



6th Year Peer Review of Teaching Summary of:
Jason Elsinger, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics

Committee: Roxanne Back, Susan Serrano, and Brian Hamilton

Observations: November 11th and 17th, 2022

Courses: MAT2505 Linear Algebra and MAT2311 Calculus I

November 29th, 2022

Classroom Observation:

The committee's teaching schedules prevented us from observing the same course. On November 11th, Dr. Hamilton observed MAT2505 Linear Algebra. On November 17th, Dr. Back and Dr. Serrano observed MAT2311 Calculus I. Although the courses were different, we all conclude that Dr. Elsinger is an excellent instructor. This is evident by the rapport he has built with the students, his enthusiasm for the content, and the engagement in the classroom. The ratings on the Classroom Observation form were scored "exceptional" across all categories.

Dr. Elsinger's comfort in front of the classroom, carefully chosen examples, and clear explanations demonstrate a command of the subject. Dr. Hamilton writes: "Dr. Elsinger shows an easy mastery of material – walking slowly through difficult problems, explaining steps, inventing new problems to address specific questions, etc."

Dr. Elsinger has created an environment where students feel comfortable and are encouraged to ask questions. The committee notes that students freely asked questions throughout the class period and he often "checked in" with students collectively as a class and individually during independent practice.

Students were engaged throughout the class period by the variation of explanations of new concepts followed by group and individual practice. Dr. Elsinger did an excellent job of choosing examples that are relevant and interesting to the students. In Calculus, the examples on blood pressure connected what they were learning in class to real life. He challenged students to think at higher levels by asking probing questions beyond calculus and asking students to apply their knowledge from other disciplines.

Review of Course Material:

The majority of scores in regard to course materials were marked as satisfactory across all categories.

Dr. Elsinger takes great care in preparing his materials for class. One committee member writes: "The organization of the course is meticulous and extremely well communicated to students. Every part of the course is mapped to a particular outcome." The syllabus, handouts, assessments, and Canvas page are all detailed, organized, and appropriate for the course level. The mastery based grading system links every assignment and assessment to the student learning outcomes and course objectives.

Overall Findings:

Dr. Elsinger is a master teacher. He clearly cares about the students' learning experience which is evident in the time and effort he takes to prepare his lessons and materials for class. Dr. Elsinger focuses on teaching concepts, not just algorithms, and connects the material to other disciplines.

The committee finds that Dr. Elsinger's outstanding teaching contributes significantly to the academic climate in the Department of Mathematics and Florida Southern College.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roxanne Back". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Dr. Roxanne Back

Associate Professor of Mathematics



Confidential Peer Review Worksheet Evaluation of Course Materials

Person being reviewed: JASON EISINGER

Course being reviewed: MAT2505: Linear Algebra

Date of observation: 11/9/22

Name of reviewer: BRIAN HAMILTON

Please rate the instructor's materials in each of the following areas. Use the space to offer any comments or to clarify your score. Mark your response by darkening the circle.

S=Satisfactory; I=Needs Improvement; NA= Not Applicable

S I NA

Course Objectives

Course objectives are clearly stated on the syllabus.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: Outcomes are specific + clear. (My personal preference is for a few outcomes, simply stated, rather than for a long list. But I'm not sure that preference makes much of a difference here.)

Course objectives are consistent with the *Catalog* course description.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Textbooks and Handouts

Materials are appropriate for the course level.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: Judging from student reactions in class, they seem challenged but not lost — a perfect balance.

Materials support the course objectives.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Course Content

Course is well-organized.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments:

The organization of the course is meticulous + extremely well communicated to students. Every part of the course is mapped to a particular outcome.

Course material is presented at an appropriate level of difficulty.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments:

Hard for me to judge as an outsider, but the students seem appropriately challenged.

Course Requirements

Requirements are relevant.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments:

Requirements are effectively linked to student learning outcomes and/or course objectives.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments:

Because of Elsinga's masterful use of the mastery grading system, every assessment is very directly linked to a particular outcome. The connection is clearly explained to the students themselves.

Requirements include opportunities for engaged learning and/or collaboration

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments:

Yes! Even comparatively rote assessments, like quizzes + exams, have been restructured + retrained to make them both engaging + collaborative.

Engaged Learning and Instructional Technology

Statements on engaged learning and instructional technology are included in the syllabus.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: No single statement on engaged learning but it's unnecessary. The whole syllabus is about engaged learning.

Engaged learning is effectively connected to student learning outcomes.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Effective use of appropriate technology is referenced.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: Clear list of tech skills that will be developed.

Examinations or Other Discipline-specific Evaluations of Student Learning

Evaluative tools are consistent with course objectives.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: Absolutely. Again, mastery grading system ensures clear correspondence b/w assessments + outcomes.

Evaluative tools are appropriately effective and challenging to the students.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Thank you for your time and input.

Revised 4/8/15



Confidential Peer Review Worksheet

Classroom Observation

Person being reviewed: JAN ELSINGER

Course being reviewed: MAT2505: Linear Algebra

Date of observation: 11/9/22

Name of reviewer: BEAN HAMILTON

Please indicate your perception of the instructor's performance for each of the following behaviors. Use the space to offer any comments or to clarify your score. Mark your response by darkening the circle.

E=Exceptional; S=Satisfactory; I=Needs Improvement; NA=Not Applicable

E S I NA

Proficiency in Subject Matter

Demonstrates command of subject.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Elsinger shows an easy mastery of the material — walking slowly through difficult problems, explaining steps, inventing new problems to address specific questions, etc.

Clearly communicates subject matter.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Extremely clear.

Organization

Presents material in an organized manner, consistent with the syllabus.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Class began w/ a look at the calendar and a reminder about how the class is progressing through the material.

Utilizes time well.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Excellent pacing. Time allocated to review, new material, + lots of concrete practice.

E

S

I

NA

Engagement in the classroom

Uses teaching methods that facilitate active learning, consistent with the syllabus.



Comments:

Mixes lecture/explanation of new concepts w/ active review
→ varied forms of practice. Students were engaged
throughout the class period.

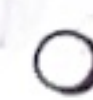
Communication

Speaks audibly and clearly.



Comments:

Uses technology effectively (as appropriate).



Comments:

Trained students in the use of a specialized calculator
throughout class w/out making the technology a central
object of focus. Excellent!

Allots time for student questions and comments.



Comments:

Students raised questions throughout the entire period.

Is sensitive to the response of the class.



Comments:

Checks in constantly w/ the students, both
collectively (during review + lecture) + individually
(during dedicated practice).

Enthusiasm

Exudes enthusiasm about the subject matter.



Comments:

Clearly loves the material.

E S I NA

Demonstrates self-confidence.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Very comfortable both w/ the material + w/
his relationship to the students. They recognize
both his authority + his care.

Critical Thinking

Promotes analytical thinking.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Provides varied practice problems throughout class
that require different sorts of problem solving.

Challenges students to think at higher levels.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Includes a healthy mix of reinforcement practice +
practice that pushes the students to try new things.

Overall

Demonstrates effectiveness as a lecturer, facilitator,
and/or group leader.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Absolutely exemplary.

Thank you for your time, and for sharing your feelings and opinions.

Revised 4/8/15



Confidential Peer Review Worksheet

Classroom Observation

Person being reviewed: Jason Elsingher
Course being reviewed: MAT 2311
Date of observation: 11/17/22
Name of reviewer: Serrano

Please indicate your perception of the instructor's performance for each of the following behaviors. Use the space to offer any comments or to clarify your score. Mark your response by darkening the circle.

E=Exceptional; S=Satisfactory; I=Needs Improvement; NA=Not Applicable

E S I NA

Proficiency in Subject Matter

Demonstrates command of subject.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Yes

Clearly communicates subject matter.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Yes

Organization

Presents material in an organized manner, consistent with the syllabus.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Utilizes time well.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Makes announcements on upcoming due dates then a short review of concepts before starting group work

Engagement in the classroom

Uses teaching methods that facilitate active learning,
consistent with the syllabus.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Did a good job reviewing material → has 5%
work on an economic application for
min. & max problems

Communication

Speaks audibly and clearly.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Easily understood even at back of the room

Uses technology effectively (as appropriate).

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments:

Allots time for student questions and comments.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Student questions are answered as they
come up while doing group work

Is sensitive to the response of the class.

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments:

Enthusiasm

Exudes enthusiasm about the subject matter.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments:

E S I NA

Demonstrates self-confidence.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments:

yes

Critical Thinking

Promotes analytical thinking.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments:

Examples varied between different areas
i.e. Economics → Health Sciences

Challenges students to think at higher levels.

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments:

Overall

Demonstrates effectiveness as a lecturer, facilitator,
and/or group leader.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments:

Great ^{applications} examples in both business &
biology

* After 3rd example - could/should have moved on
to another topic. (didn't need the ~~farm~~ ex done
w/ 3 parts).

Thank you for your time, and for sharing your feelings and opinions.

Revised 4/8/15

time on syllabus??
"scratch off" - where did you get them??



Confidential Peer Review Worksheet

Classroom Observation

Person being reviewed: Jay ElSinger
Course being reviewed: MAT 2311
Date of observation: 11/17/22
Name of reviewer: Roxanne Back

Please indicate your perception of the instructor's performance for each of the following behaviors. Use the space to offer any comments or to clarify your score. Mark your response by darkening the circle.

E=Exceptional; S=Satisfactory; I=Needs Improvement; NA=Not Applicable

E S I NA

Proficiency in Subject Matter

Demonstrates command of subject.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Clearly communicates subject matter.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Clear examples on board + handouts.
Explains defn. of new terms b/y using them.

Organization

Presents material in an organized manner, consistent with the syllabus.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Reviews schedule / Calendar at
beginning of class

Utilizes time well.

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

E S I NA

Engagement in the classroom

Uses teaching methods that facilitate active learning, consistent with the syllabus.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Students work in groups + independently on problems; Students put answers/work on board

Communication

Speaks audibly and clearly.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Uses technology effectively (as appropriate).

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: WebAssign, Canvas, etc.

Allots time for student questions and comments.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: often asks the class if they have any questions

Is sensitive to the response of the class.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Enthusiasm

Exudes enthusiasm about the subject matter.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

E S I NA

Demonstrates self-confidence.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Very comfortable in the classroom

Critical Thinking

Promotes analytical thinking.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Applies concepts to examples relevant and interesting to students.

Challenges students to think at higher levels.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Asks probing questions beyond the (calculus). "What does this mean for the health of the patient?"

Overall

Demonstrates effectiveness as a lecturer, facilitator, and/or group leader.

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

Comments: Excellent teacher. Clearly cares about the students' learning experience. Well prepared & thought out lessons. Teaches concepts, not just algorithms.

Thank you for your time, and for sharing your feelings and opinions.

Revised 4/8/15



Confidential Peer Review Worksheet Evaluation of Course Materials

Person being reviewed: Dr. J. Elsingher

Course being reviewed: MAT 2311

Date of observation: _____

Name of reviewer: Serrano

Please rate the instructor's materials in each of the following areas. Use the space to offer any comments or to clarify your score. Mark your response by darkening the circle.

S=Satisfactory; I=Needs Improvement; NA= Not Applicable

S I NA

Course Objectives

Course objectives are clearly stated on the syllabus.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: Syllabus is excellent with lots
of information

Course objectives are consistent with the *Catalog* course description.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Textbooks and Handouts

Materials are appropriate for the course level.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: Handouts and applications
are interesting & appropriate

Materials support the course objectives.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

S I NA

Course Content

Course is well-organized.



Comments: yes

Course material is presented at an appropriate level of difficulty.



Comments: _____

Course Requirements

Requirements are relevant.



Comments: _____

Requirements are effectively linked to student learning outcomes and/or course objectives.



Comments: _____

Requirements include opportunities for engaged learning and/or collaboration



Comments: Lots of engaged & active learning opportunities

Engaged Learning and Instructional Technology

Statements on engaged learning and instructional technology are included in the syllabus.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: Class problems were interesting & appropriate for the material.

Engaged learning is effectively connected to student learning outcomes.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Effective use of appropriate technology is referenced.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Examinations or Other Discipline-specific Evaluations of Student Learning

Evaluative tools are consistent with course objectives.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Evaluative tools are appropriately effective and challenging to the students.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Thank you for your time and input.

Revised 4/8/15



Confidential Peer Review Worksheet Evaluation of Course Materials

Person being reviewed: Jay Elsinger
Course being reviewed: MAT 2311 Calc I
Date of observation: 11/17/2022
Name of reviewer: Roxanne Back

Please rate the instructor's materials in each of the following areas. Use the space to offer any comments or to clarify your score. Mark your response by darkening the circle.

S=Satisfactory; I=Needs Improvement; NA= Not Applicable

S I NA

Course Objectives

Course objectives are clearly stated on the syllabus.

☐ ☒ ☐

Comments: Include course SLO's & bullet points for
Gen Ed Quantitative on syllabus

Course objectives are consistent with the *Catalog* course description.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Textbooks and Handouts

Materials are appropriate for the course level.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: Check version of textbook on
WebAssign

Materials support the course objectives.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

S **I** **NA**

Course Content

Course is well-organized.



Comments: _____

Course material is presented at an appropriate level of difficulty.



Comments: _____

Course Requirements

Requirements are relevant.



Comments: _____

Requirements are effectively linked to student learning outcomes
and/or course objectives.



Comments: _____

Requirements include opportunities for engaged learning
and/or collaboration



Comments: _____

Engaged Learning and Instructional Technology

Statements on engaged learning and instructional technology are included in the syllabus.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Engaged learning is effectively connected to student learning outcomes.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Effective use of appropriate technology is referenced.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Examinations or Other Discipline-specific Evaluations of Student Learning

Evaluative tools are consistent with course objectives.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Evaluative tools are appropriately effective and challenging to the students.

☒ ☐ ☐

Comments: _____

Thank you for your time and input.

Revised 4/8/15