Virginia Tech
Fall 2019 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Course: ENGE_1215_83949_201909: (83949) Foundations of Engineering-ENGE_1215_91071_201909
Instructor: David Gray *
Response Rate: 38/46 (82.61 %)

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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	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%		5.76 / 5.25 / 5.37
Agree	(5)	9	23.68%		
Strongly agree	(6)	29	76.32%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
38/46 (82.61%)	5.76	0.43	6.00	22817	5.25	1.04	6.00	2407	5.37	0.91	6.00

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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
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	2.63%		5.71 / 5.02 / 5.19
Agree	(5)	9	23.68%		
Strongly agree	(6)	28	73.68%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
38/46 (82.61%)	5.71	0.52	6.00	22683	5.02	1.22	5.00	2395	5.19	1.06	5.00

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1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1C - The instructor provided feedback intended to improve my course performance.

David Gray

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	5.26%		5.68 / 4.98 / 5.23
Agree	(5)	8	21.05%		
Strongly agree	(6)	28	73.68%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
38/46 (82.61%)	5.68	0.57	6.00	22676	4.98	1.24	5.00	2393	5.23	1.02	6.00

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1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1D - The instructor fostered an atmosphere of mutual respect.

David Gray

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	2.63%		
Agree	(5)	8	21.05%		
Strongly agree	(6)	29	76.32%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
38/46 (82.61%)	5.74	0.50	6.00	22657	5.33	1.05	6.00	2393	5.51	0.84	6.00

Means: Question 5.74, College 5.33, Department 5.51

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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

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	2.70%		
Agree	(5)	5	13.51%		
Strongly agree	(6)	31	83.78%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
37/46 (80.43%)	5.81	0.46	6.00	22544	5.00	1.25	5.00	2372	5.17	1.11	6.00

Means: Question 5.81, College 5.00, Department 5.17

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

Response Rate	30/46 (65.22%)

- He integrated many interesting topics with everyday things that make the problem we have to solve a lot less daunting than it seems.
- He kept the lectures interesting and had a lot of in class activities.
- Explained every assignment in depth and gave us access to see what was expected of the students for every single assignment on canvas. This should be required of all instructors at tech.
- give us honest advice
- engineeringness
- He was really funny and he did a great job at keeping the class engaged
- Made the class fun.
- was very good at answering hard questions and helped us learn about the majors
- Your personality makes me want to come to class. If I want to be there im going to pay more attention.
- whale facts
- Taught on a more personal level and had a good personality.
- Gave explicit instructions for every assignment, which made them a whole lot more manageable. Also had very good slide shows and presentations.
- He made class engaging
- Made it into a fun enviroment
- Easily presented directions and instructions that were easy to followP
- Team projects.
- Dr. Gray was very clear in his expectations for every assignment and made the class enjoyable with his humor and personality.
- Definitely not the whale facts
- I really liked his teaching style it made me understand the lessons better
- He's an approachable and engaging instructor.
- He connected with the students well, and allowed the class to enjoy learning the material as well
- He helped teach MATLAB code.
- You provided a fun environment and constantly sparked curiosity about engineering. I am going into computer science and had no desire to be in an engineering course because CS is barely engineering but you made it so much fun and really sparked curiosity in me.
- Professor Gray assigned exit surveys at the end of each class, which helped me reflect on my day and the class as a whole.
- Dr. Gray created a comfortable learning environment that was engaging, interesting, and helpful for an intro level engineering course to find our way.
- He gave us a good amount of class time to work on our projects as a group.
- His little intro where he talks about whale facts and reacts to our comments on the exit surveys. Every class there was something that made everyone laugh, and it made me look forward to coming to class. I also felt like Dr. Gray really cared about me learning the material, which made me care more about learning it. Also the way he formatted all the instructions for our canvas assignments made them easy to understand.
- When we had to take off the parts of the toaster and put it back together.
- friendly and makes sure he clears all your doubts
- went over problems well

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3 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:
3A - I have a deeper understanding of the subject matter as a result of this course.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	(1)	1	2.63%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	1	2.63%
Somewhat agree	(4)	5	13.16%
Agree	(5)	17	44.74%
Strongly agree	(6)	14	36.84%

Means: Question 5.08 | College 5.10 | Department 5.00

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
38/46 (82.61%)	5.08	1.02	5.00	18818	5.10	1.08	5.00	2326	5.00	1.10	5.00

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Response Rate: 38/46 (82.61 %)

3 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:						
3B - My interest in the subject matter was stimulated by this course.						

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means	
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%			
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%			
Somewhat disagree	(3)	2	5.41%			
Somewhat agree	(4)	8	21.62%			
Agree	(5)	11	29.73%			
Strongly agree	(6)	16	43.24%			

Means: Question 5.11, College 4.82, Department 4.82

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
37/46 (80.43%)	5.11	0.94	5.00	18733	4.82	1.33	5.00	2311	4.82	1.26	5.00

4 - 4A - What could you have done to be a better learner?	
Response Rate	27/46 (58.7%)

• I could've participated in my group projects a lot more in order to have better communication skills and develop a better understanding of the material we were working on.

• I could have spent more time outside of class working on my own side projects to deepen my understanding of topics such as MATLAB and I could have researched the different engineering fields on my own outside of class more.

• Gave my self more time to complete assignments so I wouldn't have to rush at all.

• nothing much

• paid more attention in class

• Take the class more seriously.

• not procrastinated!

• not slept

• Come to office hours more.

• I could have put more thought into projects

• Not much

• Paid a little more attention

• Practiced more with MATLab.

• I could have been more active in class discussion.

• Less whale facts and a competent TA

• ask more questions

• Sometimes I'm not the most focused. I could have paid a little more attention.

• Worked more closely with my group for assigned projects

• I could've kept better track of assignments.

• I could have been more attentive.

• I should have gone to TAs when I was stuck on a MATLAB programming assignment.

• Study more on my own time.

• I could have spent more time with my group on group activities.

• I turned in a few of the earlier assignments late. I also did like 80% of my assignments the day they were due.

• Tried to submit assignments on time, especially part 4 on MATLAB.

• listen to instructors and ask for help if needed

• not sure didnt really learn much because of the course material

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

Response Rate	24/46 (52.17%)

- He was a very sarcastic yet very funny professor. His humor into his work made the class very enjoyable.
- He does a good job keeping everybody interested in what he is saying and keeping the lecture engaging and interesting.
- Radical mustache!
- very nice, funny, understanding guy the content was a lot of busy work and not very enjoyable, especially the amount of reports not a ton of hands-on learning
- love the whale facts
- MATLAB is kinda trash
- Amazing.
- he was great, I wish I get him next semester.
- The content of this course is boring for the most part.
- nice beard
- Thank you for being such a great teacher! Looking forward to next semester!
- He is a good professor
- Class didn't teach much other than the engineering pathways
- Excellent instructor - requested him for the next engineering class as well.
- The TA was worse for the learning environment than actually helping, she provided no useful help
- I really enjoyed this class
- Nice work this semester!
- So good I signed up for his class next semester
- You are such a great teacher, I really had fun this semester. This class blows but you made it amazing.
- He's very understanding and helpful when it comes to asking questions about final reports, presentations, MATLAB, and other assignments.
- Couldn't have asked for a better professor. I honestly wish I got to know him better personally. Course was very fun, engaging and I learned a lot.
- Really great teacher. When I did my course request for next semester, I put his class in my number 1 spot so that I had the best chance to get him next year.
- I love this course
- this course is a waste of time

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6 - 6A - How would you rate the physical environment in which you took this class based upon your ability to see, hear, concentrate, and participate?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Very Bad	(1)	0	0.00%		
Bad	(2)	0	0.00%		
Poor	(3)	0	0.00%		Question 5.55
Fair	(4)	2	5.26%		College 5.11
Good	(5)	13	34.21%		Department 5.43
Very Good	(6)	23	60.53%		

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
38/46 (82.61%)	5.55	0.60	6.00	18702	5.11	0.98	5.00	2307	5.43	0.72	6.00

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Response Rate: 38/46 (82.61 %)

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7 - 7A - Please add any comments about the physical environment here:	
Response Rate	12/46 (26.09%)

• Nothing really, it is a standard classroom.

• The environment was nice.

• The mic helped a lot, even though I was in the back, I still got everything clearly.

• far to walk to

• Fun

• No complaints

• the desks were spacious and nice

• It is a good environment. I like the addition of the spotify playlist.

• Physical environment was fine.

• It's very calm and relaxing to take this class in Goodwin Hall.

• Overall fine. Sometimes some people would be constantly talking in the back but in general was not that annoying.

• I really have no problems with this.

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8 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

I improved my ability to problem solve.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	1	2.70%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	6	16.22%		
Agree	(5)	15	40.54%		
Strongly agree	(6)	15	40.54%		

Question: 5.19, College: 5.03, Department: 5.01

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
37/46 (80.43%)	5.19	0.81	5.00	18755	5.03	1.06	5.00	2319	5.01	1.02	5.00

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8 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

The textbook or course readings made a valuable contribution to my learning.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		
Disagree	(2)	3	7.89%		
Somewhat disagree	(3)	8	21.05%		
Somewhat agree	(4)	12	31.58%		
Agree	(5)	8	21.05%		
Strongly agree	(6)	7	18.42%		

Question: 4.21, College: 4.43, Department: 4.20

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
38/46 (82.61%)	4.21	1.21	4.00	18617	4.43	1.49	5.00	2290	4.20	1.54	4.00

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8 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

The objectives of the course were clearly explained.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	1	2.63%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	1	2.63%
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	2.63%
Agree	(5)	15	39.47%
Strongly agree	(6)	20	52.63%

Means: Question 5.37, College 5.06, Department 5.07

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
38/46 (82.61%)	5.37	0.88	6.00	18733	5.06	1.11	5.00	2316	5.07	1.09	5.00

8 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

The out-of-class assignments were educationally valuable.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	(1)	1	2.63%
Disagree	(2)	1	2.63%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	3	7.89%
Somewhat agree	(4)	7	18.42%
Agree	(5)	16	42.11%
Strongly agree	(6)	10	26.32%

Means: Question 4.74, College 4.99, Department 4.86

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
38/46 (82.61%)	4.74	1.18	5.00	18594	4.99	1.17	5.00	2297	4.86	1.21	5.00

9 - The instructor related theories and concepts to practical issues.

David Gray

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	1	2.70%
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	5.41%
Agree	(5)	9	24.32%
Strongly agree	(6)	25	67.57%

Means: Question 5.57, College 5.21, Department 5.32

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
37/46 (80.43%)	5.57	0.73	6.00	22313	5.21	1.04	5.00	2385	5.32	0.88	6.00