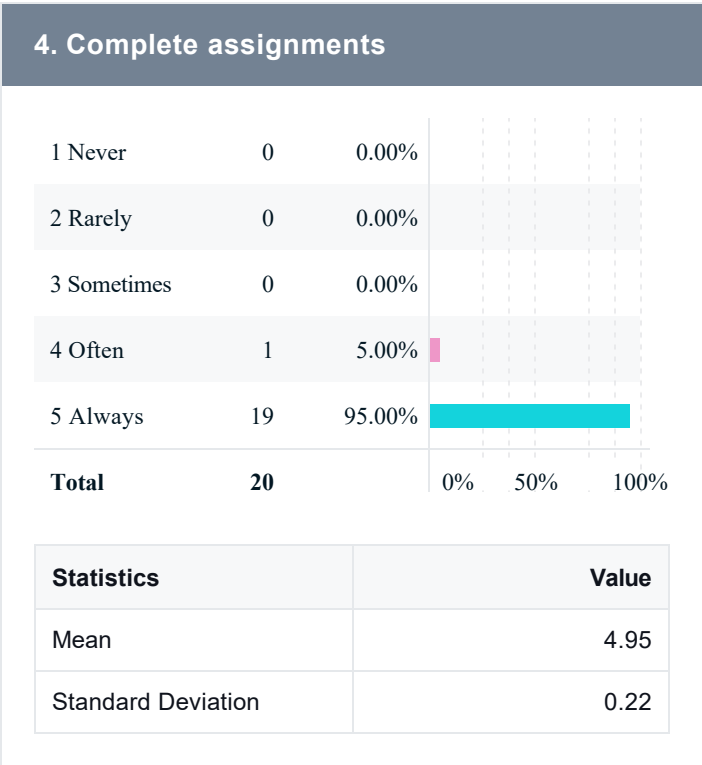
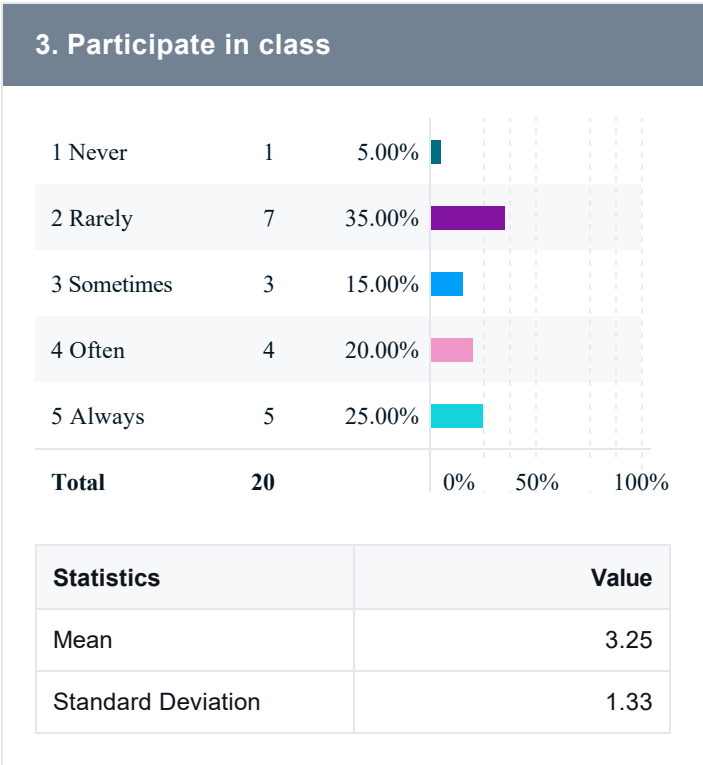
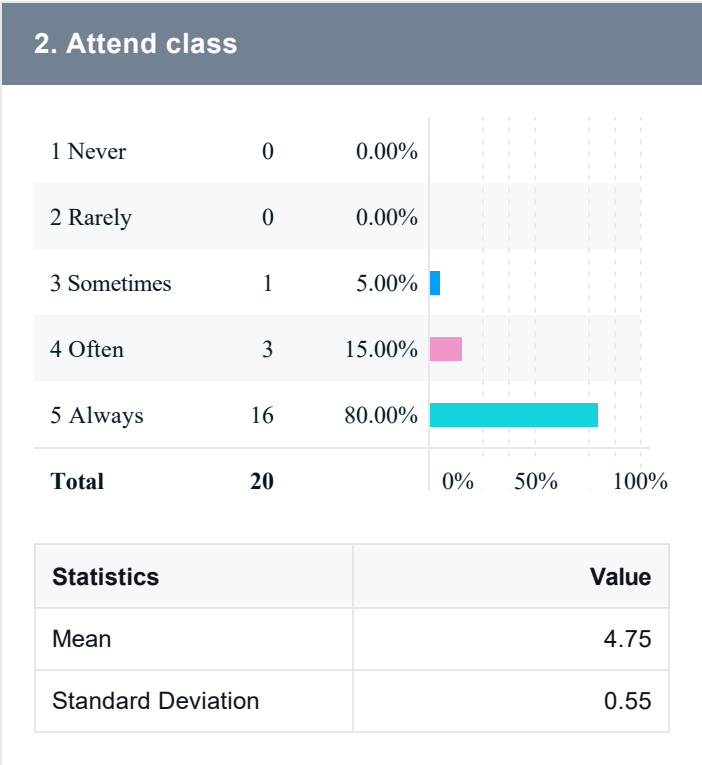
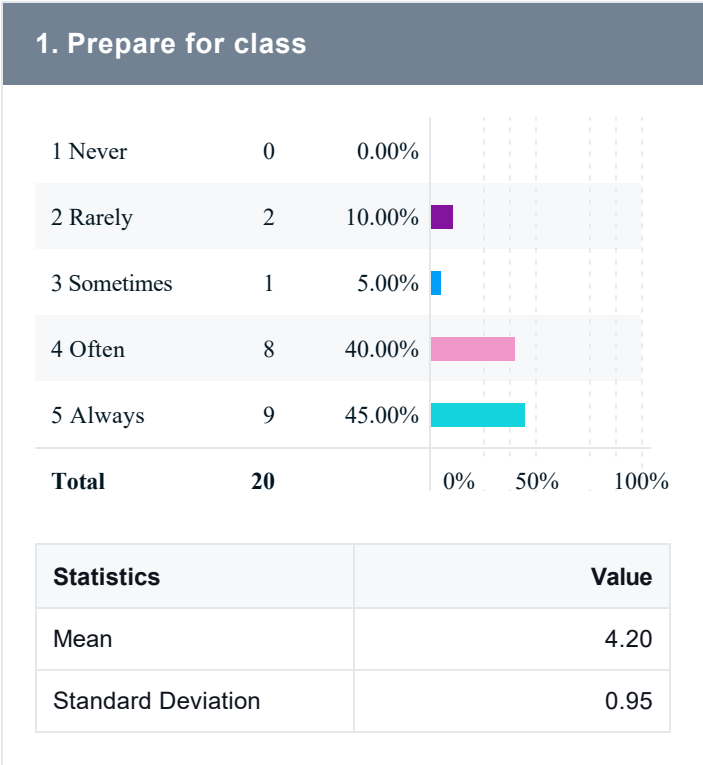
Even on such a tight schedule, Prof. Alvarado always welcomed and encouraged questions during class. His availability outside of class was one of the most helpful experiences in the class. He never made any question feel like a stupid question and I could tell he genuinely cared about all of his students (in both their success and engagement in the class as well as their life outside of class).

08. Type your comments below for [Ryan Alvarado](#).

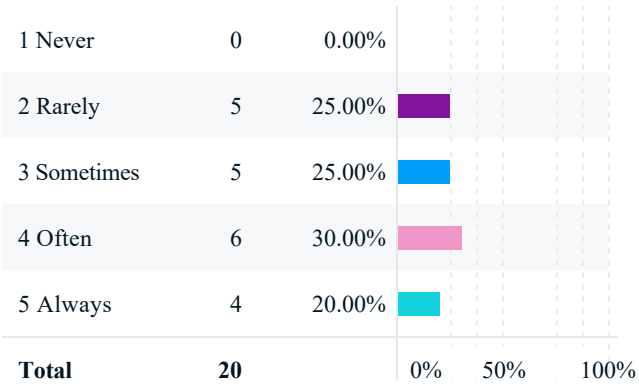
[No Response]

Question 1 Statistical Summary

How often did you:



5. Meet with professor outside of class



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.45
Standard Deviation	1.10