



# UM 2025 Spring - Scale Questions and Signed Comments Report for Cerchia, Michael MAT\_463\_Intro to Abstract Algebra I\_0001

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

Courses Audience: **6**

Responses Received: **4**

Response Ratio: **66.67%**

## Subject Details

Name	MAT_463_Intro to Abstract Algebra I_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

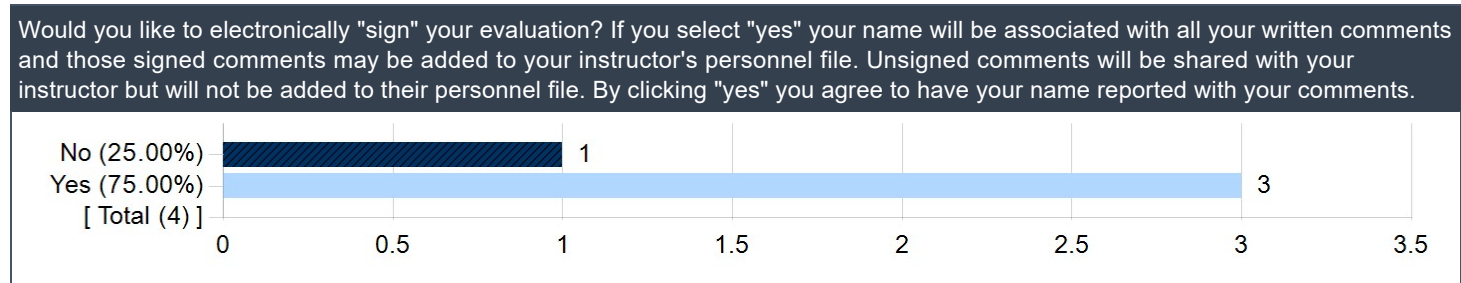
### Instructor Questions

	Resp	Mean	Median	SD	Freq(5)	Freq(4)	Freq(3)	Freq(2)	Freq(1)
1. How prepared was the instructor for class? (5=Well Prepared ... 1=Often Unprepared)	4	5.00	5.00	0.00	4	0	0	0	0
2. How clearly were the objectives of the course presented? (5=Very Clear ... 1=Unclear)	4	5.00	5.00	0.00	4	0	0	0	0
3. How enthusiastic was the instructor about the subject? (5=Very Much ... 1=Very Little)	4	4.75	5.00	0.50	3	1	0	0	0
4. How clearly did the instructor present concepts, principles and theories? (5=Very Clear ... 1=Unclear)	4	5.00	5.00	0.00	4	0	0	0	0
5. How much were you encouraged to think for yourself? (5=Very Much ... 1=Very Little)	4	4.50	5.00	1.00	3	0	1	0	0
6. How concerned was the instructor for the quality of student learning? (5=Very Concerned ... 1=Unconcerned)	3	5.00	5.00	0.00	3	0	0	0	0
7. Did the instructor show respect for questions and opinions of the students? (5=Always ... 1=Rarely)	4	4.75	5.00	0.50	3	1	0	0	0
8. Did the instructor ensure an environment of respect? (5=Always ... 1=Rarely)	4	5.00	5.00	0.00	4	0	0	0	0
9. Did the instructor inspire confidence in his or her knowledge? (5=Very Much ... 1=Very Little)	4	5.00	5.00	0.00	4	0	0	0	0
10. Overall, how would you rate the instructor? (5=Excellent ... 1=Poor)	4	5.00	5.00	0.00	4	0	0	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)	4	4.75	5.00	0.50	3	1	0	0	0
12. What is your overall rating of the primary readings? (5=Excellent ... 1=Poor)	4	5.00	5.00	0.00	4	0	0	0	0
13. How much did this course challenge you intellectually? (5=Very Much ... 1=Very Little)	4	4.75	5.00	0.50	3	1	0	0	0
14. How much did you learn from this course? (5=Very Much ... 1=Very Little)	4	4.75	5.00	0.50	3	1	0	0	0
15. What is your overall rating of this course? (5=Excellent ... 1=Poor)	4	4.75	5.00	0.50	3	1	0	0	0
16. Did the instructor let you know what was expected on the assessments? (5=Very Clear ... 1=Unclear)	4	5.00	5.00	0.00	4	0	0	0	0
17. Did the assessments reflect the important aspects of the course? (5=Always ... 1=Rarely)	4	5.00	5.00	0.00	4	0	0	0	0
18. How fair were the grading procedures? (5=Completely ... 1=Unfair)	4	5.00	5.00	0.00	4	0	0	0	0
19. Overall, how would you rate the assessment process? (5=Excellent ... 1=Poor)	4	4.75	5.00	0.50	3	1	0	0	0

## Signed Comments



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

Comments
Achille Steinhoff: Lectures were very coherent and Mike wouldn't proceed to the next topic until he felt confident that students understood the concept. He also frequently asked the class questions to keep us engaged and on track. His lecture style was extremely helpful and it was very clear that Mike is passionate about the content of the course as well as teaching it. The homework also felt very relevant and had a mix of a few easier, computational problems for practice and then a few more conceptual and challenging problems. Also appreciated how helpful Mike was in office hours. It was also a great feature to grade our best 4 problems out of 5 on exams, giving us a much better chance of showing that we know the material in a 50-minute exam format.
Maren Adnee: Instructor was well prepared and explained concepts clearly. Dr. Cerchia frequently made himself available for student questions in and outside of class.

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

Comments
Achille Steinhoff: It would have been very helpful if there were some additional practice problems posted before exams, although the exam questions were always on topic with the homework problems, so it was never an issue.

### Additional Comments: (signed)

Comments
Antonio Price: Probably one of my favorite professors I've had right now. He is a very good communicator and I feel like I learned so much. He's made abstract algebra my favorite course I've taken here so far, and I really wish I could (and maybe I still should) take MAT 563 in the fall.