

## Comments 2012-2016

### Students' perception of my enthusiasm and motivation.

*Her enthusiasm for math is contagious, and this was by far my favorite class to attend each week. (Calc 2, Fall 2012)*

*The professor was never low on energy. (Calc 2, Fall 2012)*

*Dr. Vas' passion for math really rubs off on her students. I found myself interested and engaged all the time, and her enthusiasm was just as contagious. (Diff Eq, Fall 2016)*

*She put a smile on everyones face with her sweet personality and enthusiasm. Her course was very organized which made things easier to understand. Overall, Dr. Vas is an amazing professor. (Calc 2, Fall 2016)*

*I love that she always came into class happy and ready teach. I could tell that she truly wanted us to do well in assignments and exams and was willing to provide as much help as we needed. (Calc 2, Fall 2012)*

*Dr. Vas is a saint. She is the sweetest most caring teacher i have ever had. Thank you Dr. Vas. I really liked your review sheets and packets I love how Dr. vas is always willing to sit down and help explain things. (Calc 2, Fall 2017)*

*Awesome teacher and always happy to be in class. Shows enthusiasm in what she taught which made class so much more interesting. (Calc 3, Spring 2013)*

*She has worked with me when things have gone wrong at home and always offered me unlimited help. I've always loved math, but she reassures it. So enthusiastic to teach the material and keeps me engaged and excited to learn. I honestly never want a different math teacher. She immediately puts me in a good mood, her happiness is contagious. (Calc 3, Spring 2016)*

*She made coming to class enjoyable. It was hands down my favorites class of the semester. She truly cares about the well being of her students and wants them all to succeed. (Calc 2, Fall 2012)*

*She explains things thoroughly until everyone understands them or else she is always available for extra one on one help. She truly cares about her students and is an excellent person and teacher. (Calc 3, Spring 2013)*

*Dr. Vas is very caring, and will go out of her way to help any student who is struggling. This is apparent inside and outside of class. The way the material is taught makes it easy to learn and understand, even though the class is a higher level course. (Calc 3, Spring 2013)*

### Students' comments on specific topics.

*Laplace Transforms might be the coolest thing I've learned ever. (Diff Eq, Fall 2013)*

*The group theory was so much fun. It made me go "woow....no wonder...." as I related it back to my inorganic classes. (Math Methods, Spring 2016)*

*She always makes the class engaging! And as a chemistry major, we finally get to apply some math to chemistry! Really useful material and as always a blast of a class to be in! (Math Methods, Spring 2016)*

*I liked learning about Fourier Transforms and Series since they show up in most of my other courses.(Math Methods, Spring 2016)*

*I really like how Vas related the material to PChem. She also made herself available with convenient office hours. (Calc 2, Fall 2015).*

*I loved the way that the course material could translate so easily to physical, biological, and chemical processes! Additionally Dr. Vas is a fantastic professor. The information becomes almost intuitive as she is able to take the nuances out of the material that a lot of people get stuck over. (Diff Eq, Fall 2016)*

*Real life applications! This was the first time I saw the connection between the real world and the math world :) (Diff Eq, Fall 2017)*

*1. Dr. Vas 2. Laplace was pretty cool 3. The phase plane graphs were fun too (Diff Eq, Fall 2017)*

*Learning about the different oscillations and how similar diff eq was to linear (algebra) (Diff Eq, Fall 2017)*

**Students' perception of my availability to make topics they consider to be difficult accessible to them.**

*She makes it easy to understand without white washing it or simplifying it, in fact she even gives hard questions and explains how to solve them, but builds up to how to go about solving different problems of different levels of intensity. (Calc 1, Fall 2014)*

*She can make even the hardest concepts in math seem easy because she does a great job of explaining where equations come from and how to use them. (Calc 2, Fall 2014)*

*The material was explained in a clear manner and the instructor was very helpful in making the information understood in a useful way that could be applied to multiple disciplines in the science field. (Calc 2, Fall 2014)*

*This is one of the best math courses I've ever taken. The instructor is VERY knowledgeable and covers the course material in a way that is very easy to understand. She is also very helpful and friendly to talk to. (Calc 2, Fall 2014)*

*Dr. Vas is easily the best professor the university has. Her lectures are easy to follow*

*and helpful. She offers her help unlimited, she truly cares about us. She makes difficult material easy to learn. She knows everything she is talking about. To say she is genius is an understatement. She is never in a bad mood; her happiness is effective. (Calc 2, Fall 2015)*

*She eases the difficulty of the subject with her exceptional teaching power and extreme organization. (Calc 2, Fall 2015)*

*This was my favorite class taken thus far in college. Dr. Vas is the best teacher I have had at this school. She is the kindest lady and helped me with no matter what I needed. She was always readily available and went above and beyond to help me. She was always very excited about each class, and it was a pleasure being in her presence. I wish I could have her for every class. (Calc 2, Fall 2015)*

*She made the material easy to understand and went out of her way to help as much as possible. She is such an amazing teacher. (Calc 2, Fall 2015)*

*I think you explain the course material effectively. You go very quickly sometimes but I like how you kinda do a review of what we learned at the start of the next lecture. The formula sheets are a life saver and I think the homework (although its tough) really prepares you for the exam. Also the extra office hours you have before an exam is really helpful. I personally appreciate your dedication to teaching and making sure every student gets help when they need it. Overall, I would say just keep doing what you do. You're a great professor Dr. Vas! (Calc 2, Fall 2012)*

*Dr. Vas was an amazing teacher that delivered difficult and abstract concepts in a very clear and concise manner. (Diff Eq, Fall 2016)*

*This was an amazing course overall! Dr. Vas has an infectious personality as she is extremely happy and cheerful all of the time. I genuinely looked forward to her class every day. She really cares about her students as people and is invested in our academic success as well. The course had some difficult topics but Dr. Vas explains it in a way that everyone can understand. The assignments and review sheets really help prepare for the exams. Dr. Vas is amazing! (Diff Eq, Fall 2017)*

*I don't know how Dr. Vas does it, but she always knows how to communicate the material effectively. I never feel lost, and she always makes it easy to understand. And then even if I think I am confused, I'll just go back through her steps and they always make sense. All her tricks makes things so easy. And I will say that probably since grade school, completing the square never made any sense and her little box and square trick makes it so easy. She just has a gift for teaching and she always makes learning fun because everyday she always has a smile on her face. I really appreciate everything she has taught me and she really is one of usci's best. (Diff Eq, Fall 2017)*

### **Students' perception of my availability and willingness to help them.**

*I have never in my life felt so respected by a member of the faculty. She has helped me even when I did not deserve it. She is never unfair! This course has made me*

*more confident as a student and future scientist. As a college student with ADHD I greatly appreciate the learning opportunities Dr. Vas has created for me. Thank you so much! :) (Calc 2, Fall 2015)*

*I love Calc and it is because of Dr. Vas. She is not only the best math teacher I have ever had, but the best teacher in general. Loves all of her students so genuinely and cares so much about your grade she is willing to stay after office hours end to help you understand it. (Calc 2, Fall 2015)*

*Dr Vas is the best instructor on this campus. She is obviously intelligent but the humbleness that she carries with her everyday is not commonly found. She is clearly gifted and I genuinely mean that it was an honor to be able to take CALC II and diff eq's with her. If I ever end up in academia, I hope that I am able to incorporate the "Vas Model" of teaching style. I have never met a professor who is always available for her students, genuinely cares about their well being and is realistic about the coursework. Her courses are in no way easy at all, but the amount of help she provides by her open office hours, hw assignments before the exams etc makes it easier for students to do well in her courses. Dr Vas, thank you for being such an inspiration. I hope you are really proud of everything you have accomplished. (Diff Eq, Fall 2016)*

*Dr. Vas is extremely helpful and patient when you come to her with questions. When questions are asked in class they are always fully explained. (Calc 2, Fall 2014)*

*Dr. Vas is the most remarkable professor. You can tell from the first day in her class that she loves her job, teaching, and the well-being of her students. She makes sure that everyone understands the material and makes herself available if you need extra help on a particular concept. I did not have a good experience with Calc I but after a semester with Vas, my interest in math has absolutely peaked. (Calc 2, Fall 2014)*

*I used to hate math till i encountered this course. The professor is so good at teaching, not only did she make me understand and like math, but I have chosen to minor in math thanks to her. (Calc 2, Fall 2014)*

*Her intelligence, selflessness, and kindness make her a very special person. Her classes are highly structured and organized. She is great at explaining material and offering up her help always. Concepts that would otherwise seem very difficult were much easier to learn with Dr. Vas. Not only this, but she has sparked my interest in taking up a math minor because she makes math enjoyable. I cannot thank Dr. Vas enough for her dedication, kindness, thoughtfulness, and support. (Diff Eq, Fall 2016)*

*Dr. Vas, as a teacher and as a person, was my favorite part of this course. She is always more than willing to go above and beyond for her students. She is very readily available in her office and will even stay later if any student needs help. All of the handouts she gives are very helpful and thorough. The exams never have surprises on them and the reviews were a great way to study. I like that expectations were laid out very clearly and it was very manageable to learn the material. (Diff Eq, Fall 2016)*

*Dr. Vas made calc 2 very enjoyable, she taught the concepts so they were easy to understand and her teaching motivated me to do well. Additionally, she went out of her*

*way to help students. It was easy to see that she wanted all her students to truly have a grasp on the material and succeed in the course. (Calc 2, Fall 2017)*

*Dr. Vas was so helpful and so sweet! She would explain the material until you understood it, stayed late in her office hours to help, and was just overall a great professor. I am looking forward to having her again! (Calc 2, Fall 2017)*

### **The organization of my classes and the effectiveness of the handouts and assignments.**

*The assignments are very challenging and a great way to prepare for the test. I also like the packets she gives on every topic with practice problems because those are great to look back on and see how to work out problems. (Calc 3, Spring 2015)*

*At first I was hesitant about not having a textbook, but the packets were a very nice way to present the material. (Diff Eq, Fall 2016)*

*Not having to buy a textbook was awesome, it saved a lot of time and money because the class could get started right away. I also liked that all the handouts were on her website. It is very clear that Dr. Vas knows her material extremely well. (Calc 2, Fall 2016)*

*Dr. Vas was very organized in her lessons. She made everything very clear and made sure everyone had a good understanding of the material before she moved on. (Calc 2, Fall 2016)*

*The atmosphere was encouraging and worksheets were really helpful as a guide when revising. I also like how available she is. (Calc 2, Fall 2016)*

*I like how this class is organized with the worksheets. Those worksheets really prepare me for the exams. I really learned a lot from this course. (Calc 2, Fall 2013)*

*Dr. Vas gives a lot of 1 on 1 help when needed. Formula sheets were extremely helpful for exams. (Diff Eq, Fall 2013)*

*This was my favorite class so far in university. Dr. Vas is fascinating to listen to, explains topics effectively, and clearly cares deeply about her students' success. I don't think there was a single thing all semester that I don't now understand. Absolutely excellent. (Diff Eq, Fall 2013)*

*Dr. Vas had handouts and explained the information each class. She was very organized and even went over practice problems to help teach the lesson. Her formula sheets and exam reviews before the tests were also helpful. (Calc 2, Fall 2013)*

*The packets that we were administered at the start of any new topic assisted with the learning of course material while Dr. Vas was more than well prepared and explained the material very thoroughly (Calc 2, Fall 2013)*

*The course content is well organized. It is clear what is expected of the student and*

*what the exams will cover. The review sheets are well made and extremely helpful in preparing for the exams. The lectures, exams, assignments, and projects all relate to each other. Grading is fair. I honestly look forward to this class. It is a breath of fresh air. Dr. Vas makes the content fun and easy to learn. She is always smiling and truly cares about her students. (Diff Eq, Fall 2014)*

*The course could not have been better. I found the exams to be perfectly timed; the assignments really helped prepare for the exams. (Calc 2, Fall 2015).*

*I loved everything about this course. The material is very interesting and thought-stimulating. Dr. Vas makes this class amazing. I thoroughly enjoyed having worked out answers to every problem on every hand out. This really helped me for the exams. I have never had a teacher put that much effort into my learning of the material. (Calc 2, Fall 2015)*

*It was clear, organized, understandable, relatable, fun, and manageable! Everything was excellent. The structure of the class is very well put together! I love it (Math Methods, Spring 2016)*

*I like how the course has been setup with the HW assignments, followed by MATLAB followed by Exams. the work at first may seem a lot, but its almost necessary to keep the students in check and prepare for the exams. i think without such a structure the students would be so much more stressed out for the exams and the overall grades would be a lot lower. It is unbelievable the amount of assistance Dr Vas offers in this course both in class as well as her office hours. (Diff Eq, Fall 2016)*

*The assignments really helped me learn the material. I feel like I gained a great foundation for solving differential equations and seeing how they apply to physical models. (Diff Eq, Fall 2016)*

*I really liked everything about the course. I felt the assignments were challenging but fair and prepared me for the exams. The exams were also fair and reflected what I had learned in class. Dr. Vas was definitely my favorite part. She was always willing to help whenever I needed her and was very kind and respectful. She made this class a fun learning environment. Everyone should model their teaching style after Dr. Vas. The print outs and review were very very helpful. (Calc 3, Spring 2016)*

*Assignments were very helpful to review material and prepare for the test. I liked doing a 4th assignment this semester, it forces you to do the problems and review your notes. Not just passively prepare for the final. (Calc 3, Spring 2016)*

*I thought that the assignments prepared me well for the exams and the reviews gave me plenty of examples that helped prepare for the exams. (Calc 3, Spring 2016)*

*The lectures were always very clear and the homework and review packets made sure I was prepared for every exam. (Calc 2, Fall 2017)*

*I appreciate Dr. Vas' dedication to helping her students! Her website has all the notes and information about calc 2 that anyone could need, so that was a great resource as*

*well. (Calc 2, Fall 2017)*

*Allowing time in class for assignments such as homework packets and matlab projects was very helpful and appreciated. I felt like Dr. Vas was always making sure we felt confident in our work and gave us time in class to ask any questions. (Calc 2, Fall 2017)*

*Everything about this course was well-designed, well-taught, and informative. Dr. Vas is an amazing professor who is always prepared, organized, and effective. This was one of the best courses I've taken at this university. (Diff Eq, Fall 2017)*

*Not only does she teach the material extremely well, she also uses homework assignment and projects that do a great job of reinforcing what's taught in lecture. (Calc 3, Spring 2018)*

*I liked knowing that I had all the materials necessary to prepare me for the exams. Dr. Vas really made sure that I knew what I was doing prior to the exams (Calc 3, Spring 2018)*

*Examples in class and on the packets were extremely helpful for the assignments and exams Content was delivered clearly and thoroughly during lecture (Calc 3, Spring 2018)*