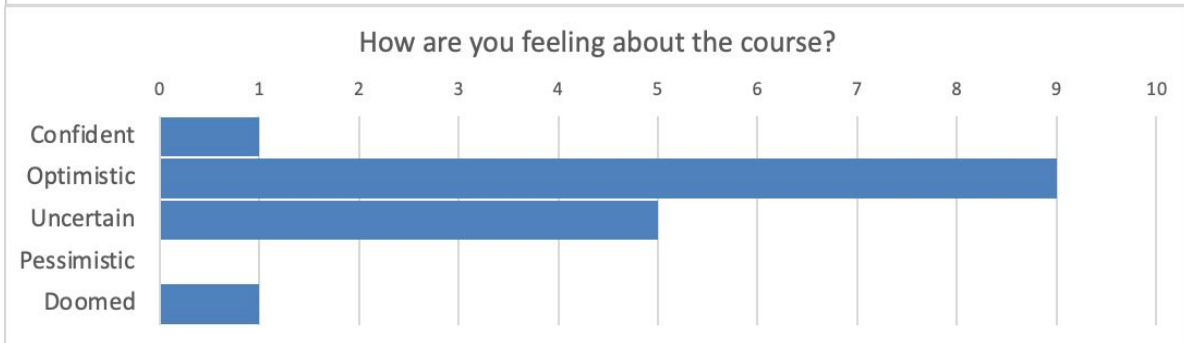
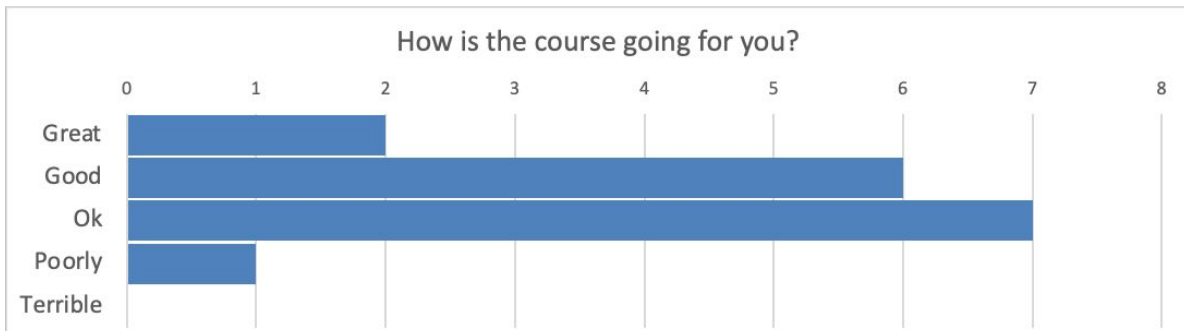
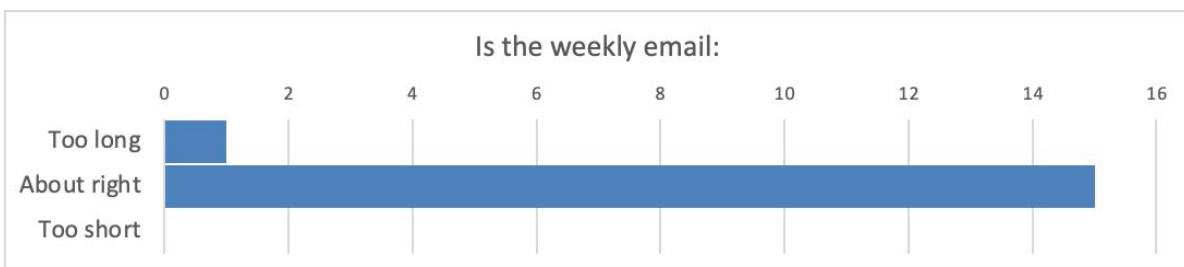


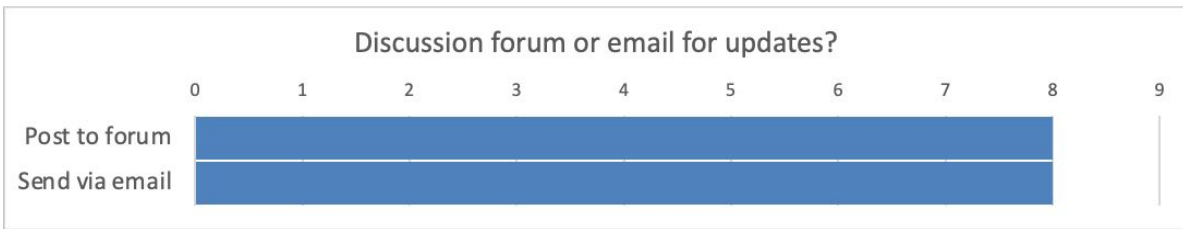
Course Survey 1: Results and Responses



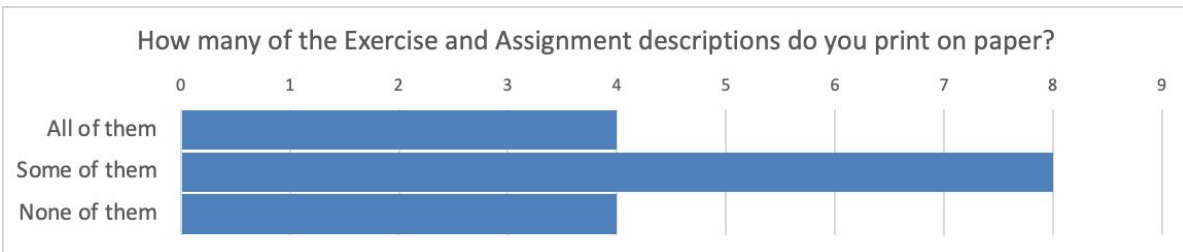
*Some good news here.
But not all good news. Obviously someone struggling. 🙄
And the three people who didn't complete the survey probably aren't thriving, so there are things to work on. Which we will!*



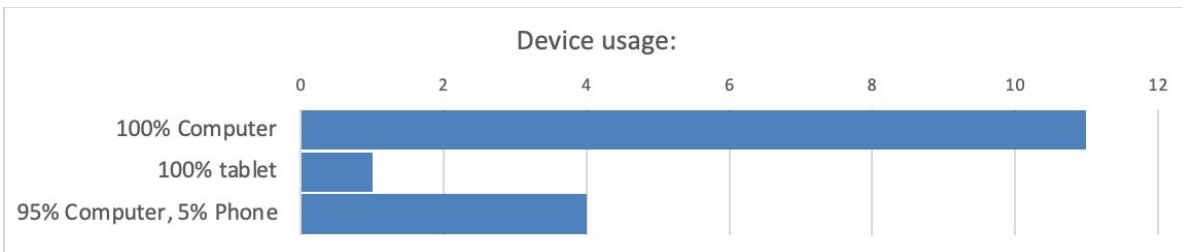
I guess I won't be changing the weekly email or the number of exercises. 😊



No clarity here though. 🙄
I'll have to think this over.



I asked this to know if I should keep producing these as printable PDFs and it looks like a lot of you depend on that, so I will.



I asked this because I was taken by surprise last year when I had four students who **only** used cell phones. 🤖 They were very nimble at zooming and panning around PDFs, but it wasn't even close to ideal. Looks like I don't have to worry about accommodating small screens this time.

What is working for you?

- *The consistency of each week. Having a number of shorter videos rather than one long one.*
- *Problem sets help me practice my skills before the assignment*
- *Length of video's are good.*
- *the scheduling*
- *I appreciate the consistency of the exercises and assignments! It is easy to build my homework schedule for my other classes around this one.*
- *The homework is helpful.*
- *The flow is regular and organized- no surprises*
- *The videos and practice exercises*
- *The math videos are very informative and explain what I need to know for the week, they are great!*
- *The communication is great. The course is organized and all of the resources are easy to find. I can't stress how important this is. I spent 30 minutes the other day just trying to find out when my presentation was in another class. I went through all of the course outlines and materials and finally found it on 1 random slide from the second week of class. Little time consuming things like that are annoying when you are trying to juggle school/work/family life. What I am trying to say is....Thank you*
- *The Pencasts are very thorough and explain everything in great detail.*
- *Everything so far*
- *I like the resources you have. The length of the videos is good, the detail you go through has made me optimistic about the course and problems but I definitely plan to reach out once I get stuck on something. I like how accessible you have made it to ask for help. Just this last week I liked viewing the first example then going through the guided exercise. Once I got a little stuck I worked on the guided exercise while viewing the second example.*
- *I like the structure of the example videos, exercise sets, and assignments. I find that doing the exercise sets right after watching the videos is good practice for the assignments.*
- *Availability of Instructor, Tutors to answer questions.*

I'll be sure to keep doing the things you've identified as positive!

Now let's see where the problems are... 😞

What is not working for you?

- Everything seems to be working okay at the moment.
- Lack of structure. I'm having a hard time learning from the videos
- I'm slightly behind on the material but that is my own fault of not having great time management. Hopefully this week I'll get ahead.
- On most Zoom recordings you can play the video at 1.5x or 2x speed which works better for me to process but this isn't an option with how the videos are uploaded
- Would prefer one set of the notes and just scroll to the section that the video is on rather than separate ones for each pen cast.
- I would like the classes to be live
- Math is challenging in person, and even more challenging online!
- I wish it was possible to watch the lectures on 2x mode. The current videos can only be watched at the regular speed and I have ADHD so I really can't focus.
- -
- If there could be another source that you suggest for me to refer to when I don't understand certain things that would be beneficial. As sometimes reading or hearing an explanation in a different way is helpful.
- Just my own issue of forgetting some basic math from the time that I last took a math course and needing to look that up online elsewhere (ie, forgot how to deal with ratios for the assignment and had to spend some time googling math videos) but everything else has been good and no need for you to add that in.
- I discovered that I felt a little overwhelmed with the amount of material to cover last week (I had a pile of assignments due in other courses...it was one of those weeks).
- Have not found anything yet
- I started off struggling with everything online but I've tried to print more and make an effort to work without my computer when I can and this has helped. I'm struggling a little bit keeping up but I've found I'm getting a better hang of it every week.
- Everything has been okay so far.
- Time. Material is taking me much longer than anticipated. I appreciate the way the course is broken down, but there are likely some assumptions and leaps in logic that I'm falling down on. I suspect this is more about my weak foundation in Math than the course itself.

See the next slide for my responses →

What I'm hearing:

Videos/Pencasts don't work for everyone &
Further resources would be helpful

→ I'll try to provide links each week to traditional textbook material online (I'll post something for this week shortly on the week page).
Unfortunately they are not always available 😞

Provide a way to watch videos at faster speed.

→ I've added playback speed buttons to the Week 5 pencasts. They work for me using Safari and Chrome on macOS. Let me know if they don't work for you.

Desire for live or in-person classes

→ We can't do that: covid, plus lots of people can't attend synchronous sessions.

But! I am happy to provide mini-lessons or just-in-time reviews during office hours.

Also, I am open to suggestions for other ways to do things...

There's a lot of material.

→ There is. It is a solid, substantial course. It would normally be spread out over 4.5 hours across three days, so be sure not to try and take it in one gulp.

I'll follow up with individuals to get more information on some points, or address specific issues.

Let me know if I've missed anything. I want to acknowledge and hopefully address all the concerns raised (but there might be things I can't do anything about it 😞).

How is the content mix working for you?

I should be able to provide the slideshows in PDF format as well so they can be downloaded. Remind me if I don't!

- The content mix works well for me. I live out of town and don't have a good internet package. Therefore, I usually download most things while in town, but i can't do that with the slideshows. Not a big deal as they don't take much data, but a download option would be nice. I appreciate you making the videos downloadable. Other instructors have not.
- It's okay. But I wish we had more structured text
- Great!
- Good
- Good
- I would like there to be audio for all of it
- Yes, I really like the pencasts!
- It's fine, I wish there was something a little more interactive. They get a little hard to follow.
- It's good
- The content formatting is good as i can choose which format will be best for my learning or rewatching.
- The mix is good, i mostly rely on the videos and will watch back anything that I am struggling with as if I just look it at on a slide I don't know how the answer is found, I will usually write it out myself along with you and find if I break down the parts along with your vids thats enough to look at notes for if I get lost and don't want to watch the video.
- They are all working just fine so far.
- really well, it is a nice mix that allows me to learn everything I need to know
- Working very well! I spend most of the time on the pencasts so far (including review) but the pdfs and slideshows seem essential too.
- The content mix is working well. I really appreciate the PDFs of the questions with the work done in the example videos.
- Works great.

Any ideas for more interaction?

Is there anything I should try to add to the mix? Anything I should remove?

- I don't think you should remove anything from the mix.
- Nothing obvious to me right now.
- If you can add a video speed feature it would help me, I find it easier to process videos when they can played back faster
- Refer to question 4.
- I find the weekly link layout confusing
- The 2x mode would be nice.
- Extra, optional, study questions for each unit, to provide refreshers later on as we get further into the course
- I think the mix is perfect.
- Keep on keepin on, Tim.
- Not that I can think of
- So far, this balance has been working well for me, I like how it is.
- You can add past exam questions to the mix so that we see what kinds of questions to prepare for in the final exam.

Tell me more. Can you identify the source of your confusion?

Students generally find that redoing the exercises can provide this.

I will be posting a copy of a previous final exam later so you can see just what yours will look like. My goal is for there to be no surprises on the exam.

Is there a use we could or should be making of the discussion forum, or should I let go of it?

- Let it go
- I don't usually check the discussion forums in any of my classes. It's something I always forget about unless it's for marks.
- Having it as an option is good, particularly as the course progresses
- You could let go of it.
- I don't think so
- Honestly, I don't feel motivated to post in a discussion forum. If there was a face-to-face or synchronous component to the class, I could see a forum as a good platform to incorporate. I just don't think it's necessary!
- I don't personally find it super helpful.
- Not a big deal either way to me
- I totally get the feeling of not wanting to post a stupid question on the discussion forum. I personally don't like them, but I can also understand that from your perspective it may be easier to have students answer each other's questions and create discussion around it. It wouldn't hurt to ask if emails could be posted there to let others know if they have the same problem. I will try to post my questions there next time and brave the shame if it is a silly question that I just didn't research enough :). On another note, I would imagine that some students are talking behind the scenes on Facebook and such. I like the posts to the discussion board instead of emails. Emails get lost in the mix of 100 other ones I get from each course/instructor/student union/etc. I like being able to go to a course and see what the announcements are. We get notified by email of a new announcement anyway.
- I think it's more of a comfort level for my lack of interaction as it can be embarrassing to ask certain questions.
- Not sure, it's probably the same as everyone just feeling insecure maybe posting a question out there to you where everyone can see it even though many could probably benefit from posted questions...if there was a way to make the posting from students anonymous maybe? Not sure but could help?
- To be honest, I haven't really been checking it! That being said, I probably wouldn't miss it.
- I think some little tips and tricks could be nice
- I like the updates and corrections posted to the forum. I would be glad to see a student post something in the forum but honestly, I don't see myself likely posting something in there for now. I did like how you mentioned the computers, resources related to the course/subject matter and field are always appreciated.
- If you decide to keep the discussion forum up, it might be more popular if it was anonymous.
- Keep using it. I'll aim to use it more as a resource going forward, and will post questions when appropriate.

My tally is:
IIII Keep
II Don't care
IIIII Let it go

I don't think our Moodle allows for anonymous posting, but I've asked our IT folk. There is an add-in that does, but they (not me) would have to add it.

I'm still thinking about the discussion forum...

New ideas! Are there any cool ideas or innovations from your other online courses that we should consider adopting?

- Something that we have been starting to use in one other class is the google jamboard. This board allows multiple people to write sticky notes and paste helpful links to projects we are working on. This could be seen as a somewhat less formal alternative to the discussion board. I find that people feel more comfortable with it for some reason. We could just create a new page on the jamboard for each week. It may end up similar to the discussions, but it might be worth a try! Check out this link - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9m4HCjOkcA&ab_channel=NewEdTechClassroom
- In person recorded lectures
- This is probably one of the more innovative courses I have. One thing I do miss that I have in other courses is playback speed option on the videos. I know most teachers use Panopto which has that feature and Pencast doesn't seem to, it's something you probably can't get around since it's just a feature of the software you use that's appropriate for the course. I typically watch videos at 1.25-1.5x speed and it helps me pay more attention and get through the material quicker. I think right now I miss it because this is all review math for me right now so it's nice to kind of get through things a bit faster.
- N/a
- Can't think of any.
- Sorry, don't have anything to add
- Not really, the panopto quiz feature is nice -allows student to follow along and guess answers while watching lectures. But, it's not something that I think definitely should be added.
- Nothing comes to mind right now
- I think as far as math can go this is a great way to do it, can't think of anything right now to change
- I can't think of anything.
- nope not really, yours is one of the best ones so far
- None that I can think of.
- Maybe towards the end of the semester there could be days where you go over harder material on a Zoom call for review.

This is new to me. I'll try and check it out. 🤖 Thanks for the link!

Tell me more. Do you mean me at a blackboard?

This was the most frequent piece of feedback, and I've added controls for the Week 5 pencasts.

This is also new to me. I'll try and check it out too. 🤖

I'm happy to do this at any point in the semester!

Those are the things I'm wondering about, but maybe there's something important to you I didn't think to ask about?

If so, please tell me what it is, and give me your answer.

- Nothing!
- Not that I can think of.
- No other suggestions right now!
- All good to me
- I just wanted to say I really appreciate you taking the time to make the questions relevant. It has been one of the most interesting and fun math courses I have ever done and a big part of that is the relevance to the real world.

Thank you all for filling out the survey! 🙏

*In this isolated teaching-learning situation it gives me a **much** better idea of how things are going.*

I have tried to respond to each concern expressed. If I missed any it's due to simple oversight so please don't hesitate to bring it to my attention.