

The Critical Review

MATH 0090

Introductory Calculus, Part I

Hulse, Thomas

Format: **Lecture**
Class Size: **28**
Respondents: **20**

“Introductory Calculus, Part I” is the first of a two-course introductory series (the second is [MATH0100](#)) targeted primarily to science and math concentrators. The main objective of the course is to teach basic single variable calculus with a focus on limits, differentiation, maxima and minima, the chain rule, rational functions, trigonometric functions, and exponential functions. Students are also introduced to integration with applications to area and volumes of revolution. There are no official prerequisites for the course, though most students found that a strong background in high school trigonometry and precalculus was necessary for success in the class.

Students were pleased with Thomas Hulse's preparation for class and his approachability about questions. The instructor always prepared himself well for each lecture and was able to provide a lot of examples, and most reviewers found his lectures to be well-organized. Students also felt that Hulse took their understanding of the material into consideration, and he constantly encouraged questions. Those who sought help from him outside of class received it, and Hulse always made an effort to help his class members.

The coursework consisted of weekly problem sets, four quizzes, two midterms, and a final exam. Most of students found the homework useful in that it helped solidify concepts taught in class.

On average, students spent about 4-6 hours per week on the course. Students did not have any suggestions for improvement since they considered the course taught by Hulse to be awesome. However, they also encouraged students to shop for other courses in Math, Physics or Chemistry. Paying attention in class and practicing problems were considered key to mastering the material. One student wrote, “Tom, you're awesome! Great work!”

1.66

Course

2.4

Loved It

2

Good for Non-Concentrators

3.8

Hours, typical week

1

2

3

4

Agree

1.3

Prof

1.6

Learned a Lot

2.6

Difficult

6.3

Hours, maximum

Disagree