

**NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

CLASS OBSERVATION REPORT

Name: Kate Poirier
Department: Mathematics

Rank: Assistant Professor
Course/Section: MAT 1275/D547

Date of Observation: 10/24/17

Room: N420C

- Tenured
 Untenured
 Reappointment
 Promotion
 Other

Observer: Jonas Reitz

Lesson Topic & Brief Summary: **Section 9.4 Nonlinear Systems. Introduced nonlinear systems of equations and methods for solving them.**

Please complete each item. This report will be returned unless each category contains supporting comments. Use additional pages if necessary.

1. **CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT** (prompt start, attendance check, student decorum, classroom atmosphere):
X Satisfactory Unsatisfactory

Class started on time and attendance was checked. The class behaved appropriately at all times, and Professor Poirier did a great job of putting students at ease while keeping them focussed on the material.

2. **PROFESSIONAL TRAITS** (professional appearance and demeanor; clarity, volume, pace of speech; establishment of rapport with students)
X Satisfactory Unsatisfactory

The instructor's appearance and comportment were professional and her speech was clear. She had an easygoing and conversational manner that clearly established excellent rapport with the class.

3. **SUBJECT MASTERY** (accuracy of presented material, use of appropriate terminology, competence in use of equipment)
X Excellent Very Good Satisfactory Unsatisfactory

Professor Poirier displayed a deep understanding of the material presented. She consistently used correct mathematical terminology in her discussions, reinforcing vocabulary throughout the lesson. She made excellent use of classroom equipment, with legible and well-organized boardwork and effective introduction of technology (GeoGebra, Desmos) to illustrate important concepts.

4. **ORGANIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF MATERIAL** (clear statement of objectives; logical sequence; budgeting of time; review, summary, and outside assignments as appropriate)
X Excellent Very Good Satisfactory Unsatisfactory

Lesson objectives were stated on the board at the beginning of class along with information about current assignments. The lesson was thoughtfully designed with an engaging balance of class discussion, group work and lecture, and covered all the stated objectives in the time allotted. The lesson began with a continuation of previous material, which was used to motivate a new topic, and external assignments (WeBWork) were clearly indicated. A very well organized class.

5. PRESENTATION OF MATERIAL (level and clarity of presentation, teaching techniques, appropriate use of learning aids, review, and summary)
X Excellent Very Good Satisfactory Unsatisfactory

Professor Poirier did a fantastic job of presenting the material. Students spent a great deal of the class engaged in the material in small groups with the instructor circulating to provide individual assistance, balanced with class discussion and brief lectures. Students demonstrated their work on the board and this was used as a basis for discussion. Alternative approaches to problems were encouraged and in many cases Professor Poirier asked multiple students to show their work for the same problem, using this to highlight different solution strategies. In introducing a new topic she moved from informal discussion, to motivating examples, to the general case, and highlighted multiple modes of representation (algebraic, geometric), using the new topic to review and reinforce prior knowledge (equations and graphs of circles and lines). She drew many connections between conceptual ("What does it mean to solve a system of equations?") and procedural ("What step should we do next?") domains, and called on her students to make these connections explicit. Professor Poirier created a dynamic lesson with many opportunities for learning in a variety of modes.

6. STUDENT-INSTRUCTOR INTERACTION (relevance, variety, and clarity of questions; appropriate recognition of student contributions)
X Excellent Very Good Satisfactory Unsatisfactory


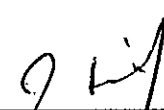
The instructor asked many questions to provoke engagement with the material ("What does it mean? What form will the answer take?") and listened carefully to student responses. During group work she circulated the room, asking encouraging questions and providing gentle guidance. It was clear from the atmosphere and behavior in the room that students respond well to this instructor, asking questions and volunteering feedback.

7. OVERALL EVALUATION (categories 1 through 6)
X Excellent Very Good Satisfactory Unsatisfactory

Professor Poirier presented a dynamic, well-balanced lesson incorporating a variety of teaching techniques in an engaging manner. An outstanding lesson!

8. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT (use additional pages if necessary)
Keep up the great work.

I have read and have been given a copy of the above report, and so signify by my signature below. I understand that I may attach additional comments to this document.

 OCT 31, 2017  10/31/17
Signature of Observee Date Signature of Observer Date

TO: Personal File of: Kate Poirier

RE: Observation Report of: Jonas Reitz

Course\Section: MAT 1275/D547

Date of Observation: 10/24/17

The Observee read the observation report, and was given a copy.

1. The observer raised the following significant points:

None.

2. The observee had the following comments:

None

SIGN _____

J. Reitz
OBSERVER

I have received a copy of this memo. It is understood that I may attach a written statement of my own.

SIGN _____

OBSERVEE

DATE Oct 31, 2017