

Summary of Teaching Evaluations – Benjamin L. Davis

Across multiple semesters of teaching undergraduate astronomy and physics laboratory courses at the University of Arkansas, my student evaluations consistently highlight the following strengths:

- **Strong Overall Ratings**

Mean scores typically ranged from **4.3–4.9 (on 5.0 scales)**, placing my teaching effectiveness and clarity well above departmental and institutional averages in many categories. Students frequently rated me as “Excellent” in overall instructor quality and in categories such as subject mastery and communication.

- **Clarity and Understanding**

Students repeatedly noted my ability to explain difficult concepts clearly and demonstrate a strong command of course topics. Ratings for clarity of explanation, availability for questions, and spoken communication were consistently **above 4.5/5.0**.

- **Engagement and Accessibility**

Evaluations emphasized that I am approachable, supportive, and willing to assist students both in and out of class. Written comments often describe me as “understanding,” “helpful,” and “always willing to explain concepts multiple times.”

- **Learning Environment**

Students valued the way I encouraged participation and fostered a positive classroom atmosphere. Many recommended the course and specifically praised my teaching style even when they found the lab materials or structure challenging.

Representative Student Comments

- “Ben Davis is one of the most understanding and helpful teachers I have had... he genuinely cares about the academic success of his students.”
- “He explains everything clearly and helps when I am stuck. Very articulate and helpful.”
- “Clear, intelligent, and always willing to help... the professor made the class enjoyable even when the lab material was difficult.”

In sum, my evaluations reflect a teaching style centered on **clarity, accessibility, and student engagement**, with consistently strong outcomes across multiple semesters.