Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response Summary

27 responses were received of 128 surveyed.

Questions	Mean or % Response
1. Quality of MATH courses.	4
2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?	3.85185185
3. Suitability of requirements for the major.	4.15384615
4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?	4.2962963
5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.	4.5
6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?	4.07692308
7. Quality of advising.	3.95238095
8. Informal interactions with faculty.	3.66666667
9. Informal interactions with graduate students.	3.65217391
10. Informal interactions with other majors.	3.71428571
11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?	3.69230769
12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.	4.42307692
13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?	4.40740741
14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?	4.35
15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?	3.5
Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?	74% Yes 26% No
Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?	78% Yes 19% No

Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?	67% Yes 33% No
Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?	70% Yes 22% No

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #1

5 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *Probability and Statistics*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *Algebra*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *No*

General comments:

5 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

5 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

5 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

5 7. Quality of advising.

5 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

4 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

3 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

3 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

2 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #2
mjb245@cornell.edu

5 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *both 433 (Sjamaar's section) and 434 were quite well*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *(blank)*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *No.*

General comments:

I have not been long in the department, but have thoroughly enjoyed the four classes I have taken thusfar.

4 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

More flavors of combinatorics at a high level would be nice. That's the only thing I can think of off the top of my head.

4 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

Seem pretty standard, but flexible. They manage to cover a lot of ground while allowing for a bit of specialization.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

I haven't run into any problems in this regard.

5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

I've been pretty much into pure math for some time now, so didn't give the other areas of concentration much thought.

5 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

Academia does a pretty good job, in general, of creating academics, which is the role in which I see myself after college.

5 7. Quality of advising.

I've been able to get advice from multiple professors whenever I've needed it. They have all been mostly knowledgable about the department, classes, and other areas about which I asked.

5 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

Very good. Most of the faculty are very open to chatting, especially at receptions other semi-informal gatherings.

5 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

Taking classes with them off the bat helped my confidence in interacting with them. They seem nice.

4 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

I've enjoyed my interactions with other majors in my classes, but maybe don't get enough informal interaction outside of the class/study setting.

3 11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

Just about every Math Club event this year (including the upcoming Monday's gathering) has been during rehearsals of the CU Wind Ensemble, of which I (and 4 other math majors) am a member. This has unfortunately kept me away from these events. I did make it to some of Diaconis's lecture last fall, as well as the Chelluri lecture this semester, and found those very fun. I've also attended many Olivetti (and a few Oliver) lectures and enjoyed those.

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

Good, although I haven't really had to dig for anything at this point in my studies.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

E-mail's great. Much preferred to papering, especially since it's more portable and easier to look up after the fact.

4 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

I've been able to find most everything I'd expect to find on the website, although up-to-date lecture and event schedules seem hard to come by.

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

I haven't sought these folk out yet.

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

No Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

No Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

I've really enjoyed being a part of this department so far.

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #3

3 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *336*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *431*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *222*

General comments:

5 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

2 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

1 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

2 7. Quality of advising.

Advising was virtually non-existant, but that didn't really get in the way of anything.

1 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

2 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

3 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

5 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

No Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

No Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

The Math Department as a whole seems to be generally more focused on their own research. With the exception of Dr. Allen Back, I didn't have a single professor who could write me a good personal recommendation, which is very important for grad school.

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #4
dv43@cornell.edu

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *431, 432, 422, 336, 323*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *451, 454*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *(blank)*

General comments:

4 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

An undergraduate course on differential geometry that teaches it from a standard perspective, actually applicable to other areas. An undergraduate class focused on functional analysis.

5 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

requirements seem fair, lets everyone create the program they need.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

yes, great flexibility in the math major to do what is interesting to you.

4 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

5 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

I plan to go to graduate school to study mathematical physics, math is crucial. :-)

7. Quality of advising.

5 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

Specifically, I have found Yuri Berest and Kariane Calta to be extremely helpful in my interactions with them. They are wonderful teachers.

4 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

5 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

no better way to learn math than by discussing and doing problems with other, the math major offers plenty of people to do that with. Also, the 5th floor math lounge really helps to bring people together.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

Only once didn't have the book I wanted, top notch library.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

4 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

I wish the undergraduate section of the website had a more thorough description of what is offered in various classes and what the differences are. Such as math 221 vs. 223, math 431 vs. 433, etc.

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

No Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #5

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *221,432*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *222*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *(blank)*

General comments:

4 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

Maybe one more geometry course.

4 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

4 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

I was very satisfied with my Econ concentration.

4 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

I will be working in finance next year, so I won't be using math to the depth I learned with a math major, but I think it provided a great analytical background.

3 7. Quality of advising.

3 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

3 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

4 11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

All very interesting.

4 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

4

particularly the undergraduate section?

2 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

I was not satisfied with CCS in general.

No Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #6

3 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *111*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *222*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *no*

General comments:

2 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

More math classes that don't focus on methods and practices. Rather, a few Math classes that focus on the history of various areas of Mathematics.

1 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

There are too many requirements. There should be more flexibility with concentrations. That is, a math major should be able to take one or 2 classes outside of his/her concentration and have them count towards major completion.

2 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

Not very flexible

4 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

Good Concentrations

1 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

I won't use most of the material I learn after graduation. I do it purely out of interest.

2 7. Quality of advising.

My advisor has yet to return an email from 2 weeks ago.

4 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

Friendly most of the time. Once or twice, they were a little condescending.

5 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

Grad students are the best! Always very polite and willing to answer any question.

4 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

Good

3 11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

There are many good ideas. They are just at really bad times. Maybe a little more research, in terms of exams due, can help get higher attendance.

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

Love it.

4 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

There should be a website that has all of the contents of the emails. Then the majors should get an email to the website when there is something to be announced.

4 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

It ok.

5 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

No Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

No Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example:|How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math.||THAT'S A REALLY GOOD IDEA

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #7

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *none*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *(blank)*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *(blank)*

General comments:

it's pretty good

2 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

actuarial science

3 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

400 level math classes usually require more than 221 and 222

2 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

3 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

3 7. Quality of advising.

3 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

2 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

4 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

3 11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

4 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

4 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

3 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #8

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *471, 311, 420*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *222*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *221*

General comments:

222 should use a different book because Marsden is crappy

5 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

4 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

3 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

4 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

4 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

4 7. Quality of advising.

4 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

2 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

3 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

5 11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

4 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

5 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

4 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

No Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

No Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #9

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *223, 413, 414, 454*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *336*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *(blank)*

General comments:

3 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

more advanced (than 332) number theory

5 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

4 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

5 7. Quality of advising.

my new advisor (Henderson) is great

3 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

3 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

3 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

4 11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

I love it

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #10
kag64@cornell.edu

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *507, 356, 336*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *(blank)*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *(blank)*

General comments:

3 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

If possible, some lower level topology courses would be nice.

5 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

4 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

4 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

I think there should be a slightly specialized education concentration, so that classes won't be taken separately for education and mathematics. There could be a few more math classes focused on different aspects of mathematics.

3 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

4 7. Quality of advising.

4 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

5 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

3 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

4 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

3 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

A newsletter might be beneficial, with a weekly or biweekly list of events and postings on the website. I get three or four copies of every math department email, so my mailbox gets cluttered quickly. At the least, an elimination of repeats on mailing lists would be nice (ie: faculty/staff/ math club/math majors, etc).

5 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

4 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #11

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *223, 224, 413*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *418, 335, 432*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *no*

General comments:

223 and 224 are wonderful classes.||432 moves much too slowly, especially in the beginning when most of the material is from the introductory sequence.||335 feels unorganized, as if the course lacks structure.

3 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

In both cases where an honors sequence is offered (introductory courses and algebra), I feel that the non-honors courses are not challenging enough, but the honors courses have unrealistic time commitments associated with them. It would be nice to have an alternative that moves quickly and/or covers more interesting, deeper material, without the unreasonably long homework assignments.

5 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

The computer science concentration is well-formulated to allow for easy double majoring.

4 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

I think of my math major as a way to enhance my analytic thinking skills, rather than being directly applicable to my career goals.

7. Quality of advising.

I rarely visit my advisor.

4 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

Regardless of lecturing ability, I have always found the faculty to be helpful and kind.

9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

10. Informal interactions with other majors.

I am unclear as to what constitutes "informal interactions with other majors."

5 11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

I feel that the Math Club and the department do an excellent job putting on events, in terms of frequency, type, and accessibility (if they are lectures).

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

4 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

I prefer the current email system over a bulletin board. Although I do find that as a math major signed up for the Math Club, I receive every Math Club email twice.

14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

I rarely visit the website and do not have any suggestions for its improvement.

5 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

The Career Center is doing a fine job.

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

I take courses primarily in the Mathematics Department and the Computer Science Department. I must say that in general, the Computer Science lecturers are much better. I do not know what to attribute this to, but it concerns me. I feel as if mathematics needs to be very clearly explained, with clever intuition being given to motivate complicated proofs. I have had too many professors, however, whose style omits too many details for my liking. Also, many of them simply stand at the board and present proofs exactly as they are presented in the text. While I like a class to follow the text closely, the lecturer should be motivating the proof and giving intuition behind it, or else why am I coming to class in the first place?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #12
ejm47@cornell.edu

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *224, 454*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *413-414, 434*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *223-224*

General comments:

The intro sequence 223-224 is a fantastic way to introduce interested students to the major. They are a difficult head-first approach that, by the end of 223, really pays-off in that students have a much better grasp of material and are better prepared for higher-level classes than they would have been in a slower-moving class. The material is also well-presented in a way that entices students who are predisposed to an interest in math. (The sequence convinced me that I'd rather be a math major than physics or computer science.)||Differential geometry (454) was an amazing course in that it was at a level that undergrads could grasp pretty difficult concepts and write proofs that were rigorous enough to show that we understood the work but general enough so as not to lose sight of the bigger picture.||Intro to Analysis (413) is a good class, and when I took it (the 8:40 class, fall 2004), it was presented in a very lucid manner. It did little, however to enhance what I had learned in 223-224. The only really new concepts were Cauchy sequences and Fourier series which really could have been taught in an extra few classes of 223-224. Then, with 414 as a follow-up, the same theorems are proven but in a higher dimension. The content is not particularly interesting, though both classes were well-presented (professors Ilyashenko and Sjaamar, respectively). It seems that a one-semester follow-up to 223-224 with a large analysis component would be ideal. Perhaps a follow-up to that course could be an honors complexs analysis course.||Abstract algebra (434) is an interesting course where the level of material presented in-class tends to be less interesting and simpler than the homework exercises.

3 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

Though the audience may be too small to warrant it, I wish there were more 400-level classes. There are many interesting-sounding topics at the 300-level that I have been advised against taking because they will not be challenging. I am currently enrolled in a graduate course (651) which is definitely challenging, but it may be a little too far to the other extreme in that all of the undergrads who meet to talk-over problem sets seem to agree that the problems would be near-impossible without a group meeting.||Classes that would be great at the 400-level include: number theory, manifolds/differential forms, and cryptology.

4 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

The analysis/algebra sequences seem to be quite helpful in getting a grasp on the basics of mathematics. However, in my brief experience in a grad course (651), it seems to me that even first-year graduate students are far ahead of my knowledge of algebra.

4 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

As I mentioned, the courses are good, but I wish there were more 400-level courses in various topics (particularly number theory).

5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

I am concentrating in math.

4 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

I am not sure whether I would like to be a math professor or a policy researcher. For the former, the major is clearly well-suited. However, for the latter, I have been told to look outside the math major for modeling courses and such. (I wouldn't call this a shortcoming of the math major per se, but, as I understand it, econometrics is a good course to take for applied statistics, but the math does not seem to be at the level that might want, though 471-472 seems to be very abstract/theoretical. I am _not_ speaking from experience as I have taken none of these courses and am only planning on taking one in the fall

4 7. Quality of advising.

Very helpful for Cornell courses. I wish there were a little more guidance with grad school (GREs and such).

5 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

I have always enjoyed talking to professors -- those who I have and have not formally had as teachers. They are always willing to talk math.

4 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

4 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

I have a conflicting meeting with the math club, but the few meetings I have been too seemed quite entertaining.

4 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

The latter could be helpful, but the e-mails are a great method of communication. I think many people would fall behind in events if they were posted on a web site.

4 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

I wish more undergrad courses has web sites. Also, it would be really helpful if professors who have taught classes in the past would post their syllabi up with the course descriptions.

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

I'm a little clueless on GREs despite looking into to a little bit on my own.

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

No Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

My experience with the Cornell math department has been great, and despite a few negative comments, I certainly have no big complaints about the department.

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #13
mdt29@cornell.edu

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *403, 434, 356, 441*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *413, 420*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *293*

General comments:

3 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

More geometrically inclined classes, more history classes

4 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

The lack of required geometry/topology seems strange since it is required in graduate programs.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

Plenty of classes.

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

The open option seems best, so that one can make his/her own concentration in addition to the given ones.

5 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

It is perfect for those wanting to go to graduate school, with the possible exception of the focus on algebra and analysis. I can't say for those who want to do something other than graduate school, but I imagine it's not as well suited for that.

3 7. Quality of advising.

Advisors did not seem to be well informed about undergraduate classes in general, or other undergrad issues.

2 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

Faculty does not seem particularly interested in going out of their way to meet the students or establish relationships outside of class time or office hours.

4 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

Grad students usually seem very approachable and helpful.

4 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

Seems fine, don't know what issues there would be.

2

(receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

Math club should include more events which are not just talks. I didn't even know there was a math club, aside from a group which organizes talks. Not a good source of community.

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

Top notch. Should be better about keeping food out, as the frequent crumbs in the carrels can be quite annoying.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

The emails are much better than a bulletin board, but a bb might be a nice addition for communication about those things.

5 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

The web site seems very good.

2 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Better info about grad school, not just one talk. Career services never seemed very helpful, I'm not sure how the department should help, though.

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #14

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *321,454*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *323*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *(blank)*

General comments:

4 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

4 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

4 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

4 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

5 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

3 7. Quality of advising.

3 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

3 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

2 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

3 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

3 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

No Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #15

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *(blank)*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *(blank)*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *(blank)*

General comments:

3 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

4 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

4 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

4 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

5 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

5 7. Quality of advising.

5 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

5 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

5 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

5 11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

4 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

5 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

4 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #16

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *221, 420*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *192*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *(blank)*

General comments:

5 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

5 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

4 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

> *I am not sure what I want to do, but I feel that even if I end up doing something that is completely unrelated to math, completing the major will have opened my mind to new ways of thinking that will help in any problem-solving situation.*

5 7. Quality of advising.

> *allen back has given me some fantastic advice*

8. Informal interactions with faculty.

5 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

10. Informal interactions with other majors.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

4 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

5 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

4 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

No Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

No Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #17

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *223, 224*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *None I can think of*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *No*

General comments:

The honors-level courses are very interesting, especially 223/224. I would like to see more classes in that vein.

4 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

I've heard that Dr. Hubbard is working on a continuation of 223/224. I would love to see that course offered. Also more courses that deal with mathematical physics from the mathematics perspective should be offered - perhaps in conjunction with the physics department?

5 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

4 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

I've actually joined the math major as sort of a "recreational" activity, because it's something that I love to do and learn about.

7. Quality of advising.

8. Informal interactions with faculty.

9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

10. Informal interactions with other majors.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

Great library... but we could use a few more computers in it.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

5 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

No Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

No Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

No Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

> *More mathematical physics courses! Also, synthesis courses, especially like 224 are great courses to learn about what's new in math. What about a course in modern mathematics? I'd love to take a class that talks about the Riemann Hypothesis... what it means, what it entails, ways people have been going about trying to prove it. I think that undergraduates should be exposed more to the graduate courses in the Math department.*

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #18

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *454*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *221,222*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *222*

General comments:

4 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

3 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

4 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

3 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

It would be nice if it were possible for math/philosophy (classes cross listed) class requirements to be used for both the math and philosophy major (like what is done with ComSci, physics and economics).

4 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

I plan on graduate school in math perhaps.

3 7. Quality of advising.

Haven't used my advisor enough yet.

2 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

Not a whole lot yet.

2 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

3 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

2 11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

Need more variety in events (not just speakers).

3 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

3 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

4 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

2 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

None yet, but its still early for me.

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

No Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

No Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #19

5 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *420, 425, 223, 224*

Which courses do you think need improvement? -

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? -

General comments:

All good and interesting

5 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

It would be interesting to see a course in Mathematical Modelling and possibly programming - sort of an extention to numerical analysis.

5 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

Good. Possibly CS 100 could be changed to 211...

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

Yes, unfortunately sometimes there are scheduling conflicts with required physics classes.

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

Very good.

5 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

Plan to attend grad school in physics/mathematics/computer science. Math major is te backbone of all of the above.

7. Quality of advising.

I wish I had more time to see my Advisor.

4 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

I wish I had more time to talk to faculty, however most are very receptive and great to talk to.

5 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

They are very knowledgable, helpful and great.

4 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

> *Email is amongst better ways to reach out. Possibly more important or urgent things could be posted near entrances (like coloquia)*

14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

No Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #20
aki3@cornell.edu

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *451, 453, 454, 336*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *221, 222, 323*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *413*

General comments:

There should be a brief introduction to reading and writing proofs in Math 221 itself. That would make understanding the material in 221 and 222 easier and more meaningful.

4 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

More geometry gourses.

3 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

CS100 is absolutely unnecessary.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

3 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

Geometry should be a concentration.

6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

5 7. Quality of advising.

My advisor, David Henderson is thoughtful, caring, and well-informed.

5 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

Everyone is very nice.

3 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

10. Informal interactions with other majors.

.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

5

ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

5 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #21
rmf25@cornell.edu

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *441, 442, 433*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *(blank)*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *223, 224*

General comments:

The quality of the courses generally depend on the quality of teaching and organization...

4 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

A course on Algebraic Combinatorics (if that makes sense) would be wonderful.

3 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

I think requiring more electives and perhaps adding another course to the core would be better, mostly because one could graduate taking a mere 8 or 9 math courses. Adding more requirements might reduce the number of majors, though.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

Definitely.

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

I am concentrating (and double-majoring) in Computer Science, and I find the set-up very reasonable, in terms of what courses count for both, and what is required for the concentration.

4 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

I plan on going to graduate school in Computer Science, probably in Complexity Theory, and the math major has given me (hopefully) the "mathematical maturity" needed for that. Also, I plan to take a few graduate courses that seem applicable (such as Recursion Theory).

4 7. Quality of advising.

When I seek it out, the advising is helpful. This statement is almost vacuous, though.

2 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

There don't seem to be many opportunities for this (other than L in L, which is sometimes intimidating).

3 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

If I weren't taking classes with math grad students, I probably would not interact with them much informally. See 8.

4 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

The collaboration policies of most classes make it easy to get to know other majors while trying to figure out problems. I don't really know many of the majors who haven't been in my classes, though...

4 11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

I like the lectures, usually, and Math Awareness Week is awesome!

4 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

Has an amazing amount of material. Sometimes I have trouble finding "modern" treatments of material.

3 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

I prefer email, but not getting it twice in a row. As a major and member of the Math Club, the double emails can be pretty irritating.

4 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

I really like the course descriptions, colloquia postings, office hours directory, and list of class homepages. I find it enormously helpful when professors have websites, even if handouts are merely posted in PDF format.

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

No Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

No Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #22
mwf8@cornell.edu

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *(blank)*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *MATH 221/223*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *No*

General comments:

There is too much of a difficulty difference between the honors and the non honors courses, particularly between MATH 221 and MATH 223. It would be nice if there was an introductory mathematics course that would allow good mathematics students to learn more than what is in MATH 221 but not demand a strong background in proofs like MATH 223

5 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

I am very satisfied with the amount of math courses to take: there are so many classes to take and not enough time to take them all.

5 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

The major is very flexible with requirements.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

4 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

I like the variety of the classes in the concentration that I am able to take as a math class.

5 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

I feel that it prepares me well to pursue a PHD in operations research.

5 7. Quality of advising.

3 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

I rarely interact with faculty informally. I am either too busy or too shy to do so. If I see the faculty, it is usually shyness that prevents me from talking to them.

4 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

I rarely interact with graduate students informally.

4 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

I am satisfied with my interactions with other majors. I interact with many students from other majors

(receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

I have band during the math club talks, so I cannot attend them.

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

4 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

I think it is unnecessary to receive two copies of every math club e-mail: I receive 1 for being a math major, and the second for being in the mathematics club list-serve.

14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

5 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

I know that I can take the initiative and find the resources that I want by using the web or by asking other people in career planning or the mathematics department.

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

No Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

I am unfortunately too busy with classes to really be able to say that I am interested most in the above events, but the ones I marked as "yes" seem interesting.

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #23

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *223, 418*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *(blank)*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *223*

General comments:

I didn't have any bad courses, but it was tiring to see so much repetition in a standard course through the major (High school Calc-122-223-413-433-432). It would be nice if the most standard courses were more carefully calibrated to avoid the same old material on, say, limits or vector spaces or set theory.

5 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

5 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

4 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

It would be nice, if possible, to see a greater variety of algebra requirements, since many algebra topics come up as a small part of other courses, so it would be nice to get away from "standard" algebra courses.

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

I like that we can simply choose courses with a high enough number to satisfy the concentration.

5 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

7. Quality of advising.

I didn't really find advising necessary, but I kind of got the feeling there wasn't much point in advising if you were going to grad school, and it wouldn't be much help if you weren't.

8. Informal interactions with faculty.

4 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

TAs were generally very friendly, but I didn't interact with them outside of section or office hours.

10. Informal interactions with other majors.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

3 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

> *I'm all for a bulletin board on the Math web site -- the emails are infrequent enough that they're not intrusive, but I would prefer to go to the announcements instead of them coming to me.*

14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

> *No, except for the aforementioned bulletin board.*

3 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

> *The career center seems to have little material on what someone can do with a math major -- it would be nice if Malott provided something to fill that void.*

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

No Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #24

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *MATH 433/434*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *MATH 413*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *(blank)*

General comments:

4 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

More number theory

5 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

3 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

I think that more needs to be done for people interested in applied math.

5 7. Quality of advising.

5 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

2 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

I don't actually know any of my TA's, I think they should make an effort to be known.

5 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

4 11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

5 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

Excellent!

5 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

5 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #25

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *MATH 222, 431, 432*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *MATh 221*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *(blank)*

General comments:

3 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

4 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

More variety for fulfilling algebra requirements.

4 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

For the most part, yes. Plenty of options for fulfilling concentration.

4 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

5 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

Along w/ econ concentration, I feel very well-prepared for my career in actuarial consulting.

4 7. Quality of advising.

My first advisor left soon after I declared my major, which was a bit frustrating.

2 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

Rare for me, but I am shy.

3 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

usually with TAs

4 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

I liked getting to know other students through having many of the same classes together.

4 11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

Many events offered

4 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

more computers

4 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

email is good and should be kept, but maybe a bulletin board also?

3 14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

easy to navigate/more archives of past courses

4 15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Got 2005 summer internship through career services, resulted in job offer for post-graduates.// Math Dept could help by encouraging careers in mathematics

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

No Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Yes Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #26

3 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *432,433,454*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *420*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *(blank)*

General comments:

420 moved at a slow pace and had projects instead of regular homework assignments. I would have learned more from regular assignments.

4 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

4 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

The concentration in physics is helpful.

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

4 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

7. Quality of advising.

I have only talked to my advisor once.

4 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

They have generally been very good.

9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

4 10. Informal interactions with other majors.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

4 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

Math library is fine.

4 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

14. Mathematics Web Site. Do you have any suggestions for improving the department web site, particularly the undergraduate section?

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

No Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

No Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

Survey of Math Majors (April 2006) — Response #27

4 1. Quality of MATH courses.

Which courses (specifically) do you like? *Math 222, 420, 428, 432, 471, 472*

Which courses do you think need improvement? *Math 221*

Were there courses that persuaded you to join the major? *Math 222, 420*

General comments:

The only thing I would have to say especially for Math 221 is that the gap between honors and regular is too large. I practically failed out of 223 but got an easy A in 221. 221 was too easy, 223 was too hard. 223 should be hard, 221 should not be that easy.

4 2. Variety of courses offered. What would like to see offered that we don't offer now?

4 3. Suitability of requirements for the major.

5 4. Flexibility of requirements for the major. Are there enough options for fulfilling each of the requirements?

5 5. Areas of concentration. Please comment on the quality and variety of courses offered in the various concentrations.

I love my concentration in mathematical biology.

5 6. Applicability to career goals. How does the math major fit in with your career or other post-college plans?

Grad school in comp bio - ftis in well

4 7. Quality of advising.

5 8. Informal interactions with faculty.

5 9. Informal interactions with graduate students.

10. Informal interactions with other majors.

11. Math Club and department events. Please comment on the frequency and type of events (receptions, special lectures, etc.). Do you have any suggestions?

4 12. Quality of the Mathematics Library.

4 13. Email announcements. Are you satisfied with the current method of receiving announcements, job ads, etc. over email, or would you prefer a bulletin board of announcements on the web site?

4

particularly the undergraduate section?

15. Career Planning. Are you receiving sufficient support from Cornell Career Services and the A&S Career Center? How can we help?

Yes Would you be interested in a workshop on graduate school admissions?

Would you be interested in a workshop on career opportunities?

Yes Would you be interested in courses devoted to proving important deep theorems?

Would you be interested in presentations or panel discussions by alums, for example: How I got a job in the real world after majoring in math?

Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

> *I think the department offers a good mix of theoritical and applied courses and I have so far enjoyed my math courses, even when they have been stressful or I did not perform as well as I wanted to.*