Nov 20, 2022

Teaching Effectiveness Evaluation for **Kyla Pohl**

Classroom Observation:

I observed Kyla's Math 112 class in the eighth week of fall quarter. During the class meeting, Kyla first wrote down a list of trigonometric identities. She asked students to pay attention to the definition of $\csc(\theta)$ and that $\csc(\theta) \neq \arcsin(\theta)$. She then gave two examples on how to apply the identities to solve trigonometric problems. One was to evaluate $\cos(\frac{5\pi}{12})$ and the other was to prove the identity $\dfrac{\sin(\alpha + \beta)}{\cos(\alpha) + \cos(\beta)} = \tan(\alpha) + \tan(\beta)$. In the first example, she gradually led students to find which identity from the list on the blackboard would be useful for solving the problem. In the second example, she suggested that starting from the more complicated side. Then she proved that it is equal to the other side. Both examples were a good introduction to students on how to apply those identities.

Kyla then moved on to her next topic: vectors. She started out by giving motivation on why someone wants to define something like vectors by using airplane flight routes. She then defined what a two-dimensional vector is and explained when two vectors are the same. She drew many examples of vectors on the blackboard and asked students to identify which vectors are the same.

Kyla was clear on her explanations and used colored chalk to help students distinguish new elements from old. She also asked students questions along the way to keep students engaged.

Syllabus Review:

Kyla's syllabus contains all the required elements that the university asked for, including how the course grade is computed. I was a little surprised that all the exams together count as 50% of the course grade. The other 50% of the course grade is based on work for which one may not be able to verify that the student actually did the work. I would recommend increasing the exam weight when computing the course grade.

Ms. Pohl has seen this evaluation and had the opportunity to offer feedback prior to its submission.

Evaluator: Kai-Shyang Wang

Instructor: Kyla Pohl