Overall the goals of this course are well displayed, to attain an understanding of physics concepts to help aid in future classes related to each students

major. However the problem falls onto the instructors of the course. Dr. Davis doesn't create his own powerpoints, which isn't the problem, but instead of

actually teaching, he just reads the slides until they are done and then dismisses. There is something to be said for a teacher when, after the clicker quiz for

attendance points, at least 30 students stand up and leave. It means they could be doing something more productive than listening to someone read a

powerpoint presentation that will inevitably be posted on blackboard anyway. The general feel students have with the instructors of University Physics 1 is

that they are the Physics department faculty that drew the 2 short straws and got stuck with teaching UP1. Next, the grading scale makes no sense at all. It

is displayed in the syllabus but the way they are inputted into blackboard and after dropping lowest grades at the end, there is a 3 letter grade range that a

grade can change in the course of 2 weeks making it near impossible to figure out if it is the best choice to drop the class with a W before the final drop

date. Next, the homework assignments, while they do serve a good purpose, are exponentially harder than problems found on the test. While

simultaneously taking engineering classes directly related to my major, it is easy to say that UP1, a freshman level class, has more work than sophomore

level engineering classes. It's clear to many that UP1 serves as a scare class to freshmen to see if they can handle the pressure of upper level STEM classes

instead of just focusing on student comprehension of material. Implementation of Pearson's MasteringPhysics would be extremely helpful as you can see the

answer as soon as you click submit as opposed to driving the lab TA's insane grading 500 papers weekly.

He's a great professor.

Needed more required practice between exams, like we had for Exam 1.

Davis doesn't care, asked him a question, told me to look in my book, told him I couldn't find a sufficient answer to my question in the book, still didn't help

me. All this guy does is read the power points and act like he cares. Awful professor.

I believe my instructor is very passionate about this subject, which makes a huge difference. However, I do sometimes feel that the lectures don't improve

my overall learning experience. They can tend to be very similar to reading from the textbook, which does not portray the information in a memorable way.

Thanks for a good semester!

The majority of lectures I do not learn much because Dr. Davis reads from the slideshows. Sometimes he will use outside examples or stray from the

slides, and when he does that, he is a very effective teacher.

When it comes to this course, lecture is really hard to follow because there are not examples that are explained well enough. The teacher just reads from a

powerpoint which does not really help.

I would only recommend this course if it was required and not to someone who wishes to learn Physics for enjoyment. The instructor is difficult to

understand and seems like he would rather be anywhere but where he is.

Elaborate on points rather than reading directly off slides

When giving lecture, do not read from the powerpoints verbatim. This helps no one and is a waste of time. This causes us to have teach ourselves most of

the material which is considerable hard because the textbook is awful.

A little more interaction with the students when teaching the material would be helpful. Seemed as though most lectures were word for word from the slides,

while important the lecture can become dull quickly if you don't add anything to the publisher's slides.

Dr. Davis is a good teacher.

Very straight forward teaching method compared to what I've experienced, physics doesn't come to me very easily at all so it was nice being taught in his

style

There alot of work for the amount of actual learning and turning in a large open response once a week, especially on Mondays, encourages procrastination.

Maybe having it due Friday night might help.

Please try not to keep reading the powerpoints word for word. Please try to do more application examples from different fields of occupations based on the

world of physics. Please don't create lectures based on theory. Please base it on examples. Also, some TAs need to really help students. Some TAs don't

even care about the students' learning ability. To become better in physics, one has to understand concepts and then go and work examples.

Good violinist

This was a fun class. It created a new love for physics.

Dr. Davis also has some on point violin skills.

This lecture class is a joke. Dr. Davis just reads off of the slides and expects you to understand the material. He speaks in a monotone voice, and the class

size is usually over 200. Horrible class.

class was very fast pace and i would get so far behind in notes for the class. However, Dr. Davis was very knowledge about the material and was

entertaining.

Dr. Davis is a respectable and approachable guy who audibly explains all material. He can be little confusing at times, due to the lack of time to present the

material required for each lecture.

Great teacher. C an obviously tell which section he really enjoys teaching and which he doesnt. Doesnt really actually teach, just reads off a powerpoint,

however he does through his own conjunctions into it and can answer any question that is asked.

I was unimpressed with the UPI lectures this semester. While all the material that was needed was presented, it was presented in a mostly bland format that

made me lose interest frequently. The bulk of the lecture was the instructor reading the material off of the slides. The class may have been more interesting

if there were relevant examples of the material along with the slides.

One thing I think would help most of the students is working problems out in class everyday maybe just one problem after briefly discussing the topic, but

working problems on days other than Fridays would be a major help.

Overall I really liked the class and thought that you were a great teacher!

Great course and great instructor, only down side to the lecture was constantly going through the book powerpoint each day. I realize there's only so much

that can be done to change the way to go about teaching a lecture but the day that you brought in the violin to show us the different affects on waves was

the most interesting lecture of the semester for me, so maybe if at all possible do some more things like that to get away from the powerpoints every time.

Other than that, loved the course and learned a lot.

Dr. Davis flies through the material, so it's a bit hard to absorb everything. He presents very clearly.

NA

I rarely went to class the second half of the semester and I am still managing a high B/low A in there. The classes I did attend didn't really help explain

anything I couldn't figure out by reading his powerpoints or just working the homework. Most, if not all, of the needed concepts that I learned this semester

occurred in Lab.

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Anyone can go to a class and read off a powerpoint.

Since the way we're tested is basically like our open response homework, it would have helped a lot more to do application of what we had previously read

about in our textbooks the night before on open response-like problems. All we would do on Mondays and Wednesdays is go over the conceptual stuff, but I

wouldn't understand how to apply that to solving problems because there was never any examples worked on the board. I suggest focusing more on the

application and less on reading over the material. Fridays were kind of helpful, but I needed more explanation as to why we used certain equations and

what the problem was wanting us to do.

The instructor should show more interest in the subject matter rather than just reading from the day's slide show.

I feel that Doctor Davis sometimes does not explain the subject clearly. I have difficulty understating the subject during lecture.

His lectures are a little unrelated to the homework and the material on the tests, but discuss more of the theory. I would like to talk a little more about the

questions we would see because we don't do that in Drill either. Sometimes his high knowledge of a topic is hard to follow for students because we are new

to topics... especially gravity!

It's just hard to pay attention at 8:35 A.M.

The more excited about the material you are the more excited about learning students are the day you played your violin what's the best teaching day you

had

I felt that you were a great professor. My only criticism, however, is that you seemed to read off of power point slides a lot, rather than explain more simply

what they meant. Thanks for a fantastic semester!

Although sometimes it seems like Dr. Davis is just reading of the powerpoint if you pay attention he adds things to enhance learning and helps with

understanding. I learned a lot through this course.

Instructor simply read the slides and not much else. I can read the slides on my own.

He basically read us the book majority of the time more examples during class would help

I think the students would benefit from more interactive lectures or something besides having the PowerPoint read to them. Like when you showed a video

and brought your violin to class.

Loved taking this class, very likable and makes great analogies that are easily understood by even the not smartest of people. Office hours are great and I

loved attending even though it may have been a handful of times he was awesome each and every time! I'll miss taking your class Professor!!

I didn't learn a single thing about physics in the lecture even though I attended every class. Dr. Davis goes way too fast through the slides making it

impossible to follow along adequately, let alone retain the information. Everything I learned from this course (which wasn't a whole lot) I learned from my

friends teaching me how to do the homeworks and practice tests. The way the open response homeworks are set up is really crappy as well. We don't learn

any material even remotely similar to the homework in lecture, so how can you expect us to be able to do five questions, each with parts a-z every week?

This class was a huge disappointment. I need this because I am pre-med, yet I feel like I screwed myself over by taking university physics instead of

college.

He does a good job

You are a great teacher, but the lecture just seems too boring.

I often felt that I was working blindly on Open Response assignments. At times I felt I was basically teaching myself. I learned a lot in the lectures, but I

didn't always see the direct connection to the homework. I would have just liked to see more examples that would prepare us for the homework and

ultimately the exams.

Only reads powerpoint slides, needs to show more examples and get creative

The HW is honestly a lot. It should be toned down a bit.

N/a

Thanks Doctor Davis for all your teachings.

The lectures featured slides that said exactly what the book said. I read the book and learned everything I needed to know, lectures were not useful.

Dr.Davis showed little emotion while lecturing, making it even harder to pay attention. However, he did present relevant information that was probably

effective for those students that didn't read the book.

I loved physics, but the lecture was always just a very basic introduction to the topic we would discuss in lab to me.

I like him

The only problem I have with this course is the TA's. Specifically one TA by the name David French. If you want more physics majors please do not have

them talk to David. This man was condescending, rude, and did not want to help you at all. As a learning physics student I don't need someone to be

noticeably annoyed when I try to ask questions. Granted when you dug down and forced an answer out of him he was helpful, but it took a lot of work.

Dr. Davis was extremely knowledgable and was willing to help any way he could.

I liked that he dropped our lowest test grade. He also allowed us to use our notes and books on our exams.

It lacks abstracts to get my head around. It's refreshing to be in class where interpretation isn't necessary to get ahead, but rather to apply

logic to a set system and be able to get the answers correct.

Teaching about different areas of science, such as biology, chemistry, physics and others.

The quizzes att the conclusion of class were helpful

being about to look at the powerpoints outside of class

the way the class is conducted and the quiz/tests are good

Give practice exams that are more like the actual exam. Also, try to be a little more excited to come in and teach. Science can be a boring

subject. The student behind me was always falling asleep.

I felt like this class was very dry. By that I mean, he never interacted with the students. Some people learn that way, but others don't. I felt

like we were all confused and maybe intimidated to ask in class questions. Which I don't know why since never seemed intimidating. More

like, showed lack of interest.

It doesn't fall in line with what physical science is to me. Other classmates in other sessions claimed they were not doing anything like we

were

More student/teacher interaction. Outside of office hours it seemed that student input was rather low. Although the class wasn't very verbal

on the occasions that we were asked to answer questions so it could be just as much our fault as the instructors.

Nothing

Speeding through power points created by the makers of our textbook manufacturer to the point of not even being able to take short

handed notes is ridiculous. The class is an hour and 20 minutes long and we would sometimes get out of class after 30 minutes because

he went through the power point so quickly. Not only is that impossible to take notes over, it is very distracting and I learn nothing from the

class. In essence I had to teach myself every thing for the tests because the power points were treated like review. I haven't had a

chemistry class since 10th grade, and I've never had a physics class. My grades reflected how poorly this class was taught and it is very

frustrating considering how hard I actually studied for this class. There was NEVER a classroom discussion the entire semester and the

first time he asked the class a question was the very last day of class about scheduling for next week. This is for sure the most frustrated

I've been about a class since I've been at Tech.

ask the students more to make sure they understand the material. Finding more ways to help prepare for the tests

Dr walsh is awesome

I would take Dr. Davis again if I could.

Seems very knowledgeable concerning physical sciences, mainly chemistry. Has a very good teaching method that I would endorse.

He was very helpful in class.

Helpful lab professor and assistant.

None

The lab manual was very helpful for the lab.

More elaborate instructions for the course.

The post labs were more difficult than the lab itself. And the materials to help with the post lab is what you turn in. So I didn't care for that

part because that would be useful for the post labs.

The professor should Explain the content of the lab so we can actually know what we are doing.

Overall I really enjoyed the lab!

Professor didn't explain what we were going to do in the lab very well. the majority of the class didn't know what to do.

Thank you

Very good instructor who offered explanations when questions were asked.

Awesome professor!!!!!

I think the professor did a great job at explaining the directions thoroughly and helping when we needed him. He is definitely that best

teacher I had this semester.

It was hands on

The TA was very helpful in this class. She always helped answer questions. As well as the professor.

Be more helpful with post and pre lab exams! Some of them were extremely hard and very hard to understand! Overall, ok course.. Got a

B when I should have had a A. Hated the pre and post labs!

Just more clear instructions.

None

None!!

Had so much fun in this lab!

None

The hands on activity really brings concepts in class to life. This is especially true for Physical Principles students because most the math

is trivial in comparison to the mental visualization to accompany it.

Dr. Davis is knowledgeable and very nice, he should go around and check on students more!

I think the instructor needs to be aware that not all of the students in this class are in the Calculus based class when he goes over the prelab.

I also think that the professor needs to go over the pre-lab over better because sometimes the classes have not covered the material

effectively.

None, Dr. Davis may have been a first year professor but was my best lab instructor this year.

Dr. Davis and his assistant were very helpful when called on during the lab.

The biggest strength of this course would be how well the experiments exemplified the methods being taught in lecture. The labs went

along with the lecture extremely well, and the quizzes in the lab had just the right level of relevance and depth.

The instructor was very helpful.

The lab helped me understand the material better.

Dr. Davis uses quizzes held after the lab to grade us. However, the quizzes are theoretical and often not directly relevant to the lab that

was held. Because of this, I found it was better for my grade to skip as much of the lab assignment as possible and instead focus on

learning equations and other content relevant to the topic. Either the lab should be geared toward the quiz or the quiz should be geared

toward the lab. Both aspects are educational.

It is set up really good, I have no constructive suggestions.

My only suggestion would be to return the graded quizzes to the students in a timely fashion. We did not receive any of our graded work

until the second to last class time.

Good instructor!

None.

Applying the lectures is always a great way to learn

Labs were beneficial to understanding in the classroom.

this is a lab course that was well maintained and instructed

No improvements needed.

Some new equipment would help

Try to get better lab equipment, not necessarily new, but at least working. Also try to refine the lab manual to have better pictures of how to

set up the labs so the TA and professor don't have to go around checking every group.

the post lab quizzes were on a very short deadline and therefore easy to miss

Great professor, really knowledgeable of the course.

The professor had no idea how to use equipment and he was not very knowledgeable of our experiments. When we asked him questions

he either acted confused and had to ask the TA to come over and help or he would give some long "monologue" on the theory that as far

we knew was total b.s. He was just plain not helpful.

none