



# UM 2025 Spring - Scale Questions and Signed Comments Report for Cerchia, Michael MAT\_127\_Calculus II\_0001

Project Title: **UMaine Orono - Student Evaluations of Teaching - Spring 2025**

Courses Audience: **73**  
Responses Received: **48**  
Response Ratio: **65.75%**

| Subject Details |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Name            | MAT_127_Calculus II_0001 |
| First Name      | Michael                  |
| Last Name       | Cerchia                  |

## Report Comments

### INTRODUCTION

This report contains the results gathered during the online course-instructor evaluations of spring 2025. Students were invited to share their feedback on the teaching and the course material, ultimately to help improve the overall quality of education at our institution. It is now our collective duty to **turn this insight into action**.

As part of this mission, all instructors receive an Individual Report for **developmental purposes** i.e. to identify strengths and areas for improvement in regard to their teaching methods. Contents include graphs, tables, rankings, frequencies, statistics, and comments to help guide you in the preparation of your personal development plan.

We urge every faculty member to diligently examine all the analysis, to seek to understand it, to take note of patterns, to draw logical conclusions and to take it upon yourself to **act on the valuable feedback** your students have taken the time to provide.

### GUIDELINES

To aid in interpreting the results, please consider the following recommendations:

1. These evaluations stem from student perception, which implies that the validity increases proportionally with the number of occurrences. Your improvement plan should be based on the most representative results and less on outlying responses.
2. Upon getting a general sense of direction as to what requires improvement, it is important to drill down to the related questions and consider them as distinct items. They were evaluated as such by students, and will indicate tangible steps/actions to incorporate into your developmental process.
3. The AFUM contract (Article 10, Section B.2.g.) states: "Care should be used in evaluating teaching effectiveness utilizing these results when fewer than 10 students respond, or the response rate is less than 60% for an individual class."

Note: There is a two student response threshold that is applied per scale-type question. If the threshold is not met for a particular question a notice indicating so will be present in place of response data.

Creation Date: **Sunday, June 01, 2025**

## Response Analysis

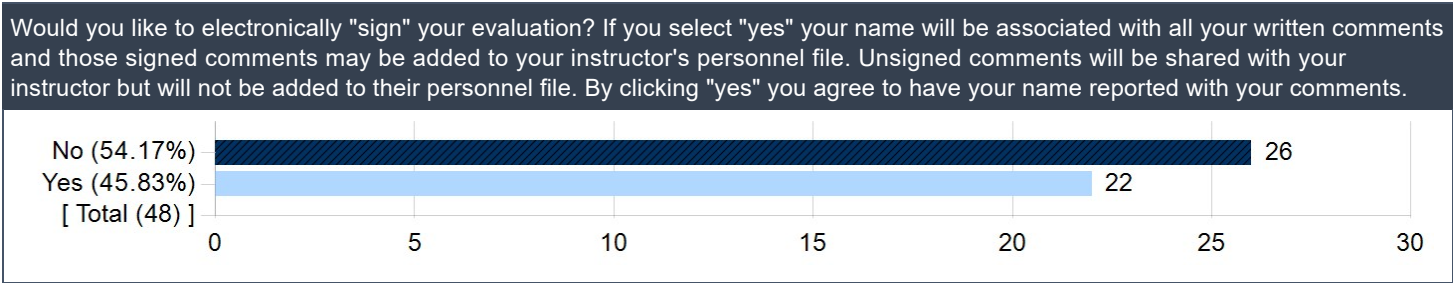
### Instructor Questions

|                                                                                                               | Resp | Mean | Median | SD   | Freq(5) | Freq(4) | Freq(3) | Freq(2) | Freq(1) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|--------|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. How prepared was the instructor for class?<br>(5=Well Prepared ... 1=Often Unprepared)                     | 48   | 4.77 | 5.00   | 0.47 | 38      | 9       | 1       | 0       | 0       |
| 2. How clearly were the objectives of the course presented? (5=Very Clear ... 1=Unclear)                      | 48   | 4.56 | 5.00   | 0.68 | 31      | 14      | 2       | 1       | 0       |
| 3. How enthusiastic was the instructor about the subject? (5=Very Much ... 1=Very Little)                     | 48   | 4.63 | 5.00   | 0.64 | 33      | 13      | 1       | 1       | 0       |
| 4. How clearly did the instructor present concepts, principles and theories? (5=Very Clear ... 1=Unclear)     | 48   | 4.50 | 5.00   | 0.74 | 30      | 13      | 4       | 1       | 0       |
| 5. How much were you encouraged to think for yourself? (5=Very Much ... 1=Very Little)                        | 48   | 4.40 | 5.00   | 0.82 | 28      | 12      | 7       | 1       | 0       |
| 6. How concerned was the instructor for the quality of student learning? (5=Very Concerned ... 1=Unconcerned) | 48   | 4.52 | 5.00   | 0.77 | 30      | 15      | 2       | 0       | 1       |
| 7. Did the instructor show respect for questions and opinions of the students? (5=Always ... 1=Rarely)        | 48   | 4.71 | 5.00   | 0.58 | 36      | 11      | 0       | 1       | 0       |
| 8. Did the instructor ensure an environment of respect? (5=Always ... 1=Rarely)                               | 47   | 4.66 | 5.00   | 0.56 | 33      | 12      | 2       | 0       | 0       |
| 9. Did the instructor inspire confidence in his or her knowledge? (5=Very Much ... 1=Very Little)             | 47   | 4.77 | 5.00   | 0.48 | 37      | 9       | 1       | 0       | 0       |
| 10. Overall, how would you rate the instructor? (5=Excellent ... 1=Poor)                                      | 48   | 4.63 | 5.00   | 0.53 | 31      | 16      | 1       | 0       | 0       |

### Course Questions

|                                                                                                        | Resp | Mean | Median | SD   | Freq(5) | Freq(4) | Freq(3) | Freq(2) | Freq(1) |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|--------|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 11. Were class meetings profitable and worth attending? (5=Always ... 1=Rarely)                        | 48   | 4.60 | 5.00   | 0.71 | 35      | 7       | 6       | 0       | 0       |
| 12. What is your overall rating of the primary readings? (5=Excellent ... 1=Poor)                      | 27   | 4.22 | 4.00   | 0.89 | 13      | 8       | 5       | 1       | 0       |
| 13. How much did this course challenge you intellectually? (5=Very Much ... 1=Very Little)             | 48   | 4.44 | 5.00   | 0.82 | 28      | 15      | 4       | 0       | 1       |
| 14. How much did you learn from this course? (5=Very Much ... 1=Very Little)                           | 48   | 4.65 | 5.00   | 0.64 | 34      | 12      | 1       | 1       | 0       |
| 15. What is your overall rating of this course? (5=Excellent ... 1=Poor)                               | 48   | 4.50 | 5.00   | 0.62 | 27      | 18      | 3       | 0       | 0       |
| 16. Did the instructor let you know what was expected on the assessments? (5=Very Clear ... 1=Unclear) | 48   | 4.77 | 5.00   | 0.59 | 40      | 6       | 1       | 1       | 0       |
| 17. Did the assessments reflect the important aspects of the course? (5=Always ... 1=Rarely)           | 48   | 4.77 | 5.00   | 0.56 | 40      | 5       | 3       | 0       | 0       |
| 18. How fair were the grading procedures? (5=Completely ... 1=Unfair)                                  | 48   | 4.75 | 5.00   | 0.56 | 39      | 6       | 3       | 0       | 0       |
| 19. Overall, how would you rate the assessment process? (5=Excellent ... 1=Poor)                       | 48   | 4.69 | 5.00   | 0.66 | 37      | 8       | 2       | 1       | 0       |

Signed Comments



**Please identify aspects of the course which were of most value to you: (signed)**

| Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| Averi Grendell: Well rounded support of learning                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Holly Zschetzsche: I really enjoy that you write notes on the board and go through the problems with us step by step. Definitely the reason I wanted you as my Calc 2 Professor this semester. I also enjoyed the clicker questions even if sometimes they were infrequent. I know not everybody participates in class but I do really appreciate you asking us questions trying things back to calc 1 or just in general things we should know.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Christopher Denton: Professor Cerchia's enthusiasm and knowledge on subjects never failed to make lectures fun and worth attending. I am confident that he is the reason that I still enjoy math and, that if I had any other professor, I would have changed my mind about Mechanical Engineering.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Lorenzo Hayes: Lectures were overall very beneficial, made learning Calc 2 much more tolerable and even enjoyable at times.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Anthony Crisafulli: Going to class and taking notes while listening to the professor was the most valuable part of this class. The class was well taught, questions were answered and students could ask questions without being judged.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Aidan Davison: The examples provided in lectures were very helpful                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Jewel Baker: The whole course, I really enjoyed the lectures                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Grace Longanecker: The instructor was very organized and clear. The recitations actually were relevant to what we were learning. He set up the course well which easily allowed for student success if they put in the work.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Savannah Connor-Schade: I feel as though the way that this professor lectures and organizes the class is absolutely amazing. I always know what's going on, not once was I ever left in the dark. This professor is very nice, and accommodating to the whole class, whether that was moving an exam date or taking time to organize study material for the class. I feel as though I have learned so much, and not once was I ever confused on why or how we did something because it was always gone over in class. The recitations were never a waste either, the material we were given was always helpful. Not only that but the homework also helped, it never felt like a waste of time. |
| Seth House: Material in lectures was presented clearly with proofs when necessary. Multiple examples were provided. Exams were fair in that if you study you can get an A but if you don't you will tank, as it should be. Weekly quizzes forced me to study new topics beyond doing homework which was nice. Homework was challenging but not so hard that it was a major time sink. Professor Cerchia was very helpful when asked questions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Dave Susen: Dr. Cerchia was an amazing professor who I had the pleasure of having for Calculus 1 and Calculus 2. He made it a point that the students understood what the content that he was teaching was all about.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Emma Nicholson: Lectures were important to attend since there were no notes posted otherwise.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Benjamin Smith: Dividing pieces of lecture into definitions, facts, examples, and things to take a mental note of going into a problem was very effective for me and made taking notes and following the lecture much easier. I also liked that we were given opportunities to make educated guesses about what the outcome of a problem might be, which got me to think about what I already know and what we've learned recently to come to a conclusion.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Cameron Giroux: I really liked the number of examples and the variability of them; I also thought that the questions on the exams and quizzes really helped cement what we actually learned rather than just be a difficult question with a variety of steps that easily lose you or confuse you                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Anastasia Ntwali: I liked how the objectives were emphasized                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Claire Boudreau: The recitation was very helpful in understanding material we went over in lecture.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Manuel Perez Martin: constantly learning and easy way to learn                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Emmett Dorr: Most topics were beneficial.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Jack Stuber: lots of in class examples and very clear expectations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Aiden Hanson: Recitation really helped me understand the topics taught in lecture.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

**Please mention at least one additional topic or component that you would like to see included in this course: (signed)**

| Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| Averi Grendell: .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Holly Zschetzsche: I would love polar coordinates sooner just because they're used in my major but I doubt that could happen just for that reason alone.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Christopher Denton: N.A.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Lorenzo Hayes: I'd like to see exam solutions tab similar to how physics does it to be able to go back and refine problem solving methods.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Anthony Crisafulli: I dont know much of what else could have been done differently, I think it was well done.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Jewel Baker: Perhaps notes on the projector? I think I observed that you have your notes on your iPad, and if you projected them on the board so everyone could see that would be amazing. I always struggled seeing the white board in this class.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Grace Longanecker: The Williams 140 room sucks. There is absolutely no air circulation and it is very hard to see the board. It smells like BO everytime you walk in. Give Cerchia a better lecture hall and make it bigger so that everyone taking calc 2 can have him as their professor because he is honestly the best one. Record the lectures too and make it an online class option.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Savannah Connor-Schade: This is slightly off topic, but I absolutely hate the class this lecture is held in. The room is tiny, hot, and hard to enter/leave. I have a class directly after this one and I barely make it on time, because I have to wait for people to leave the rows, not only that but you can't see the board very well depending on where you sit. Not only that but I know many students who tried to get into this class and couldn't, I feel as though this class should allow more students into this specific professor's class, which would give more than enough reason to move to a better room. Again, I hate this classroom but love the professor! |
| Seth House: I can't think of anything else I would add.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Dave Susen: None.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Emma Nicholson: It would be beneficial if lecture notes or slides were posted before or after class to help further understand concepts. There were times I had to miss class so it was difficult for me to know exactly what I missed because I couldn't check the notes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Benjamin Smith: I have no recommendations for additional content. The progression of content was smooth, generally consistent in how much more involved each concept was, and the flow was intuitive from one concept to another.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Cameron Giroux: N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Anastasia Ntwali: I do not think there is anything more I would like to be added. There is very little time for class to add anything .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Claire Boudreau: More in class participation like clicker questions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Manuel Perez Martin: A lot of classes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Emmett Dorr: I don't have any comments, best class structure for math.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Jack Stuber: i cant really think of one                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Aiden Hanson: I think that the Pearson homeworks could maybe be made a bit less challenging, as they don't entirely reflect what is needed to understand the topic at times.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

**Additional Comments: (signed)**

| Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| Christopher Denton: Thank you for not being boring.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Lorenzo Hayes: Amazing Professor, thank you, I hope you continue to teach this course.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Anthony Crisafulli: Professor made sure it was a good environment for learning, if there were distractions he made sure they stopped. Questions were answered and if not then he would see students after to clarify what they didn't understand. Everything was taught in an easy to understand way.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Aidan Davison: Professor Cerchia is a good yet old-school professor. He provides an understandable course material to the students and cares a lot for the students' learning and understanding. However, I believe some things can be considered for further courses. I believe that the ability to remediate tests should be provided and the option to remediate quizzes if absent. Being strict on these topics and using absences to drop quizzes is fair, but I believe that students who want to succeed in this class should have options to remediate. Getting a low score on tests doesn't always reflect academic ability, and remediation can reflect a desire to learn as well as provide a better understanding of content in preparation for the final exam as well as aiding the student to pass the course. Clickers in the lectures are also another topic of concern. The Clickers are meant to be a form of checking attendance, however, clickers are not always guaranteed in classes. I believe that if a set structure on content set to be shown in class should have set times for clickers to reflect the students' understanding of content as well as attendance in each class instead of random clickers and asking upon the class by show of hands for answering a question asked. |
| Jewel Baker: For my whole life up to now I used to think I was really bad and didn't like math, but after taking your class (both this semester and last) I learned that both of those things were not true and this class ended up being my favorite class. I've really enjoyed having you as my professor, and I have really enjoyed the lectures. Thanks for everything, I hope you teach Diff. Equ or linear alg. or something. :) Thanks for being an awesome guy and professor!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Grace Longanecker: The course was set up very well by Cerchia. Definitely would recommend.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Jasmine Connor-Schade: This class was well put together and it showed overall in the class environment and how much students loved learning such a challenging subject. Overall, the professor was amazing and how he taught the course was great, I would highly recommend him to my peers and friends.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Savannah Connor-Schade: The exams and quizzes never felt impossible and always do-able, not saying they were easy because they weren't. Last semester in my previous math course, some of the quizzes/exams were absolutely impossible and made me feel horrible no matter how much time I put into studying. This semester I feel as though I could definitely take the exams and get a high score after sufficiently studying the materials. On a different note, I unfortunately could never make it to the office hours because I had a class going on, so that is just one thing I would improve.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Dave Susen: Again, thank you Dr. Cerchia for the amazing lectures!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Emma Nicholson: N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Benjamin Smith: Professor Cerchia was always very clearly knowledgeable about his topic, and was effective about making sure everyone had an opportunity to clarify something or ask about alternate situations for a problem. Taking this course was challenging, but I had plenty other opportunity to enhance my understanding.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Cameron Giroux: I was really nervous about this course as my friends who took it last semester really made the class seem like hell, but I feel like everything in class was explained really well and I feel like this was the easiest class I had all semester. I feel like math makes the most sense when you get a professor that you can understand and makes relevant explanations, my class one professor was not like this and now having this I realize how valuable it really is.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Anastasia Ntwali: Overall, I think Professor Cerchia did very well! He was enthusiastic about some topics and tried to ensure that everyone was comfortable with the concepts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Claire Boudreau: Thanks for the good semester, have a great summer!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Emmett Dorr: Nope                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Aiden Hanson: Thanks for a great year!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |