

Virginia Tech


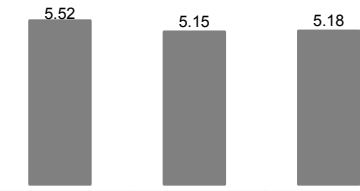
Spring 2019 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Course: ENGE_1216_13948_201901: (13948) Foundations of Engineering-ENGE_1216_13964_201901
Instructor: David Todd Gray *
Response Rate: 56/68 (82.35 %)

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

1A - The instructor was well prepared.


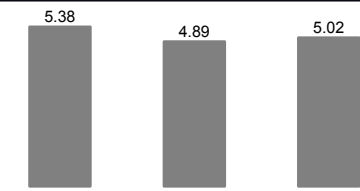
David Todd Gray

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)	6	10.71%								
Agree		(5)	15	26.79%								
Strongly agree		(6)	35	62.50%								
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department	
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
56/68 (82.35%)		5.52	0.69	6.00	20262	5.15	1.12	5.00	1923	5.18	1.13	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.


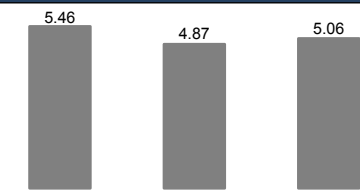
David Todd Gray

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)	8	14.29%										
Agree		(5)	19	33.93%										
Strongly agree		(6)	29	51.79%										
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department			
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median		
56/68 (82.35%)		5.38	0.73	6.00	20149	4.89	1.31	5.00	1905	5.02	1.21	5.00		

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 Todd 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)	7	12.50%								
Agree		(5)	16	28.57%								
Strongly agree		(6)	33	58.93%								
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department	
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
56/68 (82.35%)		5.46	0.71	6.00	20167	4.87	1.32	5.00	1909	5.06	1.18	5.00

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Spring 2019 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Course: ENGE_1216_13948_201901: (13948) Foundations of Engineering-ENGE_1216_13964_201901
Instructor: David Todd Gray *
Response Rate: 56/68 (82.35 %)

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 Todd 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	3.57%								
Agree		(5)	5	8.93%								
Strongly agree		(6)	49	87.50%								
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department	
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
56/68 (82.35%)		5.84	0.46	6.00	20146	5.26	1.10	6.00	1908	5.47	0.90	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 Todd Gray

Response Option		Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means							
Strongly disagree		(1)	0	0.00%									
Disagree		(2)	0	0.00%									
Somewhat disagree		(3)	1	1.82%									
Somewhat agree		(4)	1	1.82%									
Agree		(5)	14	25.45%									
Strongly agree		(6)	39	70.91%									
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department		
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	
55/68 (80.88%)		5.65	0.62	6.00	20065	4.88	1.34	5.00	1900	5.05	1.23	5.00	

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Instructor: David Todd Gray *
Response Rate: 56/68 (82.35 %)

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

David Todd Gray

Response Rate 51/68 (75%)

- I feel like Mr. Gray's powerpoints worked well to explain what we were working with.
- He made us focus on what was important instead of doing a lot of other small things that do not contribute to the whole project.
- made learning fun so it was easier to pay attention and learn
- Made class engaging and entertaining
- He was there to answer any questions students had and he also made the class interesting and could connect with the students. I really liked the exit surveys that we would do and we could tell the teacher if we had any problems through the exit survey.
- He actually tried to help with clearing up what the cryptic assignments were trying to make you do.
- Assignments in the class were related to real-life situations.
- Class assignments were good.
- Even though the instructions that were given to us were vague, he did his best to help us out in every way he possibly could.
- The way that Dr.Gray was able to adjust the assignments to better fit real life problems helped me learn better. He didn't stick word for word on the course topics and this fostered more creative and outside thinking. It also help me enjoy the class a little more.
- I really liked the atmosphere that he made the classroom have. Also he's a funny guy
- Don't know
- Because of his professional experience he was able fill us with wisdom.
- He made the class more engaging.
- he was very encouraging during the semester and always offered help
- Friendly and very respectful to students.
- He began his lectures on a humorous not, and always included a few puns and jokes in his lecture slide - something us students always enjoyed. His classes were extremely refreshing to attend.
- not fun to get an 85 for just completing an assignment, but need to exceed the requirements to get above 85.
- answered my questions
- teaching
- Dr. Gray went above and beyond more so than any other Professor/instructor I've ever had. He was adaptive with the intent of working around our other larger classes, and taught us more than just technical skills. I feel I truly learned a lot about project management, teamwork, and every non-technical aspect of being an engineer.
- He kept class light and fun so students were more engaged.
- He did a good job explaining what was going on in class and clarified any confusing instructions.
- I had Dr. Gray last semester for ENGE 1216 and once again, he proved to be an excellent teacher. He relates what we talk about in class to engineering in the real world with "Engineeringness" in his lectures, stimulates students to have a great work ethic and to do their best, and tries to make class fun with some out of the box teaching (Hippobidness). He gives great feedback on assignments and our projects; but at the same time, acknowledges that he isn't perfect and asks for feedback on his teaching which is a very rare quality nowadays. Dr. Gray is without a doubt, my favorite teacher for my Freshmen year at Tech; and I'm honestly gonna miss his class.
- Instructor was well prepared to answer the questions and helped the groups individually and even the students.
- Managed to make a shitty curriculum not that bad
- Kept the class atmosphere light with his sense of humor and gave students examples for projects and assignments so that we were not completely lost. He also gave some grace to students that missed due dates by a minor amount.
- Explained the material and what was expected of us as clearly as he could.
- Was eager to improve his teaching style
- Dr. Gray emphasized the importance of student feedback as well as gave valuable insights into the world of professional engineering
- He isn't too strict and has a personality that appeals to the students. He makes the class seem less mandatory and more fun.
- Gave us an opportunity to leave feedback at the end of class and then covered issues at the beginning of the next class. It showed that he actually cared about trying to improve the course for the students instead of just doing whatever he wanted to do.
- Kept a casual classroom setting that was open for discussion instead of acting like he was above the class.
- He was very accepting of all questions and was supportive of all decisions made for the project.
- made the class fun and interesting
- He was an engaging professor who made class fun to attend.
- I found how Dr. Gray focused on developing soft skills.
- Make the material understandable and fun
- He incorporated fun information about hippos at the beginning of every lecture. Although this didn't seem related to the general information, it was a good way to keep us interested in what was being displayed, and it usually tied in at some point later in the lecture.
- Very interesting and engaging
- Was available to provide one on one help in and out of class.
- Kept the class interesting and fun to be in. Also did really well in guiding and teaching the class.
- You made it fun and interesting.
- He had the board in the morning to answer questions

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- Dr. Gray treated us as colleagues in a sense, and was honest with us when he also wasn't sure what was going on. Keeping it real like this garnered a lot of respect from me and as a result I was much more inclined to pay attention, and do my best to learn from him.
- He really helped me to learn Solidworks
- Assignment descriptions were clear
- Dr. Gray was very easy to relate to. He taught the material well. Very good teacher. Legend.
- He created a relaxed classroom environment.
- He presented the purpose of each assignment beginning halfway through the semester and it helped me know what the most important parts of each assignment were.
- Keeps the class interesting so it is easy to pay attention and learn the material.

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Response Rate: 56/68 (82.35 %)

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	Percent Responses	Means							
Strongly disagree		(1)	0	0.00%									
Disagree		(2)	1	1.82%									
Somewhat disagree		(3)	1	1.82%									
Somewhat agree		(4)	13	23.64%									
Agree		(5)	14	25.45%									
Strongly agree		(6)	26	47.27%									
					02550100	Question	College		Department				
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
55/68 (80.88%)		5.15	0.97	5.00	17063	5.02	1.17	5.00	1852		4.87	1.20	5.00

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)	1	1.89%												
Disagree		(2)	2	3.77%												
Somewhat disagree		(3)	3	5.66%												
Somewhat agree		(4)	8	15.09%												
Agree		(5)	14	26.42%												
Strongly agree		(6)	25	47.17%												
					0	25	50	100	Question		College		Department			
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median		
53/68 (77.94%)		5.02	1.23	5.00	16989		4.72	1.41	5.00	1842		4.71	1.36	5.00		

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Response Rate: 56/68 (82.35 %)

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

Response Rate 51/68 (75%)

- There was a lot of conflict between the rubric so that could have gone better.
- I could have listened more when he was lecturing.
- participated more in class discussion
- I skipped a couple classes, and sometimes in class I would be distracted by my phone
- Go to office hours for Matlab.
- My effort level towards the details could have been better, but overall I think I did alright
- I could have attended and paid attention in class more.
- Made more effort to come to class.
- idk
- I would have like more feedback on assignments. This could be an assignment debrief in class at the end of the assignment or personal comments about what a person did good or bad.
- Taken notes but its not like we were tested in this class
- Be more involved with my drone team
- taken more notes
- N/A
- put more time into the course and dedicated for free time to building our drone
- Spent more time on MATLAB despite disliking the program.
- to get a higher score more than 85 percent.
- keep learning
- giving more interest in class
- I believe study text based materials to improve my ability with aeronautic math would have benefitted my team in the drone project.
- I could have taken notes in class
- I could have not procrastinated as much on some assignments.
- Ask more questions and be more involved.
- Coordinate better with the groups and put forward more ideas
- Paid attention
- N/A
- Cared more
- no.
- I could have come to office hours more often for help on confusing assignments
- I could have taken notes and given more of my attention to the professor during class.
- Worked harder on homework instead of doing the bare minimum
- At times I let my attention draw off, if I worked on focusing better in class I could have been a better learner.
- I could have paid better attention in class.
- I could have made sure to turn things in on time
- I could've understood the material better and more in-depth.
- I could have been a lot more engaged with the MatLab.
- Not getting distracted easily
- Better prepared my knowledge for the material
- I could've put more effort into the assignments instead of just trying to get them done for the grade.
- I could have listened a little bit more to the MATLAB lessons.
- Participated more in class.
- Asked more questions when I didn't fully understand something.
- A better timeline of what do do when for the drone project.
- Note for part 3B: not professor's fault, just boring material
- I could have spent more time outside of class to try and make sure our projects were solid.
- We could have more flight test to receive feedback.
- Review class notes
- Probably planned to the assignments more in advance and be more creative.
- Don't know.
- Show up on time all the time.
- I could've started work earlier so I had questions to ask earlier instead of close to the deadline.

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Instructor:	David Todd Gray *
Response Rate:	56/68 (82.35 %)

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Instructor: David Todd Gray *
Response Rate: 56/68 (82.35 %)

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

David Todd Gray

Response Rate 39/68 (57.35%)

- No additional comments.
- I think Dr. Gray is an amazing instructor and really made the course engaging. He is very funny and smart. I also appreciate how he taught the class from a business perspective and kept it real with us for how life will be in industry. He was also incredibly transparent with us which I strongly appreciated. Like when he shared his performance review with us I really respected that because he is trying to help us and is doing it through sharing his own experiences.
- Very good professor who makes students actually want to continue in engineering
- I liked how we worked with drones this semester and I liked the group I was put in. I really liked how we started SolidWorks, I like SolidWorks much better than Matlab.
- Great instructor, made this class as good as it can be for the most part
- The instructors were very good and did what I expected them to do. The course however was very lame. I didn't understand what half the things we learned in class had to do with the assignments out of class. The curriculum was not very helpful, Matlab is useless and dumb. We should've worked on building the drone for longer and more solidworks.
- He was honestly great
- I really enjoyed your class and your teaching methods for the past two semesters. I really hope that we can work together on something in the future. I really like that you are always looking to improve and I want to achieve the same methods.
- None
- He is one of the greatest instructors I've ever had.
- Good prof.
- Dr. Gray is an amazing and engaging professor, very glad I got him
- One of the best instructors I have had the privilege to be taught by.
- need a different grading system.
- good
- In all honesty, Dr. Gray's potential is severely limited by the way ENGE 1216 is setup. The design project should be left up to the instructor to suit there area of expertise increasing the potential for our project. Dr. Gray has immense knowledge on all the small, but crucial aspects of being an engineer that can't be taught by a textbook. He was the first professor I've had who I thought truly cared about my success outside of Virginia Tech, and geared the class in an appropriate manner.
- He is a cool, nice teacher
- He did a good job explaining what was going on in class and clarified any confusing instructions.
- At the beginning of the semester, the requirements for the drone project were a little unclear. While it all worked out in the end, try to give students a clearer picture so they can plan ahead easier.
- Instructor was well prepared and clarified the doubts effectively.
- The course is useless but the instructor is great
- Great professor who is way too hard on himself becuase of student feedback. Most of the students in the class would complain because some of the work he gave us was challenging or they didn't like it even though Dr. Gray would offer ample assistance to these students. These lazy students would then go on to leave rude comments in the post-class surveys which would make Dr. Gray feel bad. However, he is a great professor and deserves to move up in the engineering department.
- Dr. Gray truly makes the class fun and engaging and serves as a role model for the type of engineer that I'd like to be
- Great teacher.
- Course wasn't too exciting but Dr. Gray did a great job of keeping students interested and was also very easy to reach and willing to help whenever needed. He showed interest in every group and talked to the groups individually about what he thought about our drones and our powered flight testing, which I thought was really cool since a lot of instructors don't show too much interest in the students' work.
- N/A
- It was a fun class
- Absolute legend
- David Gray is one of the best professors I've ever had
- The coolest professor i've had as a college student by far
- Rev. David Gray is a great teacher, he needs a raise.
- Best teacher I've ever had in all my years of teaching. Seriously he's amazing across the board I wish he could teach every class I take for undergrad.
- Good energy throughout the class
- Thank you Dr. Gray, for everything over the last year. You made my freshman year much better.
- He is very helpful and caring.
- Dr. Gray was very engaging and was an excellent teacher
- Very good teacher. Virginia Tech is extremely lucky to have him.
- His mustache is lit.
- One of my favorite professors I've had here.

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Instructor: David Todd Gray *
Response Rate: 56/68 (82.35 %)

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%			5.50	5.07	5.35				
Bad		(2)	0	0.00%									
Poor		(3)	1	1.79%									
Fair		(4)	3	5.36%									
Good		(5)	19	33.93%									
Very Good		(6)	33	58.93%									
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department		
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	
56/68 (82.35%)		5.50	0.69	6.00	16914	5.07	1.03	5.00	1839	5.35	0.78	5.00	

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

Response Rate 27/68 (39.71%)

- I liked the bigger classrooms.
- Having the class in Goodwin is a lot better than in Randolph.
- very fun and inviting
- The microphone was always on, the desks were pretty spaced out and I liked how it was in Goodwin.
- pretty solid, Goodwin is really nice
- Wish we could change tables to make groups. This would allow for easier group work.
- None
- I would like a more group fueled environment
- the table layout made it hard for group communications, but it was a good learning environment
- it is good for the classroom
- I felt like sometimes the class was a bit too big.
- The classrooms at Goodwin Hall are very nice.
- Room was spacious and the groups were able to communicate effectively. There could be speakers added as sometimes the mic was not audible.
- N/A
- no.
- Good environment and fostered a good learning atmosphere.
- N/A
- Prefect environment I just have a short attention span.
- Sometimes it was really warm and I was tired and fell asleep...not anyones fault tho
- Great music that fosters learning, overall great class environment.
- It is nice, just a long walk.
- Would of been better if the class was better organized for group work.
- Should be in an environment with tables conducive to group work
- Just wish we didn't have to walk from literally one end of campus to the other for class.
- Very nice room. Good acoustics.
- The tables did not lend themselves well to group projects as they could not be moved and this made in-class assignments difficult.
- It was usually happy and upbeat. People liked coming to class.

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Instructor: David Todd Gray *
Response Rate: 56/68 (82.35 %)

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%			Question	College	Department								
Disagree		(2)	0	0.00%													
Somewhat disagree		(3)	0	0.00%													
Somewhat agree		(4)	10	17.86%													
Agree		(5)	24	42.86%													
Strongly agree		(6)	22	39.29%													
					02550100												
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Question		College		Department			
56/68 (82.35%)		5.21	0.73	5.00	17026		4.98	1.10	5.00	5.00		1845		4.95		1.105.00	

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)	5	8.93%	<div></div>	<div><div>3.91</div><div>4.39</div><div>3.96</div></div>								
Disagree		(2)	8	14.29%	<div></div>									
Somewhat disagree		(3)	11	19.64%	<div></div>									
Somewhat agree		(4)	8	14.29%	<div></div>									
Agree		(5)	11	19.64%	<div></div>									
Strongly agree		(6)	13	23.21%	<div></div>									
					02550100	Question		College		Department				
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
56/68 (82.35%)		3.91	1.65	4.00	16923		4.39	1.52	5.00	1833		3.96	1.64	4.00

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	Percent Responses	Means								
Strongly disagree		(1)	1	1.79%			Question	College	Department					
Disagree		(2)	7	12.50%										
Somewhat disagree		(3)	5	8.93%										
Somewhat agree		(4)	11	19.64%										
Agree		(5)	15	26.79%										
Strongly agree		(6)	17	30.36%										
					0	25	50	100						
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
56/68 (82.35%)		4.48	1.43	5.00	16993		4.97	1.17	5.00	1844		4.81	1.30	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	Percent Responses	Means								
Strongly disagree		(1)	1	1.82%			Question		College		Department			
Disagree		(2)	2	3.64%										
Somewhat disagree		(3)	4	7.27%										
Somewhat agree		(4)	9	16.36%										
Agree		(5)	23	41.82%										
Strongly agree		(6)	16	29.09%										
					0	25	50	100						
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
55/68 (80.88%)		4.80	1.16	5.00	16908		4.95	1.22	5.00	1829		4.70	1.30	5.00

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Course:

ENGE_1216_13948_201901: (13948) Foundations of Engineering-ENGE_1216_13964_201901

Instructor:

David Todd Gray *

Response Rate:

56/68 (82.35 %)

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

David Todd Gray

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means							
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%			5.55	5.17	5.24				
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%									
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%									
Somewhat agree	(4)	6	10.71%	■								
Agree	(5)	13	23.21%	■								
Strongly agree	(6)	37	66.07%	■								
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department	
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	
56/68 (82.35%)	5.55	0.69	6.00	19610	5.17	1.07	5.00	1909	5.24	0.98	5.00	