

Written Review of MTH 243 (Online) Fall 2020 by Kyriakos Kypriotakis

Reviewing Ben's online MTH 243 course, introduction to statistics, inspired me to be a stronger online instructor! Overall, Ben has a holistic approach to teaching statistics meaning he puts emphasis on how statistics is relevant in our day-to-day lives, and he does that without depriving students of the required course curriculum.

The course is straightforward to navigate, nicely organized, and above all, it does a wonderful job to facilitate learning. The material is organized in sequential order by topic; there is homework and practice section, ZOCK Generator, POWs, Video Lectures, Class Notes, Course Textbook, More Course Recourses, Syllabus, and MyLakerLink. Within MyLakerLink, students can find the discussions and their course grade.

The video lectures and class notes correspond to each section of the textbook. The video lectures range from twenty minutes to over an hour long and are creative, entertaining, and ultimately display Ben's ability to communicate information with clarity and precision. The class notes complement the textbook and what I particularly liked is that each begins with a question to engage the student cognitively and there is a worksheet to ensure the student has the opportunity to assess their learning. Class notes also provide countless rich and interesting examples that supplement the textbook wonderfully, and I will borrow for my own MTH 243 courses.

Discussion forums provide an opportunity for thought-provoking conversation and socializing, students appreciate the opportunity to dig deeper into a topic and/or explore big ideas in statistics and receive feedback upon their learning both from the instructor and from their peers, thus building a sense of community. Nature of randomness is one of my favorite ones, and as one student put it; "I have to think about something, or read it, several times to make it make sense if it is a concept that I am not used to.". In my honest opinion, that is what learning is all about.

There is no doubt that Ben is an effective caring teacher; he meets with each student individually throughout the course for vocabulary checks up and grades manually each problem of the week. In that way, he gets to know each student, her/his strengths, weaknesses, and the way they think critically and communicate about mathematics, which takes a substantial amount of time and effort, but I am sure his students appreciate it.

Overall, is it evident that Ben is an instructor that is passionate about statistics and is working diligently to ensure his students are successful in his course! He does a wonderful job at staying visible, organized, and being a caring compassionate teacher and has my highest recommendation.