

Cornell University  
 Course Evaluation Response Summary  
 Semester: Spring 2024 Course Owner: MATH  
 Course: MATH 2940 LEC 002 CID: 3625  
 Title: Linear Algebra for Engineers  
 Instructor: Schalekamp  
 165 Responses, 321 Enrolled, 51.4% Response

Your responses to questions 1-4 and 13 should relate to the instructor of the lecture that matches your enrollment and whose name appears at the top of this form. If you did not attend lectures with this instructor, please skip questions 1-4 and 13 but respond to the other questions.

Question	Mean	StDevP	Count	1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Did the lecturer stimulate your interest in the subject? 1 = not at all 5 = stimulated great interest; inspired independent effort	4.16	0.94	160	3	6	25	55	71	
2. Was the lecture presentation organized and clear? 1 = disorganized and unclear 5 = very organized and lucid	4.18	0.90	159	2	8	17	64	68	
3. Was the lecturer willing and available to help you overcome difficulties in this course? 1 = was of no help 5 = was very helpful	4.31	0.82	156	1	4	19	54	78	
4. Rate the overall teaching effectiveness of your lecturer compared to others at Cornell. 1 = worse than average 5 = much better than average	4.16	0.93	159	2	8	22	57	70	
5. Was the homework returned in a timely manner? 1 = never 5 = always	4.41	0.78	158	1	4	12	54	87	
6. Were the grader's comments helpful? 1 = no help 5 = very helpful	3.83	1.20	138	12	4	29	43	50	
7. How valuable were the homework assignments? 1 = taught me little 5 = extremely educational	4.29	0.74	157	0	3	19	65	70	
8. Rate the examinations in this course as a test of your knowledge. 1 = too easy, not adequate 3 = adequate 5 = too difficult, not a fair test	3.59	0.87	159	1	8	76	44	30	
9. Rate the level of difficulty of this course. 1 = too easy 5 = much too hard	3.38	0.80	158	0	15	85	41	17	
10. How suitable was the textbook? 1 = lousy 5 = great	4.13	0.91	155	2	6	26	57	64	
11. How many hours each week (on the average) did you spend on this course outside of class? 1 = 0-4 hours 2 = 5-7 hours 3 = 8-10 hours 4 = 11-13 hours 5 = 14 hours or more	2.41	1.18	157	42	48	37	20	10	
12. What was your most important reason for taking this course? (Use the answer that is closest to correct.) 1 = field or major requires it 2 = prerequisite for further courses 3 = interest in the subject matter 4 = reputation of the course 5 = reputation of the instructor 6 = distribution requirement	1.73	1.35	158	109	21	9	6	7	6

**13. If you have any comments about the instructor, please include them here.**

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37182. N/A

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9637. Love Franz, awesome guy.

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25563. great

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9252. Professor Frans does a great job giving lectures and coming up with reasonably difficult exams. Great instructor!

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37181. None.

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27571. The instructor kept lectures fun and informative, but notes were often very messy

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15692. Frans is a very good lecturer!

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15707. Thank you for teaching the course Prof. Schalekamp. But please improve your handwriting during lecture.

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34363. Frans is very engaging and passionate with a great sense of humor. Lectures always related to a real world concept through which we could better understand the application of the subject.

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9653. See below, but I had a great time in linear algebra this semester.

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14475. I love Frans. He is very passionate about Linear Algebra and explained difficult concepts clearly and simply. He always made lecture quite interesting to listen to, and I really enjoyed attending his lectures. He also gave out extremely fair exams that covered the material in lecture quite well. I had a positive experience.

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15658. Very effective lecturer

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46613. He could explain some topics in more detail rather than repeating the same thing in a different way though.

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40265. Frans is the best!!!

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25577. Professor Schalekamp is an amazing professor !

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21599. very good class and great prep for tests

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27565. He is funny and kept the audience pretty engaged. I think a few more examples of the math would go a long way in lecture.

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21554. Franz is great.

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34448. He explain everything very clear

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15581. He is so nice and makes nice jokes in class to keep us engaged. His smile makes my day better and makes me enjoy the content more.

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37067. The instructor was amazing and funny, he made lecture enjoyable.

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14508. Professor Schalekamp's lectures are excellently organized and he makes the material very clear and easy to understand. His exams are adequate and not too difficult but still challenge me to think critically about the course content.

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15651. BEST PROFESSOR EVER. GIVE HIM A RAISE!

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27593. Lectures are just okay but he's very knowledgeable.

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5120. Frans is an extremely entertaining lecturer and very much cares about his students' success. He was always available and attentive towards those that needed help.

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9305. Instructor was knowledgeable

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9274. great prof, should make grading easier though.

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9633. Wonderful lectures

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40275. Professor Schalekamp was great! His lectures could be hard to follow sometimes, but overall he was really good. He's a very knowledgeable guy that wants to see the class succeed.

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15606. Professor Schalekamp is great professor; he is super inviting, inclusive, and makes sure that everyone understand the content. He makes lectures interesting and funny and he's super relatable which isn't something you find in professors in college courses.

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9692. Boring lecture. Went slow AF.

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40317. Favorite Professor every at Cornell. Was warm, inclusive, and fair.

---

27656. Ran good lectures in terms of talking, but I had trouble staying engaged.

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5154. Frans is an excellent person, but I wish he would delve into details in an organized manner. He focuses on the big picture fairly, but the proofs and the detailed support I feel are a bit rushed. These can be enhanced on in discussion, i hope

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427. Class was always entertaining and instructive. I enjoyed every lecture I attended and Professor Schalekamp always made sure the entire class understood the material.

---

27551. Guys a genius

---

34428. Very enthusiastic, organized and overall great professor.

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9678. Very funny and kind, always willing to help and answer questions. Overall very good

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35829. Frans is one of the friendliest and most patient professors I have had at Cornell. Made linear algebra so approachable and I felt comfortable getting extra help in his office hours. Most lectures were engaging and fun! Thank you for a great semester!

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34437. Professor Schalekamp explained abstract concepts clearly and made them easy to understand.

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40228. Professor is amazing!!

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21561. I love Frans! He's awesome! Thank you for making the exams, quizzes, and homeworks fair!

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35772. No

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21541. The instructor makes the course very easily digestible, especially with the occasional jokes that he makes during lectures.

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46636. The professor is really kind, supportive and amazing. He genuinely cares about his students and he is really good at teaching the concepts. The prelims are fair and test the concepts well. He is really fun and engaging in lectures as well. I think he is one of the best professors!

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40223. Very passionate and makes lectures enjoyable.

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15687. Franz was an amazing instructor. He made every lecture fun and every concept easy to understand. I just wish more people participated in his class.

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9610. the professor was engaging and charismatic in lecture

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15583. I would recommend Professor Schalekamp to anyone looking to take a linear algebra course.

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27606. Not really much he could do. Not a super difficult class and not many people went to lectures.

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21663. is super helpful and is very receptive to questions. is very accessible in office hours and truly cares about students succeeding. loved having him as a professor! could not have asked for a better experience for the course.

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15712. Phenomenal lecturer. Cared about topic. Encouraged students to care about the topic.

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46657. I'm minimizing

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21584. I really enjoyed linear algebra with Professor Schalekamp. He takes time to thoroughly explain concepts so that we understand them. His lectures are very clear but also pretty fun. He writes very reasonable exams that are not too difficult.

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5176. Love Franz's jokes and his teaching that kept me engaged and interested in the subject

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34405. Very nice

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5213. I enjoyed his teaching style and aloof nature.

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9178. Had a great energy and was a fun lecturer.

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25479. Great

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40206. I thought my instructor was very good and explained concepts well.

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40232. N/A

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9652. Great professor and very helpful.

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34387. Great engagement!

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**14. Please comment on any other aspect of this course, including the lecture, textbook(s), homework, exams, course content, etc. Would you recommend this course to a friend?**

**No comments about the instructor in this box, please.**

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15711. Recommended; very good introduction to proof math.

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9637. The way the course is designed is not optimal in my opinion. The course goes very slow so we don't really learn any topics in depth.

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25563. it's good i would recommend, yes, yes

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9252. I would definitely recommend this course to a friend. Everything in this course is quite reasonable.

---

37181. Overall good course.

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27571. The textbook was a good resource, homework was very helpful, and exams were fair

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15692. Good textbook

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15707. Yes - it is a required course for many engineering and CS majors, after all, and it will teach me many useful things for ML particularly.

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9653. Textbook was thorough, as was the homework. Exams were fair, course content was comprehensive. I enjoyed linear algebra this semester.

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14475. Yes I would recommend this course to a friend.

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27565. I liked having the homework be effort-based with the quizzes as the evaluations. I didn't feel pressured to do all the homework super well and I could focus on learning, which I liked a lot. The tests were clear tests of knowledge gained in class, and they were clear and to the point. I enjoyed this course even if some of the content of linear algebra itself isn't super fun.

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37067. The textbook was vital for this class.

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15651. I would 100% recommend this math class. The tests actually match what we learned in class unlike 90% of stem courses and the prof gets back to emails right away unlike 90% of stem profs.

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27593. Textbook is almost better than lecture.

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5120. I would recommend this course to a friend. I found it far less stressful than any other math course at Cornell.

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9305. Lectures were clear, proofs and real-life applications were emphasized

---

9274. yeah good course. i would have liked to focus more on applications of linalg

---

9633. I would recommend this course, the textbook is extremely well written, and the content difficulty is very fair.

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40275. Textbook was great. Compared to other math classes I've taken at Cornell, I would say this is one of the best textbooks. The homework was also extremely helpful. It helped me reinforce the content I had already learned in lecture.

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15606. I would recommend course to a friend. lectures were very informative and helpful, and textbook was great for reinforcing content.

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9692. Course itself is unorganized. Material covered doesn't string together well like other math classes. Basically is a jumble of loose facts to learn

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9589. Yes I would definitely recommend this course to others as the material was comprehensive and relatively easy to digest.

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27656. Lectures were not that useful for understanding the material when the textbook is present, as the textbook is very good. Some sort of engagement method like I have in my other courses could improve this as I have heard similar from others.

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427. I absolutely would recommend this course to a friend. The exams, quizzes, and homework were all reasonable and informative.

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27551. Yes

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34428. This course was overall very informative due to the helpful examples given in class and the homework assignments. The tests were fair, and the overall teaching process of this course worked well.

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35829. I liked the homework and quiz setup, I felt like it was very fair and made the course more about learning than just grades. Exams seemed fair as well.

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34437. Finishing homework is really helpful in learning this course. Yes, I would recommend it.

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---

40228. Yes!

---

21561. Yes I would recommend this course to a friend. Matrix algebra is important in many fields, plus it is quite interesting.

---

35772. No

---

21541. The homework and exams are very fair. Overall, I would recommend this course to a friend.

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40292. I wish more time would've been spent on the last few chapters as they were significantly tougher than anything in the front half of the course.

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46636. The practice exams and the homework do a great job in preparing the students for the prelims. Lecture is organized well and is helpful along with the textbook!

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40223. Exams were reasonably challenging

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15687. I would definitely recommend this course to a friend.

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9610. exams were very fair and seemed to be a good assessment of knowledge, I would recommend this class and professor to others.

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27606. I would recommend it. Not sure if Cornell will see this, but being more lenient specifically on credit for this class would be nice. Nobody who had previously taken it went to lecture and the class was incredibly easy for me and others because of it.

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21663. lecture notes were very helpful and homeworks and exams were extremely fair. would absolutely recommend the course to a friend if it was structured the same way as it was this semester in a future semester.

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15712. Good content. Useful info. Take the class.

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46657. H. Uuvuvuvuvuvu

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21584. The homework and exams were both very reasonable. I would recommend this course to a friend.

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9216. Relatively straight forward course. Textbook, homeworks, and exams are all reasonable.

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9189. This course is a little too engineering. I believe even engineers should have more proof-based math classes.

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5213. The textbook was amazing and helped me a lot along with the professor. (Except chapter 3, that was not useful)

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9178. Wish we had better explanations of how to write proofs.

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15702. I would, I felt like lecture, discussion, assignments, and exams were fair and helpful.

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40206. I would recommend this course to a friend b/c I think that it is well structured.

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40232. Yeah I would. Textbook is useful

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9681. The way the textbook is written is so terribly wordy and confusing which makes it a terrible supplement for the course.