Fall 2019 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Course: ENGE 1215 83949 201909: (83949) Foundations of Engineering-ENGE 1215 83949 201909

Instructor: David Gray *

Response Rate: 65/73 (89.04 %)

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: 1A - The instructor was well prepared. **David Gray Response Option** Weight Frequency Percent **Percent Responses** Means Strongly disagree 0 0.00% (1) 5.25 0.00% Disagree (2) 0 Somewhat disagree 0 0.00% (3) Somewhat agree 0 0.00% (4) (5) 15 24.19% Agree Strongly agree (6) 47 75.81% 25 50 100 Question College Department Response Rate Mean STD Median College STD STD Median Mean Median Department Mean 62/73 (84.93%) 5.76 0.43 6.00 22817 5.25 1.04 6.00 2407 5.37 0.91 6.00

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: 1B - The instructor presented the subject matter clearly. **David Gray Response Option** Weight Frequency Percent **Percent Responses** Means 0.00% 5.45 Strongly disagree 0 (1) 5.19 5.02 Disagree (2) 0 0.00% Somewhat disagree (3) 2 3.23% П Somewhat agree (4) 6 9.68% 16 (5) 25.81% Agree 38 Strongly agree (6) 61.29% 100 Question College Department College Response Rate Mean STD Median STD Median Department STD Median Mean Mean 62/73 (84.93%) 5.45 0.80 1.06 6.00 22683 5.02 1.22 5.00 2395 5.19 5.00

1 - Please indicate the exter	nt to which	you agree	or disag	ree with	each of the	foll	lowing sta	atem	ents:							
1C - The instructor provided	d feedback	intended t	to improv	e my co	ourse perforn	nan	ice.									
David Gray																
Response Option Weight Frequency Perce							Percent Re	espo	nses			Ме	ans			
Strongly disagree		(1)	0	0.00%					5.48		4.98	5.23			
Disagree		(2)	1	1.61%	1										
Somewhat disagree		(3)	1	1.61%	١										
Somewhat agree		(4)	4	6.45%											
Agree		(5)	17	27.42%											
Strongly agree)	39	62.90%									ı		
					•	0	25	50	100	Question	n	College	Departme	nt		
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median		College		Mean	;	STD	Median		Department	Mean	ST	D	Median
62/73 (84.93%)	5.48	0.82	6.00		22676		4.98		1.24	5.00		2393	5.23	1.0	2	6.00

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Instructor: David Gray *

Response Rate: 65/73 (89.04 %)

1 - Please indicate the exte	nt to which	you agree	or disagr	ee with	each of the	foll	owing sta	iten	nents:						
1D - The instructor fostered	d an atmos	phere of m	utual resp	ect.											
David Gray															
Response Option	P	Percent Responses Means													
Strongly disagree		(1))	0	0.00%	1				5.84		5.33	5.51		
Disagree		(2))	0	0.00%										
Somewhat disagree		(3))	0	0.00%	1									
Somewhat agree		(4))	0	0.00%	1									
Agree		(5	,	10	16.39%										
Strongly agree		(6)) :	51	83.61%									l	
		•	•			0	25	50	100	Question	n	College	Departme	nt	
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median		College		Mean		STD	Median		Department	Mean	STD	Median
61/73 (83.56%)	5.84	0.37	6.00		22657		5.33		1.05	6.00		2393	5.51	0.84	6.00

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements: 1E - Overall, the instructor's teaching was effective. **David Gray** Percent Responses Means **Response Option** Weight Frequency Percent 0 0.00% Strongly disagree (1) 5.17 0 Disagree (2) 0.00% 0 Somewhat disagree (3) 0.00% Somewhat agree (4) 4 6.56% (5) 20 32.79% Agree Strongly agree (6) 37 60.66% 100 Question College Department Response Rate Mean STD STD Median Median College Mean STD Median Department Mean 61/73 (83.56%) 5.54 0.62 6.00 22544 5.00 5.00 5.17 1.11 6.00 1.25 2372

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Response Rate: 65/73 (89.04 %)

2 - 2A - What did the instructor do that most helped in your learning?

David Grav

Response Rate

53/73 (72.6%)

- My instructor was able to connect with the class and foster a sense of understanding and respect. He made us feel like he understood what we were going through and the difficulties of our first semester as an engineering student. Because of this, I think that we all respected him and the material taught in his class greatly, and were able to learn a lot from him.
- He was very interactive which made it much easier to pay attention.
- The teacher made every class enjoyable by providing a great learning environment and kept the class engaged
- · Lectures were engaging, and he was able to keep the mood light
- · We often did presentations and group activities; Dr. Gray helped me think as an engineer.
- · His genuine care for his students.
- · His office hours were extremely helpful; he always seemed very approachable should I need help with an assignment or large project.
- He was extremely engaging when lecturing, and very approachable when we we're working on activities. I was never nervous to ask for help.
- The Planning to be a Hokie Engineer assignment was good because it let me explore the major that I wanted and find out more about what is in my future if I pursue it.
- Reverend Gray always made this class a high point in my day to the point where I looked forward to coming. He really cares about his student's mental health and it shows. He schedules due dates around tests that he knows we all need to study for.
- All of the feedback and input in projects really helped create projects I was happy with. Even if the projects themselves weren't always perfect, what I learned from my mistakes was still valuable
- · Had engaging team-oriented activities planned
- · I find the lectures to be the interesting
- · Provided examples on how the projects were to be completed
- Getting to know the students better and respect their attention and scenarios going on in each individuals life.
- He does his best to relate to students and create an environment in which we feel comfortable
- · Guest speakers and student panels to get new perspectives
- Although he is laid back, he still effectively teaches the material he needs to teach.
- · He was very clear on what needed to be done for assignments.
- He was gentle, kind, and clear in his classes. He started every class with a little short poll/discussion board about life.
- · Allow the groups to work out problems for themselves.
- Gray listens to student feedback and implements it in his teaching which is really helpful.
- I like how Dr. Gray talked with us about our personal lives, asked us how we were doing, and gave us advising tips.
- Made the class engaging and gave us enjoyable projects
- He brought up new ways to learn stuff that may not be fun.
- Kept the class environment light-hearted and fun
- He gave us class time to do group work.
- Outlined course in a well understandable manner.
- He explained matlab more than some of my friends teachers which was very helpful.
- He was extremely supportive and went out of his way to motivate us. His teaching method was really relaxed and comfortable.
- · He's just an all around good guy and cares about his students.
- · He made the class fun even though it was pretty boring
- He made subjects that had potential to be super boring, more engaging and fun
- He always made the class and the material as interesting as possible as well as emphasized group work which will be useful as I move on in school.
- · strong enthusiasm
- Providing oppurtunity for group work and communication between teammates.
- His presented the material really well and I learned a lot throughout the duration of the course.
- Improved MATLAB skill
- He makes a strong effort to connect to students.
- He answered every question with an honest answer and provided a structured classroom.
- Made class interesting
- He taught in a way that was engaging and made me feel involved in the class.
- He related what we were talking about to actual engineering situations.
- Talked alot about toast and whales
- Dr. Gray was great at guiding us through our first semester and teaching us what it means to be an engineer at Virginia Tech.
- Everything was very well organized so I knew exactly what to do. He also walked around and gave us feedback during class which is very helpful.
- He told us what to do and was pretty clear when assignments were due.
- He was engaging and listened to what students felt would help them in how they wanted to be taught
- He made class engaging by making an effort to be entertaining and really took our feedback into consideration.

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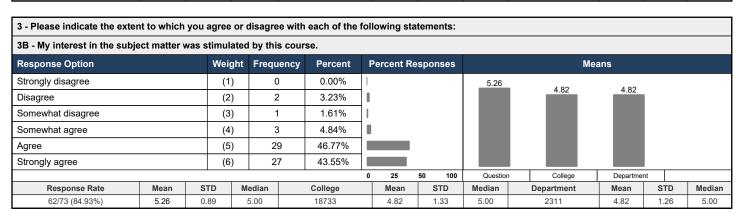
Course: ENGE_1215_83949_201909: (83949) Foundations of Engineering-ENGE_1215_83949_201909

- Dr. Gray helped me figure out the type of engineering I want to pursue here at Virginia Tech.
- His lecture were very interactive and kept me engaged in the class
- Made a kind of boring class fun, which was much appreciated.
- Whale facts

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Course: ENGE_1215_83949_201909: (83949) Foundations of Engineering-ENGE_1215_83949_201909

3 - Please indicate the exte	nt to which	you agree	or disagre	e with each of the	foll	owing st	atement	s:						
3A - I have a deeper under	standing of	the subject	matter as	a result of this co	urs	e.								
Response Option		Weig	ht Frequ	ency Percent	P	ercent R	espons	es			Me	eans		
Strongly disagree		(1)	0	0.00%	1				5.13		5.10	5.00		
Disagree		(2)	0	0.00%	1							0.00		
Somewhat disagree		(3)	2	3.23%										
Somewhat agree		(4)	10	16.13%										
Agree		(5)	28	3 45.16%										
Strongly agree		(6)	22	2 35.48%										
					0	25	50	100	Questio	n	College	Departme	ent	
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STE)	Median		Department	Mean	STD	Median
62/73 (84.93%)	5.13	0.80	5.00	18818		5.10	1.08	3	5.00		2326	5.00	1.10	5.00



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Response Rate: 65/73 (89.04 %)

4 - 4A - What could you have done to be a better learner?

Response Rate

49/73 (67.12%)

- I could have been more involved in my engineering team and participated more in group projects to better stimulate my learning in this class.
- · Asked more questions!
- · Paid more attention during the lectures
- · Not had an idle game open during class
- I could have started my assignment sooner so that I would have more time to go in for help.
- Do things in the "above and beyond" section of the assignment descriptions.
- Manage my time better.
- N/A
- Breaking up work and doing more in advance throughout the semester would have helped a lot, but I slowly did get a little better at it as time went on.
- I think I did well
- · Focus more and not drift away.
- I could have engaged more with some of the material and assignments
- · Focused more in class
- · I could be more engaging with the class.
- · Started my assignments sooner or went to office hours more often.
- · Asked for more feedback.
- I could have started assignments earlier than I did, to make sure they were turned in on time and were my best effort.
- I could have played Pokemon Go less in class.
- · Spent more time on some of the assignments
- Start the materials earlier and ask more questions.
- Went to office hours
- I could have more attention while the instructor was lecturing.
- Taken more time outside class to study subjects.
- I could have spent more time on the assignments.
- I turned in a few things late because I am a master procrastinator.
- Nothing
- · Spend more time studying
- Followed the guidelines of some submissions more carefully in order to receive more credit.
- Been more on top of my out of class work.
- not much, did the assignments better
- Gone to office hours when I was struggling in assignments.
- I could have focused a bit more.
- Nothing more.
- I could've paid more attention in class
- I could have looked more into the different engineering disciplines on my own time instead of relying on them all to be covered fully in class.
- done more research
- I could have worked harder on learning MATLAB and exploring the different engineering disiplines.
- There were times where I kind of zoned out of class.
- nothing
- Read the slides and task sections more.
- I could have asked more questions to be a more participating student.
- Take notes maybe
- I could have put more effort in the assignments.
- Done more assignments ahead of time to account for my job getting in the way
- Tried harder and applied myself more.
- I could have listened better in class, taken better notes, and have attended office hours.
- I could have payed more attention to some of the lecture that did not appeal to me as much so I could understand all the material.
- not sure
- Wales the country

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Response Rate: 65/73 (89.04 %)

5 - 5A - Please add any additional comments regarding the course and/or instructor here:

David Grav

Response Rate 42/73 (57.53%)

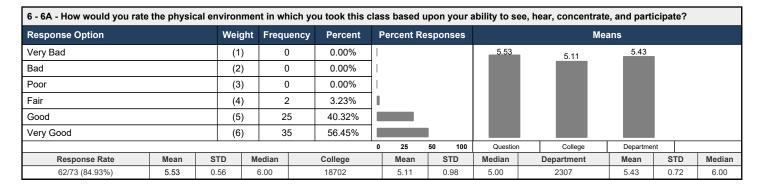
- David Gray is not like any teacher I've had before. Although I do not think he necessarily knows his students by name, he was able to foster a sense of connection with every student in my class in a way that I have never seen before. You can really tell that he respects us greatly and wants each and every one of us to succeed. I appreciate that in a teacher very much.
- · He is a great teacher!
- · You are an outstanding teacher who keeps every class interesting even if the material is not always interesting
- · Really enjoyed the professor, I think he teaches this class the best way it can be taught
- I hope the professor could upload the outline and related materials on time
- He was absolutely fantastic. I've heard this class is not everyone's favorite but he kept the class fun and interesting.
- Cool dude
- Please do not make anyone do the problem ID journals anymore, or if you must make them fewer (either less problems per day or fewer days that we have to do them). They were very annoying to do every day and quickly became pretty useless because there were only so many good problems, so it just devolved into trying to make up problems. I didn't have too much trouble with MATLAB to but I think that it would be easier to understand if MATLAB skills were gone over more in class, and also going over all of the challenges in class after they were due would be good, because we went over one but didn't go over the others.
- The Reverend is hands down the best teacher I've ever had.
- · I really appreciate all the good advice given throughout the semester
- He is a very fun person to have as an instructor as he makes the class as engaging as possible for us and always comes in with a good attitude
- He is a very nice and cool teacher who is also able to teach the material effectively.
- · Very good instructor!
- This guy really made a boring class exciting and fun to be in. He could improve by teaching MATLAB instead of making us figure it out on our own. That may be something across all classes, though, and is not unique to his class. The Engineering Department should look into how effective their current curriculum for MATLAB is taught.
- Gray is a good instructor. He teaches well and asks the students of what they need in order to learn better
- I liked how interesting Dr. Gray provided engineering material, however I wish I learned more about the individual disciplines of engineering more. I also wish I was able to understand MATLAB better from the class.
- I loved the instructor and the class.
- The instructor started the class with how everyone was feeling which made us laugh and feel apart of the class. The class was pretty easy, but more help and introduction to MATLAB would be great.
- Instructor came prepared to teach every day.
- Great teacher chose him for next semester too
- I loved Dr.Gray's class so much, I am taking 1216 with him next semester! I had a great group and I really loved the support and motivation I got every day in class. Matlab was painful, but I can't say I would be any better at it if I had any other professor. The humor supported a comfortable and productive atmosphere, thank you for a great first experience in this program!
- N/A
- Good Job teaching the class
- Was an awesome teacher to have for my first semester of school
- I understand you dont have much control over how you teach but you did good with it
- Provide descriptions that clearly state the task and do not seem open to interpretation.
- I really enjoyed Dr. Gray, I wish I had him next semester.
- No comment.
- Dr Gray is one of my favorite professors here and I thoroughly enjoyed taking his class.
- Dr. Gray made the class interesting and fun and it made me confident I want to be an engineer.
- Something about the course that I would like to add would be learning more about the different engineering disciplines. We covered very few of them in this course.
- · You're amazing, and one of the reasons I am enjoying my first semester so much. I am really looking forward to taking 1216 with you next semester
- The instructor is way too underappreciated by the school of engineering, maybe even the whole university. Professor really cares about our learning and strives to preserve a great class environment.
- This class taught me a lot about what engineering is. However, I wish I could have been given more resources to learn about each engineering degree in depth.
- The course needs more focus on branches of engineering
- I would appreciate if we did less work.
- Really cool professor who is extremely knowledgeable. He also extends beyond normal classroom learning to teach about real-world issues.
- He was an excellent instructor and has been my favorite professor at Tech so far.
- Thank you Dr. Gray. Perfect professor for my first engineering course here at VT, can't wait to have you again next semester.
- I found the course very useful and appreciate the hard work the Dr. Gray put in
- · He makes the class fun, even though the content is boring
- · Wales the Country Facts

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Instructor: David Gray *

Response Rate: 65/73 (89.04 %)



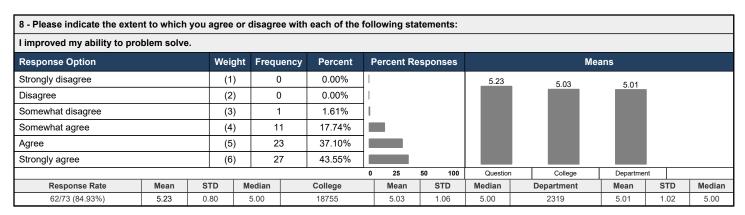
7 - 7A - Please add any comments about the physical environment here:

Response Rate 30/73 (41.1%)

- · We did our work in a nice classroom with comfortable chairs and a good quality video and audio system for lectures.
- · Sometimes the seats are too close together.
- · Really enjoyed the classroom for this course.
- The last row is too far from the screen, sometimes I cannot see the words on the screen if I do not photo the slides.
- \bullet I really liked the chairs and the fact there were outlets for everyone.
- even in the back of the class, i could still see well enough
- Goodwin is super nice
- The environment is very nice with the 2 big windows, and since it is a regular sized class, it is easy to focus on Professor Gray.
- No additional comments
- He creates a positive light-hearted environment in which a student can feel good, but also get work done.
- The physical environment was fine, it was just a long walk to Goodwin.
- The environment was big but the projectors were a little finicky.
- Good environment, well spaced out.
- Adequate space to learn.
- the classroom is really nice
- Again, super comfortable environment. I felt like I could share my ideas and I loved the laid back feel.
- N/A
- · good environment
- Enjoyed the swivel chairs which made it easy to move in group work.
- kinda crammed
- Fun, entertaining, and full of toast.
- It was good.
- Dr. Gray helped make the environment of the class fun and exciting even when we weren't doing exciting stuff in class.
- Class was big enough to have a variety and diversity in group work and group projects
- There wasn't a lot of space around the seats to work on presentations, projects, and other group work.
- Its a really nice space just really far from campus.
- I would appreciate some more instruction with MATLAB as it was difficult for me to follow most of the time. Especially on the take-home exam.
- Good
- Class had a good environment that fostered learning
- The environment was good

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8 - Please indicate the exte	nt to which	you agree	or disagre	ee with	each of the	foll	owing st	ate	ments:						
The textbook or course rea	dings mad	e a valuable	contribu	tion to	my learning										
Response Option		Weig	ht Frequ	uency	Percent	Р	ercent R	esp	onses	Means					
Strongly disagree		(1)		5	8.33%										
Disagree		(2)		7	11.67%		l			3.88		4.43	4.20		
Somewhat disagree		(3)		7	11.67%		I			3.00					
Somewhat agree		(4)	2	20	33.33%										
Agree		(5)	1	3	21.67%										
Strongly agree		(6)		8	13.33%										
	•		•		0	25	50	100	Question	1	College	Departme	nt		
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median		College		Mean		STD	Median		Department	Mean	STD	Median
60/73 (82.19%)	3.88	1.45	4.00		18617		4.43		1.49	5.00		2290	4.20	1.54	4.00

The objectives of the cou	rse were clea	rly explain	ed.											
Response Option		Weig		uency	Percent	Pe	ercent R	esp	onses		Me	ans		
Strongly disagree	(1)		0	0.00%	1				5.20	5.06	5.07			
Disagree		(2)		1	1.64%	ı								
Somewhat disagree		(3)	;	3	4.92%									
Somewhat agree		(4)		6	9.84%									
Agree		(5)	2	24	39.34%									
Strongly agree		(6)	2	27	44.26%									
						0	25	50	100	Question	College	Departmen	t	
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median		College		Mean		STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Mediar
61/73 (83.56%)	5.20	0.93	5.00		18733		5.06		1.11	5.00	2316	5.07	1.09	5.00

The out-of-class assignment	nts were ed	lucationally	valuable.				The out-of-class assignments were educationally valuable.												
Response Option	ncy Percent	Pe	rcent R	esponses		Me	ans												
Strongly disagree		(1)	1	1.64%	ı			4.04	4.99	4.06									
Disagree		(2)	2	3.28%	ı			4.84	4.00	4.86									
Somewhat disagree		(3)	5	8.20%															
Somewhat agree		(4)	9	14.75%															
Agree		(5)	25	40.98%															
Strongly agree		(6)	19	31.15%															
	•	•		0	25	50 100	Question	College	Departme	nt									
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median							
61/73 (83.56%)	4.84	1.16	5.00	18594		4.99	1.17	5.00	2297	4.86	1.21	5.00							

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9 - The instructor related the	neories and	concepts t	o practica	l issues.									
David Gray													
Response Option		Weig	ht Frequ	iency Pe	rcent	Percent R	esponses		M	eans	ans		
Strongly disagree		(1)	(0.	00%	1		5.67	5.21	5.32			
Disagree		(2)	(0.	00%								
Somewhat disagree		(3)	(0.	00%				_				
Somewhat agree		(4)	1	l 1.	67%	I			_				
Agree		(5)	1	8 30	.00%				_				
Strongly agree		(6)	4	1 68	.33%								
				•		0 25	50 100	Questio	n College	Departme	nt		
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Colle	ege	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	
60/73 (82.19%)	5.67	0.51	6.00	223	13	5.21	1.04	5.00	2385	5.32	0.88	6.00	