

STUDENT COMMENTS ON WINTER 2004

This was a very challenging course. But through a great professor and a lot of hard work I caught the vision of linear algebra. The course was really rewarding. And professor Villamizar was very helpful in my learning process.

I thought that Professor Villamizar did a very good job of teaching difficult concepts. He also emphasized the importance of really learning the material instead of just worrying about what grade you are getting. I think that he was very dedicated to making sure all the students were successful and learned the material and did everything he could such as having review sessions outside of class. I also liked how he tied in gospel insights.

... Thank you for helping me really enjoy the class instead of just trying for a good grade.

Bro. Villamizar was wonderful. I have met few men who are as humble, hard working and smart as he is. He was nice to me even when I did poorly on tests. He was very encouraging and motivating despite the drudgery of the subject. He incorporated the gospel well, which was appropriate, as we were all praying our guts out to get good grades. However, you also have to work your guts out to really learn in this class. It takes work, work, work.

I really liked the course. It has been really hard. But the professor really wanted to help me learn and do better on my tests when I wasn't doing to well. He took the time to ask me to come to his office to get help when I needed it. He had a real love for us as students and that he wanted us to learn and know the material that he was coving in class. I will reconmend him to my friends

The instructor and book were great at explaining concepts. The book was not very efficient at explaining how to do the homework assignment, so those took me a long time and frustrated me, even though I understood the concepts. Most of my lack of understanding the material (not homework) came from lack of effort to try to understand. Professor Villamizar was great.

we did a lot of student participation problems tword the begining of the year but it seemed like we didn't do as much twords the end.
other than that I enjoyed your class. I will recomend you to any student.

Thank you

Professor Villamizar is definitely concerned for the students he teaches and is willing to go the extra mile, or take time out of his schedule to help those who ask for it. He made a potentially boring class into an exciting one (as far as linear algebra permits) and he always leads his students to new levels of thinking.

Thanks again for another great semester professor Villamizar. God bless you. - Justin Paul

Excellent teacher. My poor grades were a reflection of my efforts.

Kapono Kaluhiokalani

I must admit that I entered Math 343 with some trepidation, but I thoroughly enjoyed both the class and the teacher and am excited to put these principles into practice!

I learned a great deal in the course. I may not have gotten the grade I wished, but I definitely will be satisfied. I appreciated the dropped homeworks and sections, which allowed us to focus on the sections that were more important or which we didn't understand. I also felt very much like visiting during office hours was very effective. Every time I went my questions were answered and I understood. I thought the tests were all hard, but good measures of what we should know. Thanks, professor.

Hno. Villamizar is a very enthusiastic teacher, and I'm glad I took the class from him. He clearly cares about the students and their educational desires. I'm also glad that he used the Anton Rorres textbook. The book from Dr. Baker is confusing and not worth the relative savings in cost. I would make one suggestion to Hno. Villamizar: please provide worked-out solution sets for the exams.

This is a rigorous class with a good professor. I'm afraid that I will get a good grade, but haven't really internalized the material. I just haven't taken a math class for a while, I had a lot going on this semester, and struggled to put in the time necessary to master the material.

The exams did not cover what was taught in class. They were not graded fairly.

... Professor Villamizar is a very kind caring instructor who dedicates a lot of time into the learning of his students. He made linear algebra FUN. His office hours were late enough that students didn't have class during them which could cause conflict and it allowed the students to do the homework, and then later on in the evening come in and ask questions about not understood concepts. I am considering taking higher level math classes taught by him. His tests deal more with the actual understanding of the concepts of the material rather than application which I enjoy because the student is then tested on how well he knows the material rather than how well he can add and subtract.

Great class, and it isn't because of the material, it was because of the instructor. My mom hated linear algebra, professor Villamizar helped me to really enjoy it. I found myself thinking about concepts from the class at random times (in the shower, when going to bed) because I enjoyed just understanding how it all worked.

This is a good class but definitely needs a new book. There are too many theorems in the book and the proofs are not very clear. A student cannot obviously learn all theorems and material from a class but he should at least be able to remember some of the basic things done in class. I feel more confused from the book than anything else.

I'm so grateful that there are professors like you who are sincerely interested in the well-being and development of their students.

Professor Villamizar did his best considering the complex nature of this subject. He was highly encouraging and this helped me realize that it is possible to understand the concepts if i put some time and work into working on the problems

This is not an easy course. I commenced the course with another teacher, with whom I was most disappointed. I transferred classes and was greatly impressed with the work that Professor Villamizar did to explain and to show the concepts and the work necessary. All he did was valuable to our learning. My only concern would be if he expected to soon that we understand fully the concepts while the concepts are often very difficult and complex. But I appreciate his desire for us to comprehend.

This was a great class. The teacher was great because unlike most math teachers I have had, he actually cared that the students are learning. I was very happy with him as a teacher I learned a lot compared to what I probably would have learned with a different instructor.

Prof. Villamizar is a wonderful teacher. He cares a lot about his students and how they're learning. He offers plenty of office hours for help and encourages students to come in. He offered several study sessions out of his own spare time just to help us. The class was good as well and he made it challenging without be overly challenging.

Professor Villamizar was one of the best I've had here. He genuinely wanted each student to succeed, and made it clear that he wanted us to learn, not to try to get a grade. I loved how he quoted President Hinckley and the scriptures to encourage us to do our best. I plan on taking as many math classes from him as I can.

I had to fight through his accent at times but he's a good teacher and provided everyone an opportunity to talk with him if they were having trouble. I don't think he could have done much more to help a student succeed.

This is simply an amazing teacher, incredibly difficult subject though!