



# UC RIVERSIDE - Faculty Instruction Evaluation (iEval)

## Winter 2014

Course: MATH 008B Section: 001 - INTRO TO COLL MATH  
 FOR SCIENCES  
 Instructor: Soheil Safii  
 Home Dept.: Mathematics

Enrollment: 98  
 Respondents: 82  
 Response Rate: 84%

Enrollment: 4498  
 Respondents: 3440  
 Response Rate: 76%

Enrollment: 64823  
 Respondents: 50450  
 Response Rate: 78%

Questions	Course							Department				Campus					
	5 High	4	3	2	1 Low	N/A	Mean	Med	SD	% tile	Mean	Med	SD	% tile	Mean	Med	SD
1 I had a strong desire to take this course	45	19	14	2	2	-	4.3	5.0	1.0	72	3.9	4.0	1.1	72	4.0	4.0	1.1
2 I attended class regularly	65	13	4	-	-	-	4.7	5.0	0.5	77	4.4	5.0	0.9	80	4.4	5.0	0.8
3 I put considerable effort into this course	54	22	5	1	-	-	4.6	5.0	0.7	80	4.3	4.0	0.8	79	4.3	4.0	0.8
4 I gained a good understanding of the course content	55	24	3	-	-	-	4.6	5.0	0.6	90	4.0	4.0	1.0	83	4.2	4.0	0.9
5 I normally spent at least two hours preparing for each hour of class	36	29	11	5	1	-	4.1	4.0	1.0	67	3.9	4.0	1.0	65	3.9	4.0	1.1
6 Instructor was prepared and organized	74	6	2	-	-	-	4.9	5.0	0.4	95	4.2	4.0	1.0	96	4.4	5.0	0.8
7 Instructor used class time effectively	69	11	2	-	-	-	4.8	5.0	0.4	89	4.3	5.0	1.0	91	4.3	5.0	0.9
8 Instructor was clear and understandable	75	4	2	-	-	-	4.9	5.0	0.4	96	3.9	4.0	1.2	97	4.2	4.0	1.0
9 Instructor exhibited enthusiasm for subject and teaching	67	13	2	-	-	-	4.8	5.0	0.5	90	4.2	5.0	1.0	90	4.4	5.0	0.8
10 Instructor respected students; sensitive to and concerned with their progress	74	6	2	-	-	-	4.9	5.0	0.4	94	4.2	4.0	1.0	95	4.4	5.0	0.9
11 Instructor was available and helpful	75	5	2	-	-	-	4.9	5.0	0.4	94	4.2	4.0	1.0	95	4.3	5.0	0.9
12 Instructor was fair in evaluating students	76	4	2	-	-	-	4.9	5.0	0.4	95	4.2	4.0	1.0	95	4.3	4.0	0.9
13 Instructor was effective as a teacher overall	73	8	1	-	-	-	4.9	5.0	0.4	96	4.0	4.0	1.1	96	4.3	4.0	0.9
14 The syllabus clearly explained the structure of the courses	62	18	2	-	-	-	4.7	5.0	0.5	88	4.3	4.0	0.8	86	4.4	5.0	0.8
15 The examinations reflected the materials covered during the course	67	13	2	-	-	-	4.8	5.0	0.5	94	4.3	4.0	0.9	92	4.3	4.0	0.8
16 The required readings contributed to my learning	49	11	22	-	-	-	4.3	5.0	0.9	70	3.9	4.0	1.0	71	4.2	4.0	0.9
17 The assignments contributed to my learning	69	11	2	-	-	-	4.8	5.0	0.4	94	4.2	4.0	0.9	90	4.3	4.0	0.9
18 Supplementary materials (e.g. films, slides, videos, demonstrations, guest lectures, iLearn, web pages, etc) were informative	57	12	13	-	-	-	4.5	5.0	0.8	89	4.0	4.0	1.0	76	4.2	4.0	0.9
19 The course overall as a learning experience was excellent	64	14	2	-	-	-	4.8	5.0	0.5	95	3.9	4.0	1.1	93	4.2	4.0	0.9
20 Q1	6	-	1	-	-	-	4.7	5.0	0.8	88	4.1	4.0	0.9	88	4.2	4.0	0.9
21 Q2	5	-	1	-	-	-	4.7	5.0	0.8	83	4.1	4.0	1.0	88	4.2	4.0	0.9
22 Q3	5	-	1	-	-	-	4.7	5.0	0.8	89	4.1	4.0	1.0	88	4.2	4.0	0.9
23 Q4	5	-	1	-	-	-	4.7	5.0	0.8	88	4.1	4.0	1.0	87	4.2	4.0	0.9
24 Q5	5	-	1	-	-	-	4.7	5.0	0.8	84	4.1	4.0	1.0	88	4.2	4.0	0.9

\* The number of N/A is not included in the Mean, Median, and S.D. calculation.



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Instructor: Soheil Safii

**Question # 25:** Please comment on how the instructor's teaching helped your learning of the material in this course. Please give serious thought to your comments. Your comments will be studied by the professor after the grade and performance evaluation of your work have been submitted and may be used in changing future offerings of the course. In addition, these comments are placed in the instructor's file and may be used for purposes of evaluating the instructor's teaching. The information collected will remain anonymous.

- BEST math professor. Very very fair. TEACH MATH 9B!!
- Prior to college math was not my favorite subject, I always had trouble since Algebra 2 was presented to me. Having Soheil for the past two quarters changed all that for me. He is a great teacher that is able to teach and make things understandable. I had taken Trig and Calculus both in high school, and I was able to pretend my way through those classes, it isn't the same in college. But the thing is I don't have to pretend like I understand the course material, because I actually do, and I like math a lot more. I am truly appreciative of my professor Soheil.
- Continue to teach the way you have been teaching because I have taken 2 courses from you including this one and I have a good understanding of the material. I think the one thing I would suggest is to make sure your TAs are teaching the same material because sometimes in class I would get confused between the two different ways taught to me: one by you and the other by the TA. Thank you for 2 great courses!
- Really chill. Really like this teacher.
- Professor Soheil Safii was the nicest and best teacher I've had this quarter. His way of teaching is unique because he explains it the concept with a lot of details, and constantly repeats how he solves a problem so that the students can understand better the subject. He is an excellent teacher.
- Soheil is always organized and makes lessons simple to understand. You can really tell he cares for people to do well in his course but at the same time he challenges us to do better.
- Good at explaining the material. Overall thought the way things were taught were helpful.
- It was a great class with an amazing instructor.
- Great teacher! Does not skip steps, goes step by step on problems. Very good teacher was always on time and always asked if we had any questions why he got a certain response after solving a problem.
- Awesome instructor, one of the best professors I have ever had. Makes the material easy to grasp and is extremely fair.
- the besttt
- Fantastic lecturer!!! My favorite so far at UCR. Soheil always comes to class extremely well prepared, rarely even looks at notes. Always teaches material slowly and everyone seems to understand. Answers any/all questions during lecture as well as in office hours. All exams and quizzes are extremely fair, no surprises. Sets a fantastic example for any professor, and I am hopeful that I'll have him as a lecturer again in the future.
- Fairest, most helpful teacher I've had. His lectures were clear and on point. No material was covered that felt intimidating or difficult thanks to his clear, concise way of presenting it. His understanding of the subject is superb. Would take every math class with this instructor if I could. Office hours were incredibly helpful. A++.
- Did a very good job at teaching the class, very effective, and understandable.
- Covered a great deal of material but at the same time thought it in a way that it didn't seem over whelming. Always their to help if some one was

not getting it or falling behind. Great teacher.

- Soheil is the best mathematics instructor I have ever had. I feel if i could have him for the most difficult mathematics course, he would make it bearable and understandable. He knows how to make the material clear and his homework helps you build your understanding further. He also goes out of his way if you do not understand something to make it clear. He provides plenty of help via email and even make special office hours when needed. If i have kids one day I hope they get instructed by a person like this man.
- Made me actually excited to attend class and sad if I missed. Made learning math enjoyable. Always made time to help students and did his best to ensure that students could succeed in the class. Great math 8A teacher and great math 8B teacher.
- Professor Safii presented his lessons very clearly and informatively. He has been one of my favorite professors because he genuinely cares about his students and prepares his teachings very productively for the class.
- good.
- Soheil Safii's Math8B course turned out to be far better than what I expected. I never actually took Calculus until this course, and Soheil made it very easy to understand. He explained things exceptionally well by answering any questions and providing us with numerous examples. Those examples guided me through the homework and helped me thoroughly understand the material. I felt well prepared for the quizzes. If I ever felt confused, I felt he was very approachable and always had a positive attitude. There is not much I can suggest he do better, because he is already well-rounded and great at teaching. I never thought of math as an enjoyable subject until now. If I could, I would take my whole math series with him as an instructor!
- Great teacher
- Professor Soheil is an amazing professor. He teaches students in a very effective way, and often goes back to reteach a concept if it is not understood fully. He has been a great math professor. He is not at all intimidating making students feel comfortable to ask questions or come to him with any concerns.
- He was a great professor.
- Thank you for the great quarter that you gave us. We had fun learning math and it was easy to understand the material that you thought us.
- I have had soheil for two quarters now, last quarter was math 8A and this quarter was 8B. I'm not going to lie; i was very scared of taking calculus, as i had never taken any form of calculus before this quarter. Math has always been a challenge for me, and i'm not sure what it was about Soheil, but i was able to understand concepts better than in any class i've taken. Soheil always demonstrated a very large amount of patience, more so than any teacher i've ever had or even seen so far in my lifetime. Furthermore, he works out every step of every problem, and i have noticed the great effectiveness of this as it allowed very few students to have any confusion about anything. In addition to his patience, Soheil was very open to any questions asked by students, and would always provide a thorough answer, even to questions asked more than once, and even consecutive ones. In his office hours, he would work out any problem a student would have, and would also maneuver through the room to ask students individually if they had any questions or concerns. A very courteous and considerate teacher; my only regret is that he won't be teaching Math 9B next quarter. I hope our paths cross in the future as i continue the rest of my undergraduate studies. Take care and best wishes, [REDACTED] oh, and thank you, soheil, for talking with me about weightlifting and training even though it was irrelevant to math. The information and training tips you gave me were very insightful, so thank you very much for everything; i really appreciate it.
- Professor Safii is a great professor, and my favorite out of the two quarters I've been here so far. He is extremely nice and respectful when responding to students in class and sending out emails, and his lectures are very effective. Provides a great learning environment. If I could choose to have him every quarter I would.
- Soheil was always prepared to lecture. He understands the material exceptionally well and is very kind and knowledgeable when a student asks him a question. Very thorough in his lectures and always cares about if the student understands the example problems or not. Excellent instructor.
- Professor Safii was an extremely excellent math teacher! The way he explains the material and answers any questions helps me understand the material better. I went to office hours regularly, and he was extremely helpful in re-explaining the material from class or discussion. Although sometimes he goes through the lesson quickly in class, I understood most of the material. I would take his course again.
- The professor was always on time to class and was well prepared with what we would be learning each day. He did teach at a fast pace but he would stop to ask if any students had any questions each time he began a new step in the math problems. There were also times when even though class finished a few minutes early, he would offer to stay and help students if they were confused about a certain question. He made sure to listen to the class and work on problems that we thought were more difficult. The professor also provided us with many examples of the same type of math problems just in case we did not understand the first time.



- Had fun in the class
- Soheil was always asking if anyone had any questions and was encouraging so that people wouldn't feel uncomfortable asking for help. He taught the course very well and made the material easier to understand.
- I WISH I can have Safii as my 9B and 9C teacher. Explains concepts well in class and is very detailed on what he wants us to know and what he will be testing us on. He genuinely cares and wants to know if the students understand the concepts. He does not make math seem more complicated than it needs to be like [REDACTED] Math should be taught exactly the way Safii teaches it. Please teach 9B!!
- Absolute best math teacher I have ever had in my student career. He is effective and teaches the material quickly, and answers questions efficiently and quickly
- Soheil was my math teacher last quarter and I also had an awesome time in his class. He is very passionate about his subject and knows what he is doing/teaching. He is willing to help us during office hours and adds additional hours for his students. The assignments he assigns is very helpful.
- Soheil Safii is a great teacher. His lectures are very easy to understand; he shows every step which is extremely helpful. One of the best teachers I've had yet.
- Safii is the PERFECT example of how every instructor on campus should be. He really cares about how well his students are doing academically. He teaches really well and is very clear and on point with the materials he is teaching. His homework and midterm review cover the materials and properly prepare the students for the exam. He encourages me to do well in math and to come to lecture every week. He gave me the chance to redeem myself from last quarter when I took Math 8B with Professor [REDACTED] I did absolutely horrible in [REDACTED]'s class because his teaching was somewhat irrelevant, hard to understand, and all over the place. Coming to Safii's class was the best decision I made thus far. What I like about his teaching is that he breaks down all the steps so that I am unable to get lost in the process. I just really wished that he would teach 9B. It would allow me to enjoy math for another quarter. Thank you for everything, Safii!
- I had Soheil for Math 8A and now for Math 8B. I have had the BEST experience with him. I usually hate math, but he makes it seem so simple and explains it extremely well. I really hope I get to finish off my math series with him in Math9B. Nothing but good things can be said about him and his effectiveness as a teacher.
- You're a great math teacher and really nice too.
- Very approachable and willing to help all students; really good at explaining difficult concepts. Overall excellent instructor
- Soheil was one of the greatest math teachers I've had. He was extremely helpful and obviously cared about the student's standing in the class. He was approachable and explained the material clearly and in such a way where I understood what he was talking about. Even after having a bad TA, he still helped me understand the material.
- Fantastic instructor...I was so glad to get him again...plz one more year..he is very fair, a clear instructor who gives in depth explanations, and makes himself available for help.it has been a great 2 quarters. Plz hire him...ucr needs this guy. Keep up the good work Soheil! Best profesor I have had yet
- Having Soheil Safii as a professor was a great pleasure. Safii knows his material extremely well and is the most helpful teacher I have had at this university.
- Great professor who was very helpful. Cares about the education of the students.
- Great teacher knows his material and is well prepared and prompt for every class
- This is the first time that I can say that I understand Math. The instructor made it amazingly clear, and he was always ready to help during office hours. I believe that the fact he exposed each method step by step made a change on the process of learning math. He always asked students if they needed clarification, his classes were straight to the point and extremely clear. Truly, one of the best math professors I have ever seen.
- Professor Safii is an exceptional instructor!! He is by far the best teacher I have had so far during my attendance at UCR. I am sure that many of my peers agree with me when I say that I wish I could have him again next quarter for Math 9B. However, he says that he does not plan on teaching it :( He comes to class very prepared and has organized the course very well. His lectures are very clear and easy to understand. He goes through many, many examples throughout the entire lecture. Some may find this tedious, but I found this method extremely helpful. It gave me more practice and helped make the concepts easier to understand. I would give Soheil 5 stars! He is the best teacher I've had by far.

- Probably the best math teacher I ever had. I thought Calculus was hard but he made it so easy and understandable. Very helpful and thoughtful of his students. Always makes sure that everybody understands before moving on. I enjoyed being in his class and I wish that he could be my teacher for the rest of my math courses!
- Definitely one of the best Math professors I have ever had. Takes his time review everything and answering questions. In addition, he cares about his students and their concerns regarding midterms, finals, and assignments in general. The way he teaches is one of the best I have encountered and I feel as if math professors such as these are definitely needed in a university that big.
- Best math instructor I've ever had. Great understanding and ability to explain content.