

The Biological Sciences Graduate Office

Ratings of TA by Students

Winter 2010-11

TA Name: AARON OLSEN

Course: COMPUTATIONAL NEUROSCIENCE - 2

Number of Students Responding: 6

***Mean \pm SD**

LABS

- The TA had an excellent knowledge of the subject matter. 3.6 \pm 1.14
- The TA explained the lab very well. 4.3 \pm 0.58
- The TA provided good help during the lab. 4.8 \pm 0.50
- The TA answered questions fully and with good explanation 4.6 \pm 0.55

Full-Length Lectures

- The TA knew the material well. 4.5 \pm 0.71
- The material was well organized. 4.5 \pm 0.71
- The TA's delivery was clear and comprehensible. 4.5 \pm 0.71
- The TA explained the material at the right level for the audience. 5.0 \pm
- The TA made good use of blackboard, overheads, etc. 5.0 \pm

Discussion Sections

- The TA was good at clarifying material from the lectures. 4.3 \pm 0.58
- The TA answered questions well. 4.7 \pm 0.58
- The TA was good at getting a real discussion going. 5.0 \pm
- The TA kept the interest level high. 5.0 \pm 0.00

TA Prize

- Your TA is eligible to win a teaching prize. Do you want to nominate him/her for such a prize? 2 votes

* 5 = Strongly Agree

15 Apr 2011

PSOM The University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine

Student Comments on TA performance

TA Name: AARON OLSEN

Course: CPNS 33100 Computational Neuroscience - 2

Quarter: Winter 2010-11

Please remember that the comments below have not been analyzed; they are raw data and should be treated as such. Even if the same comment appears several times, that does not mean that it represents the opinion of the class – it is likely the opinion of only the few that gave it.

Comments

Aaron is an extremely helpful TA. He was very effective at clarifying statistical concepts and computational methods for labs/problem sets. His feedback on problem sets and exams/quizzes were exceptionally valuable and helpful for subsequent assignments, and his answers to questions were always thorough and informed.

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Although Aaron doesn't have extensive knowledge of the material covered in this class, as this isn't his particular field of study, and he has never taken this class before, he clearly put a ton of work into this class and did the best job that could have been asked of him. He provided extensive explanations of the homework and was very open to discussion about how he graded things. It became evident that he did not receive solutions to many (if any) of the problem sets assigned by the professors. This must have made his job much harder and time consuming (especially for the last problem set, which was much harder than the others) than it should have been.

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Overall, Aaron was a very good TA. What he lacked in previous knowledge of the subject matter he certainly made up for in effort. It was clear that Aaron put a lot of time into working through the problem sets and looking over the material. He was an extremely thorough grader and always gave detailed feedback, which was greatly appreciated. While he didn't always have full grasp of the material or lots of background knowledge in the subject matter, he did his best to explain things and was very upfront about what he did and did not know. I was very satisfied with the job he did. My only real complaint is that he was too generous with the grades and made them very homogeneous, so it was difficult to really distinguish yourself in the grades, even if you clearly had a much better grasp of the material than most other students.

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Whenever I asked Aaron a question, he always went above and beyond to answer my question.

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The Biological Sciences Graduate Office

Ratings of TA by Students

Spring 2010-11

TA Name: AARON OLSEN

Course: CHORDATE EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

Number of Students Responding: 7

***Mean \pm SD**

LABS

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| • The TA had an excellent knowledge of the subject matter. | 4.6 \pm 0.53 |
| • The TA explained the lab very well. | 4.7 \pm 0.49 |
| • The TA provided good help during the lab. | 5.0 \pm 0.00 |
| • The TA answered questions fully and with good explanation | 4.6 \pm 0.53 |

Full-Length Lectures

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| • The TA knew the material well. | 4.6 \pm 0.53 |
| • The material was well organized. | 4.3 \pm 0.76 |
| • The TA's delivery was clear and comprehensible. | 4.3 \pm 0.76 |
| • The TA explained the material at the right level for the audience. | 4.4 \pm 0.53 |
| • The TA made good use of blackboard, overheads, etc. | 4.1 \pm 0.69 |

Discussion Sections

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| • The TA was good at clarifying material from the lectures. | 5.0 \pm 0.00 |
| • The TA answered questions well. | 5.0 \pm 0.00 |
| • The TA was good at getting a real discussion going. | 5.0 \pm 0.00 |
| • The TA kept the interest level high. | 5.0 \pm 0.00 |

TA Prize

- | | |
|--|---------|
| • Your TA is eligible to win a teaching prize. Do you want to nominate him/her for such a prize? | 2 votes |
|--|---------|

* 5 = Strongly Agree

12 Jul 2011

PSOM The University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine

Student Comments on TA performance

TA Name: AARON OLSEN

Course: BIOS 20260 Chordate Evolutionary Biology

Quarter: Spring 2010-11

Please remember that the comments below have not been analyzed; they are raw data and should be treated as such. Even if the same comment appears several times, that does not mean that it represents the opinion of the class – it is likely the opinion of only the few that gave it.

Comments

Aaron is an exceptional TA. He knows this course's content in both lab and lecture forwards and backwards. He even presented a full 80 minute lecture on the nervous system in chordates (quite a daunting amount of material!). He was perfectly willing to help me outside of class with study tips, essay advice, and answering ALL of my questions (I am really curious). Bravo, wonderful job Aaron!

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Aaron was a superb TA. He was always available to answer questions and did do in a clear, kind manner. He was always friendly and helpful and gave a wonderful lecture. I would love to have him as a TA again. He is an effective teacher and clearly has passion for the material.

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University of Chicago
Pritzker School of Medicine

Analysis of Educator Performance

Subject: Aaron Olsen

Activity: MS1: The Human Body

Evaluation Type: Student Evaluation of Teaching Assistant

Time Period: 08/07/2012 to 10/18/2012

Time Period Type: Time Frame Start

Report Date: 11/05/2012

Question ID	Question	Zero Count	Applicable Answers	Mean	Scale	Std
1957331	Labs: The TA had an excellent knowledge of the subject matter.	4	67	4.66	1 to 5	0.62
1957332	Labs: The TA explained the lab very well.	4	67	4.58	1 to 5	0.68
1957333	Labs: The TA provided good help during the lab.	4	67	4.67	1 to 5	0.59
1957334	Labs: The TA answered questions fully and with good explanations.	4	66	4.67	1 to 5	0.54
1957335	Lecture: The TA knew the material well.	45	25	4.68	1 to 5	0.63
1957336	Lecture: The material was well organized.	47	23	4.65	1 to 5	0.71
1957337	Lecture: The TA's delivery was clear and comprehensible.	46	24	4.58	1 to 5	0.72
1957338	Lecture: The TA explained the material at the right level for the audience.	47	23	4.61	1 to 5	0.66
1957339	Lecture: The TA made good use of blackboard, overheads, etc.	46	21	4.52	1 to 5	0.75
1957340	Discussion Sections: The TA was good at clarifying material from the lectures.	27	42	4.55	1 to 5	0.71
1957341	Discussion Sections: The TA answered questions well.	27	42	4.57	1 to 5	0.67
1957342	Discussion Sections: The TA was good at getting a real discussion going.	34	34	4.56	1 to 5	0.66
1957343	Discussion Sections: The TA kept the interest level high.	28	39	4.59	1 to 5	0.59
Question ID	Question	Option				N
1957344	Teaching Prize Your TA may be eligible to win a teaching prize. Do you want to nominate him/her for such a prize? (If "Yes", please include your reasons in the general comments section below. "Yes" votes MUST be accompanied by supporting comments to be valid.)	Yes				24
		No				39





Performance Analysis Report

Printed: 11/5/2012

Report Notes: Pritzker School of Medicine
Subject: Aaron Olsen
Activity: MS1: The Human Body
Time Frame Start Date between: 08/07/2012 and 10/18/2012
Evaluation Type: Student Evaluation of Teaching Assistant





1 Labs: The TA had an excellent knowledge of the subject matter.

Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.66	3	5	67	1 to 5	0.62

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	4		6%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		5		7%
4		13		18%
5	Strongly Agree	49		69%





2 Labs: The TA explained the lab very well.

Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.58	3	5	67	1 to 5	0.68

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	4		6%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		7		10%
4		14		20%
5	Strongly Agree	46		65%





3 Labs: The TA provided good help during the lab.

Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.67	3	5	67	1 to 5	0.59

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	4		6%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		4		6%
4		14		20%
5	Strongly Agree	49		69%





4 Labs: The TA answered questions fully and with good explanations.

Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.67	3	5	66	1 to 5	0.54

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	4		6%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		2		3%
4		18		26%
5	Strongly Agree	46		66%





5 Lecture: The TA knew the material well.

Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.68	3	5	25	1 to 5	0.63

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	45		64%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		2		3%
4		4		6%
5	Strongly Agree	19		27%





6 Lecture: The material was well organized.

Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.65	3	5	23	1 to 5	0.71

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	47		67%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		3		4%
4		2		3%
5	Strongly Agree	18		26%





7 Lecture: The TA's delivery was clear and comprehensible.

Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.58	3	5	24	1 to 5	0.72

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	46		66%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		3		4%
4		4		6%
5	Strongly Agree	17		24%





8 Lecture: The TA explained the material at the right level for the audience.

Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.61	3	5	23	1 to 5	0.66

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	47		67%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		2		3%
4		5		7%
5	Strongly Agree	16		23%





9 Lecture: The TA made good use of blackboard, overheads, etc.

Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.52	3	5	21	1 to 5	0.75

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	46		69%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		3		4%
4		4		6%
5	Strongly Agree	14		21%





10 Discussion Sections: The TA was good at clarifying material from the lectures.

Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.55	3	5	42	1 to 5	0.71

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	27		39%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		5		7%
4		9		13%
5	Strongly Agree	28		41%





11 Discussion Sections: The TA answered questions well.

Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.57	3	5	42	1 to 5	0.67

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	27		39%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		4		6%
4		10		14%
5	Strongly Agree	28		41%





12 Discussion Sections: The TA was good at getting a real discussion going.

Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.56	3	5	34	1 to 5	0.66

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	34		50%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		3		4%
4		9		13%
5	Strongly Agree	22		32%

13 Discussion Sections: The TA kept the interest level high.



Average:	Minimum:	Maximum:	Non-Zero Count:	Scale:	Standard Dev:
4.59	3	5	39	1 to 5	0.59

Answer Value:	Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
0	N/A	28		42%
1	Strongly Disagree	0		0%
2		0		0%
3		2		3%
4		12		18%
5	Strongly Agree	25		37%

14 Teaching Prize

Your TA may be eligible to win a teaching prize. Do you want to nominate him/her for such a prize? (If "Yes", please include your reasons in the general comments section below. "Yes" votes MUST be accompanied by supporting comments to be valid.)

Non-Zero Count:
63

Answer Choices:	Choice Count:		Percentage:
Yes	24		38%
No	39		62%

Aaron Olsen

Comments

Fantastic TA. Very knowledgeable and passionate about both the subject and teaching.

Aaron was always prepared to help us in lab everyday. He was always willing and eager to teach and quiz the students and was helpful with the dissections. It was clear that he worked very hard to prepare for labs by reviewing the material. Aaron was an excellent TA and I would highly recommend him for a teaching award.

aaron was always very approachable and held great sessions during the TA reviews.

Aaron prepared amazing TA review sessions. He was always extremely thorough and knowledgeable. His enthusiasm was palpable and fostered a great work environment.

Aaron was one of my favorite TAs in anatomy lab, in large part because I think he was one of the most effective. He had a clear knowledge of the important structures to be found in each dissection and made sure to walk all of the students through those structures. On numerous occasions, he offered me or others individual lessons when we missed group tutorials. In said reviews, he used a quiz format with appropriate hints of increasing levels of helpfulness. In some similar quiz sessions with other ta's, I felt put on the spot or embarrassed when I didn't know the answer (through no fault of those ta's), but Aaron made everyone feel comfortable and congratulated figuring out the answer through his hints. I really think the process helped me think about how to remember structures.

Aaron was always helpful, clear, friendly, and approachable. He was a great addition to the course!

Aaron was an amazing TA whose knowledge and enthusiasm aided everyone in understanding the material. He was one of the most energetic TAs I have ever seen and without a doubt the class would have struggled without him.

Aaron was a wonderful assistant. His enthusiasm for the course and subject matter, along with his active role in lab helped all of us. His quizzing was especially helpful.

TA reviews were well organized.

VERY knowledgeable

Elicited information rather than solely presenting it

Aaron was always incredibly good at describing things. His drawings on the board helped me organize information in my head. (Is that a good enough reason to get an award? Whatever, he was awesome, and I think he deserves an award.)

In the first week of the course, Aaron went out of his way to turn our Embryology slides into a video to help our studying. He stayed late after the review going over the video and was very dedicated to his TA role throughout the course. His enthusiasm and support during anatomy lab was greatly appreciated.

Aaron was always eager to help our lab group with any issues we were having during dissection or to answer any of our questions. He was always very approachable and pleasant to be around. He would take the time to quiz our lab team on structures that were especially important.

Aaron was an incredibly helpful force in the lab! His review sessions were comprehensive and well taught.

Aaron's excitement for anatomy and for working with students was always apparent in lab. He was always willing and able to help students in whatever way he could. If there was a question that he didn't know the answer to, he would look it up and report back to the students. It was a pleasure to work with him over the last quarter!

Aaron was very helpful when reviewing material because he taught by asking questions. He was able to tailor his review to the level of the student's knowledge of the subject, questioning when students had already studied and reviewing when students hadn't yet. Additionally, he goes swiftly through the material during review sessions, which keeps you as the student on your toes and also makes sure that you cover everything.

Aaron was a Godsend. The days/weeks he was in our lab room it seemed like all of a sudden every group had tons of questions simply to lure him to their table. His rapid-fire way of testing us on the different anatomical structures kept everyone engaged. He was also great at sensing when we were confused about something and took the time to explain the structures or lecture concepts with a smile. He always seemed to stay late and knew when we were badly lost during a dissection, consistently taking the time to dig us out. I wish there was a CMG version of Aaron.

Dedicated. Spent extra time going through the material in lab. Very smart and approachable.

Aaron did an excellent job of helping us to learn difficult aspects of the course, especially during the TA review sessions. He really brought the material together by asking us insightful questions that highlighted information we needed to know for both the practical as well as the written.

Aaron did a great job at explaining complex topics. He is very passionate about teaching and he was very knowledgeable about the subject matter. He is also a fantastic artist and often drew complex diagrams on the white board to facilitate our learning.

Aaron was an exceptional TA in all respects. He was immensely knowledgeable about the material, was approachable and friendly, and dedicated (as shown by his willingness to stay beyond the scheduled 3 hours of lab time to review material with students having trouble with the material or just wanted extra reinforcement). In addition, Aaron's enthusiasm for the material was contagious, leading to an all-around positive atmosphere in lab when he was the TA for our section.

Aaron was very excited about the material and helped instill that enthusiasm while he was teaching.

Aaron was always ready and was very good about summarizing the goals of each day's dissection. Even if he did not always have the answer straight away (no one does), he was very good about looking things up without getting distracted and remaining upbeat.

Aaron was overall a very helpful TA. He was eager to provide help during lab, both with the dissection itself and with the underlying anatomical concepts. He was well spoken, and his TA review sessions were easy to follow.

Aaron was an excellent teaching assistant. His review sessions during the TA reviews were definitely the most helpful of all of them, and it was clear that he spent significant time preparing.

University of Chicago
Pritzker School of Medicine

Activity Comments

Activity: MS1: The Human Body

Question Group: TA Aaron Olsen

Evaluation Type: Supplemental Course Evaluation A

Time Period: 08/13/2013 to 10/24/2013

Time Period Type: Time Frame Start

Report Date: 11/08/2013

Aaron Olsen comments	
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron's presentations were to the point.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	I really appreciated the time Aaron put into preparing for lab and his eagerness to help with dissection.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	N/A
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Very helpful in lab, opened up knew things we wouldn't have saw otherwise and helped us learn them
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron was far and away my favorite TA. He knew the material extremely well, communicated it clearly, and did a wonderful job of testing us as we went. I would encourage other TAs to follow his example and increase the amount of in-lab quizzing they do.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron clearly knew his stuff, and was very helpful. I learned mostly from asking him questions though; he wasn't proactive in his teaching.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron was great! He knew so much beyond the scope of the course that I really appreciated, and always went the extra mile to teach us.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron's knowledge was such an incredible resource, and he was always willing to help out whenever we needed him!
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron was a great teaching assistant. He was very skillful at dissection and had a good understanding of the anatomy.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	You are an incredible TA, and your nature and humor make learning anatomy really enjoyable. You never spoke in a condescending manner even though you clearly have EXCEPTIONAL knowledge. You rock!
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	so nice!!
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron was the best at getting us to review material we had learned that day in lab through quizzing us and pointing out important structures. It was something that our group used during the rest of anatomy even when he was not in our room.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron, thank you so much for always being willing to give a helping hand when our group was behind in dissection. It was very evident how knowledgeable you are in anatomy and we definitely benefited from your help.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	I thought Aaron was the most incredible TA ever. He was an excellent teacher and really helped me master material in lab.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Very helpful dissector and great energy!

Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron is enthusiastic and knows his stuff, but sometimes he goes too fast.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Great TA and anatomist! His enthusiasm and limitless energy was a huge help during lab.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Knew his anatomy forwards and backwards and always had something to teach us. Thanks for all of the help!
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron was THE BEST TA in the class - he should be hired as an anatomy instructor here!
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Incredibly kind, helpful, and knowledgeable.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Helpful to the extreme and one of the kindest of the TA's we have had a chance to work with
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Awesome...loved his quizzes. Very dedicated to teaching. Wish he could have been with me every week.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	It was great to have Aaron as a TA, he knows a ton and teaches well.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Helpful during lab
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron was really helpful and great at dissecting! He was an awesome TA!
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	An amazing TA, who clearly has a passion for the subject and wants us to learn a lot.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron was great. He is very smart and easily approachable. We were lucky to have him in the class.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Loved this guy. So much enthusiasm for anatomy is was a little bit ridiculous. Couldn't have enjoyed his help any more.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron helped our lab group SO much!! He quizzed us often in person and helped us learn the anatomy as we went instead of choosing the "dissect first, organize later" mentality.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron helped us so much on head and neck!! Whenever my group had become despondent about destroying or losing a structure, Aaron was always able to help fix our mess or cheer us up.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron was a phenomenal asset in class. His knowledge of anatomy is incredible and he did a really good job teaching difficult concepts and helping with tricky dissections.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Super energetic and excited to be in lab. Great compliment to get us going.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron's the best! Great teacher and dissector. Really driven and genuine in his willingness to help. If he ends up teaching an anatomy course himself one day, his students will be very fortunate.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Awesome TA and helped us immensely in dissection.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	best ever TA
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron's vivacious manner made Head and Neck bearable. His sincere desire to make every student understand the learning objectives was uplifting.

Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron was great at using lab to illustrate concepts we learned in class
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	I really enjoyed Aaron's enthusiasm for the subject as well as his gung-ho attitude about dissection. He brought a strong positive energy to the lab that motivated me to work harder. In the future, I would spend a little bit less time on some of the less common bolded terms in Grant's.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	I think I passed Thorax because of Aaron. He's an eager teacher, and he knows how to get people to understand complex topics. Rockstar.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Extremely knowledgeable and helpful.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Excellent dissector, but could have spent a little more time teaching while in lab, maybe as he dissected.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Awesome job, Aaron! Just the right amount of challenging.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Knows everything.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron is great.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	Aaron always tried to be very helpful, and I am grateful. However, he tended to get bogged down in detail and was often unable to discuss things from a big-picture perspective.
Activity: MS1: The Human Body	great TA. extremely knowledgeable about anatomy and helped dissect out interesting structures we wouldn't have though to look for. I learned so much when he walked us through everything we had exposed during the day's dissection. Thorough explanations to questions and review sessions were very helpful for the exam