



PRIVATE and CONFIDENTIAL

## Student Evaluation of Teaching Results - Spring 2017

Thomas W Mattman,

Enclosed you will find the results of the Spring 2017 Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET) for your course:

2023\_MATH\_449\_01\_01 - Modern Algebra - Discussion

The SET form administered was SETFormU.

An overall indicator is listed first. It consists of an average of the following scales:

- Part B

The overall indicator is followed by the individual average values of the scales mentioned above. In the second part of the analysis the average values of all individual questions are listed. Written comments (if any) will follow the individual question analysis.

If you have any further questions do not hesitate to contact the Office of Institutional Research.

Ben Juliano  
Interim Chief Institutional Research Officer  
and WSCUC Accreditation Liaison Officer

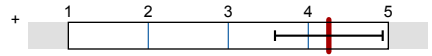


# Thomas W Mattman

Modern Algebra - Discussion (2023\_MATH\_449\_01\_01) Spring 2017  
 No. of responses = 8

## Overall indicators

3. **Part B** ( $\alpha = 0.91$ )

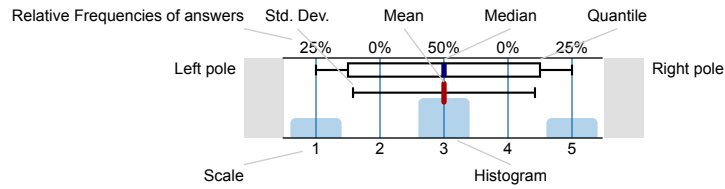


av.=4.26  
dev.=0.67

## Survey Results

### Legend

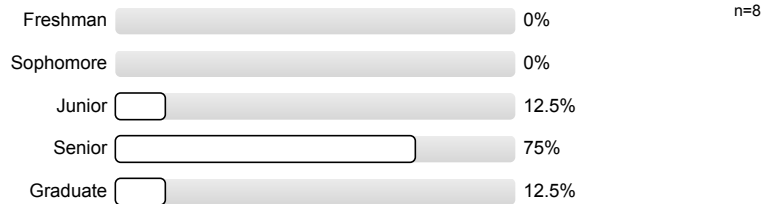
Question text



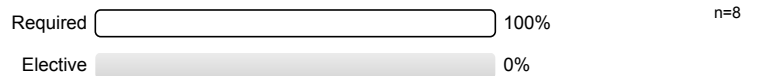
n=No. of responses  
 av.=Mean  
 md=Median  
 dev.=Std. Dev.  
 ab.=Abstention

## 1. General Information

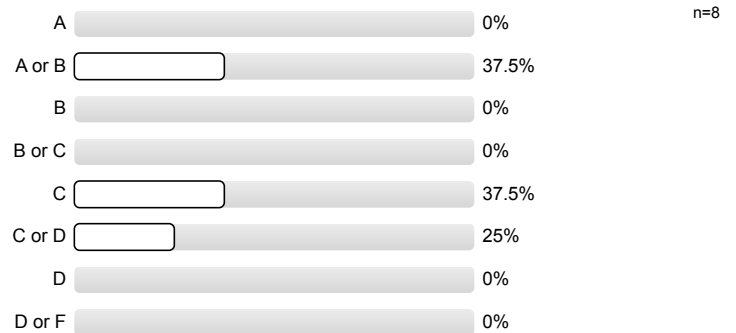
1.1) **You are a:**



1.2) **Is this course:**

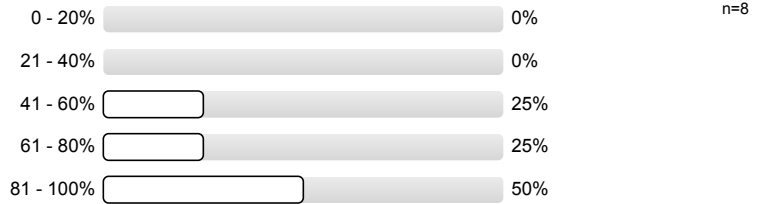


1.3) **Expected Grade:**



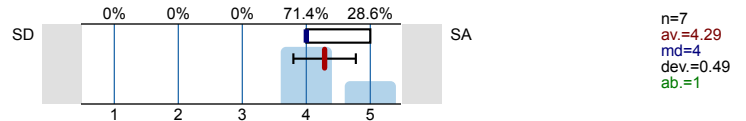
**2. Part A** Mark the answer that best applies.

2.1) How well are you keeping up with the assignments and reading for this course? (Give a percentage estimate)

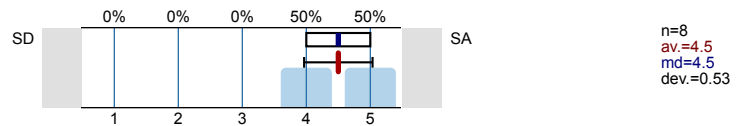


**3. Part B**

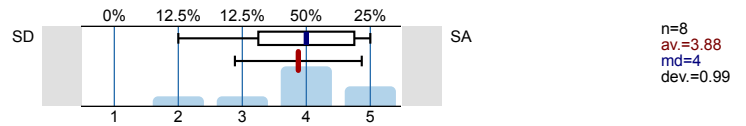
3.1) The syllabus explains course requirements.



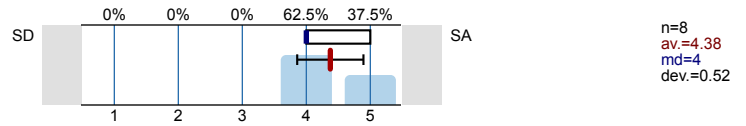
3.2) My overall knowledge of the subject matter has increased due to the instruction of this course.



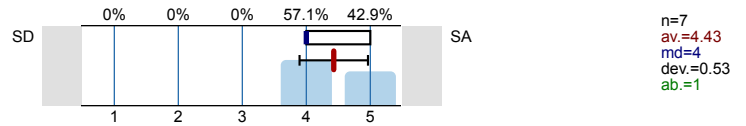
3.3) The instructor presents the material in an understandable way.



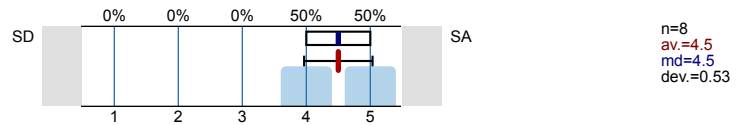
3.4) The instructor is well prepared for class.



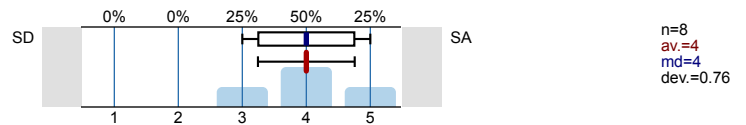
3.5) The instructor follows the course syllabus.



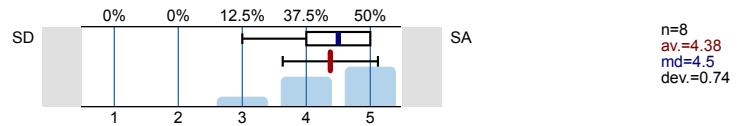
3.6) The instructor is available during office hours.



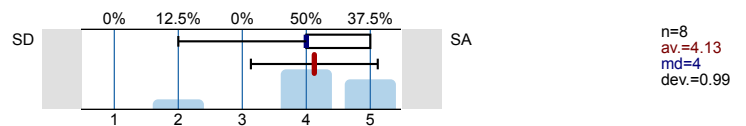
3.7) The course assignments contribute to learning.



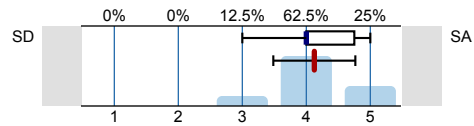
3.8) The instructor gives appropriate feedback.



3.9) The instructor communicates high expectations for student achievement.

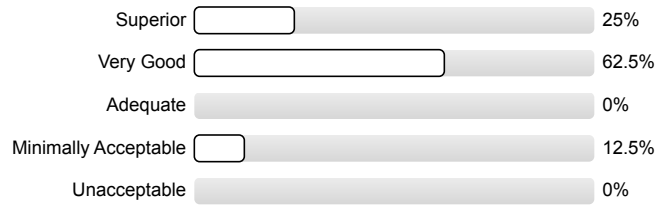


3.10) **The instructor monitors student learning throughout the course.**



n=8  
av.=4.13  
md=4  
dev.=0.64

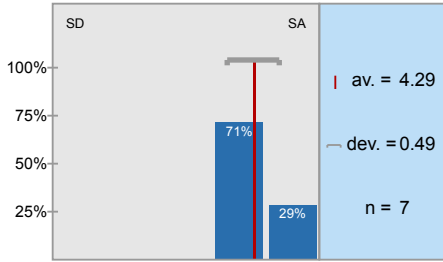
3.13) How do you rate the overall quality of teaching in this class?



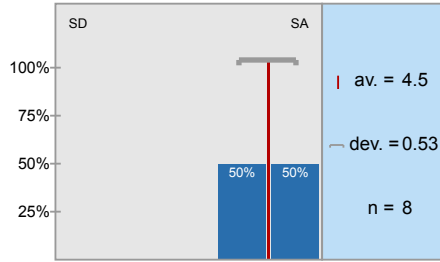
n=8  
av.=2  
dev.=0.93

Histogram for scaled questions

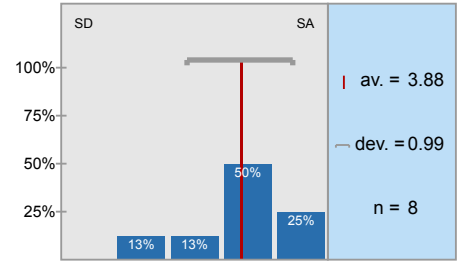
The syllabus explains course requirements.



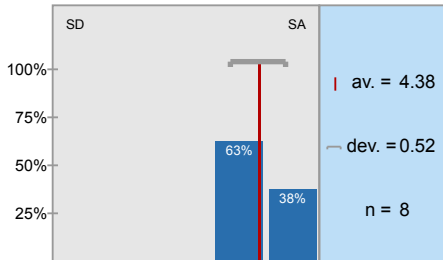
My overall knowledge of the subject matter has increased due to the instruction of this course.



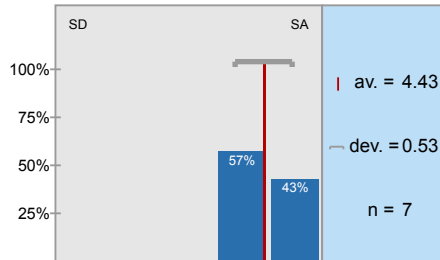
The instructor presents the material in an understandable way.



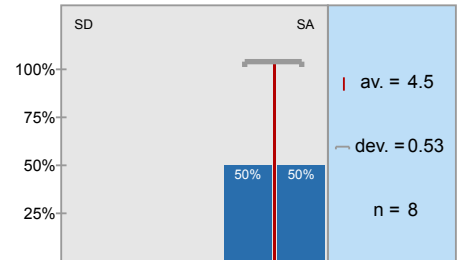
The instructor is well prepared for class.



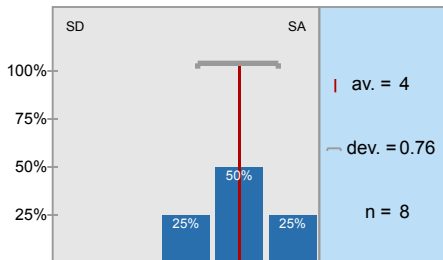
The instructor follows the course syllabus.



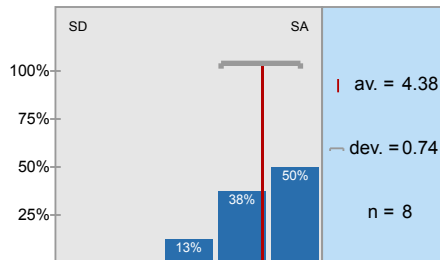
The instructor is available during office hours.



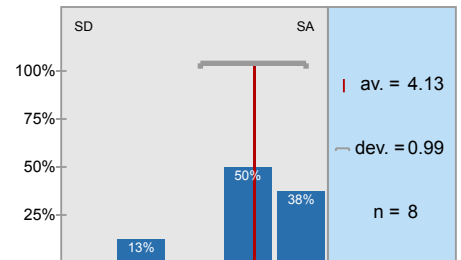
The course assignments contribute to learning.



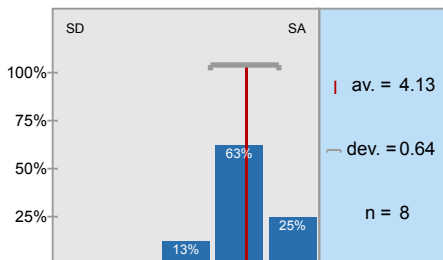
The instructor gives appropriate feedback.



The instructor communicates high expectations for student achievement.



The instructor monitors student learning throughout the course.



# Profile

Subunit: NSC - Mathematics and Statistics  
 Name of the instructor: Thomas W Mattman  
 Name of the course: Modern Algebra - Discussion  
 (Name of the survey)

Values used in the profile line: Mean

## 3. Part B

3.1) The syllabus explains course requirements.	SD					SA	n=7	av.=4.29	md=4.00	dev.=0.49
3.2) My overall knowledge of the subject matter has increased due to the instruction of this course.	SD					SA	n=8	av.=4.50	md=4.50	dev.=0.53
3.3) The instructor presents the material in an understandable way.	SD					SA	n=8	av.=3.88	md=4.00	dev.=0.99
3.4) The instructor is well prepared for class.	SD					SA	n=8	av.=4.38	md=4.00	dev.=0.52
3.5) The instructor follows the course syllabus.	SD					SA	n=7	av.=4.43	md=4.00	dev.=0.53
3.6) The instructor is available during office hours.	SD					SA	n=8	av.=4.50	md=4.50	dev.=0.53
3.7) The course assignments contribute to learning.	SD					SA	n=8	av.=4.00	md=4.00	dev.=0.76
3.8) The instructor gives appropriate feedback.	SD					SA	n=8	av.=4.38	md=4.50	dev.=0.74
3.9) The instructor communicates high expectations for student achievement.	SD					SA	n=8	av.=4.13	md=4.00	dev.=0.99
3.10) The instructor monitors student learning throughout the course.	SD					SA	n=8	av.=4.13	md=4.00	dev.=0.64

## Comments Report

## 3. Part B

3.11) What did your Instructor do to make this class a good learning experience for you?

- He breaks down difficult concepts into simpler modules that make them much easier to understand. Very helpful feedback
- He was very helpful to me when I had questions. He always kept his office hours and returned assignments in a timely manner, with great feedback. Despite the difficulty of the class, he always tried to make sure we were understanding the curriculum.
- I did not find this class to be a good learning experience. I think the content is difficult already, but the assignments and grading make it worse. There may be a reason why Dr. Mattman structures his class in this way (possibly to prepare us for MATH 420?), but it makes it very difficult to feel like you understand what is going on. I really dislike the participation because the lectures don't make sense so I cannot contribute to the in class questions. However, asking us to prepare homework problems to present is a great way to help us through some of the hard ones. I think that there should be less problems on the homework if Dr. Mattman expects us to complete it to the quality that he expects. It is difficult to do so when you have 10 problems to do. Also, I think having more examples would be really helpful; or at least explanations of the theorems. If I don't understand the theorem, I will not be able to prove it. A lot of the students are failing, so I really hope there is some sort of curve at the end. Another thing that would make this a better class is if we got credit for redoing exam problems. I got a 34/50 on my midterm, and I would have done the revisions if it made more of a difference to my grade. For example, for each problem you redo correctly I will give you 1/2 credit for the entire problem. Mary Matthews does a great job of this. This method would actually make me strive to learn the proofs rather than want to rip my test in half as soon as I get it back because I feel as though I will not pass this course.
- Participation is required, so it is easier to engage in whatever we are talking about because it is not just passive learning.
- The texts Professor Mattman chose were well thought out and easier to follow than other mathematics texts I have used.  
Professor Mattman is respectful of his students.
- provides good feedback and answers to questions  
always willing to help more in office hours

3.12) What could your instructor do in the future to make this a better class?

- More graphics.
- Answered above
- Decrease the homework size. Each week there was a lot of homework, and it became very daunting with other classes that I am doing homework for. Other than that, this class has been great.
- It's hard to say. I'm not a huge fan of the attendance/participation grade, but that may be a necessary evil needed to get many students to keep up.
- The textbooks we use are not good reference books, for the most part, they seem like upgraded workbooks. I worry that I am going to have trouble connecting what I've learned in this class with other concepts in later classes. For example, take the apple berry ring, this clearly has a real name in mathematics but that name never comes up in the book.
- more examples with the theorems during class, at least to understand the concept behind the theorem for a start

3.14) **IMPORTANT:** Please give at least one reason to justify your rating.

- Dr. Mattman gives great feedback, both on how something is correct as well as how something is not correct. He clearly cares about each of his students; this is obvious in his availability and by the timely manner in which assignments/tests are graded. The only thing that keeps me from giving him the superior rating is that the class seemed to be mostly geared towards math ed students. As a non-math ed student, I am not certain that I have as good of a grasp on field theory or group theory as I probably should, however, I think this has more to do with our textbooks than his teaching.
- Gave examples, always wanted to help us understand, never cancelled class.
- He does a great job of making mysterious concepts accessible. In addition to clear explanations, the class content is structured such that later concepts build on earlier ones. There is a good sense of cohesion in the material
- The instructor tries to offer a manageable amount of material for each class. His presentations are generally clear and easy to follow.
- There are a lot of things to improve on to make this a better learning experience and better class.

- the homework was really hard. mostly because the book was hard to make sense from. the number 2 problems I felt totally lost on the whole time and as much as I studied online I just couldn't figure out what to do.