Fall 2024-25 Final Survey

For each of the following resources, describe how you used the resource for this course and how effective this use was to learn mathematics concepts and enhance problem solving skills.  Describe one way you plan to increase the effectiveness of the resource in the future. A few sentences are expected for each resource.  Points for this assignment will be lost if answers are incomplete or lack detail.

The Bryan Kurt *Differential Equations: A Toolbox for Modeling the World* text.

* Marlon: For every assignment I read this book to remember what was discussed in class. I read a good portion of the book. I think if I had worked more in the reading exercises my understanding would have been better, I did some of them, and for those sections I think I had a better understanding.
* Jaden: This textbook was mostly useful for reference when doing assignments or for pre reading before classes. It was also pretty useful for seeing example problems worked out and then later following those steps in my own work. In the future it would be nice to go through each chapter more thoroughly to get a better understanding of the more difficult concepts. Since my field requires skills from this course I will probably be referencing skills from this textbook outside of this class.
* Nathan: I used this resource to skim through concepts before we learned about them in class as well as for help if I was stuck while doing homework or the lab. I would say that this is a very effective resource as it covers all of the things that we talk about in class. One way I would plan to increase the effectiveness of this resource would be to use it more consistently.
* Max: I used the textbook when working on the homework assignments. After learning about the material first in class, I would read it when figuring out the homework problems in order to further my understanding of the topic. Reading the textbook before class and having a base understanding of the concepts would have increased the effectiveness of this resource.

The classes.

* Marlon: I went to the classes and expected to understand the fundamentals and ask questions that I thought were crucial to make sure I understood the material. I think one way I can improve how can I get more from classes is by taking notes, I did not take many notes because It felt that I missed stuff from the class, since this is a kind of class where if you look away for a second, then the things on the whiteboard or the topic feels that are way ahead by the time I finish taking the notes.
* Jaden: The classes themselves were the most help in gathering information. Classes would usually be 50 minutes to an hour of notetaking, asking questions, problem solving, and doing group work. It was also the time I was most introduced to new information. It was also the time I was most able to determine what I did and didn't know and then ask questions for help. I'm unsure how I could better utilize class time outside of not missing a few sessions that I did miss.
* Nathan: I used this resource to get practice with how to effectively complete problems. Taking notes on the problems solved in class helped me to be able to complete the homework through using the same methods used in class. This resource was very effective for me and helped me the most for completing this class. I think that one way I can improve the effectiveness of this resource is by making sure that I go to every class period that I can.
* Max: I used the class and lectures as my main learning resource. It was not as effective as it could have been due to it being the first time I was learning about new concepts instead of reading the textbook first. It was fairly effective as I was able to ask questions when I had them.

Artificial intelligence.

* Marlon: I used artificial intelligence to ask it questions I would ask in class as well, I also asked it to break down concepts, so that I could understand more, and check on some of the answers to make sure I understood the whole process. I think I can improve the usage on this resource by asking it more things to improve my understanding in the class and double check on the understanding that I have about the class.
* Jaden: AI was probably the most useful resource outside of classes. When given a problem that I didn't understand I could ask AI to write-down the steps of the problem in a way that I could follow and understand it. AI can't quite solve the problems accurately but it does provide a blueprint that it well enough designed for me to follow. AI also was a big help for studying for the midterm exam. I had asked it to create a few practice exams which helped a lot. In the future I plan to use this resource more effectively by having it generate study guides rather than just practice problems.
* Nathan: I mainly used this resource to help format code in cocalc. This resource would help me remember how to code the simple things that I would tend to forget. This resource did a fairly good job at helping me with this although it didnt always work. One way I could improve the effectiveness of this resource is to try to see what I can learn from it and try to use it as little as possible.
* Max: I used AI when working on some of the homework assignments. It was helpful, when it worked, at showing me the correct steps to follow in a problem. In order to increase the effectiveness of this resource, I could have asked it to give me more practice problems and their solutions so I could better my understanding of each topic.

Other people (peers, instructor, student assistant, tutor, and so on).

* Marlon: I mostly asked questions to the instructor of the class, I felt that and using AI was sufficient to understand the material. However, there were times where I thought maybe I should ask another peer about how they did such questions; that could be a way to use their help more effectively. I never went to a tutor session; I think it was for the same reason; I felt that the first two resources were enough.
* Jaden: I didn't regularly consult with peers or my professor as much as I should have. They are fantastic resources and were very underutilized. In the future I will definitely use these more often. The few times I did use them, I didn't really use them to their fullest extent as I wasn't prepared with questions going in.
* Nathan: I used this resource for help when I had questions about the class or some of the coursework. It was very effective at helping me when I had questions. In the future if I take larger advantage of this resource I am sure that it will become more effective