



BIOS 13111 1 - Natural History of North American Deserts - Instructor(s) - Eric C Larsen

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Spring 2024**

Number Enrolled: **124**

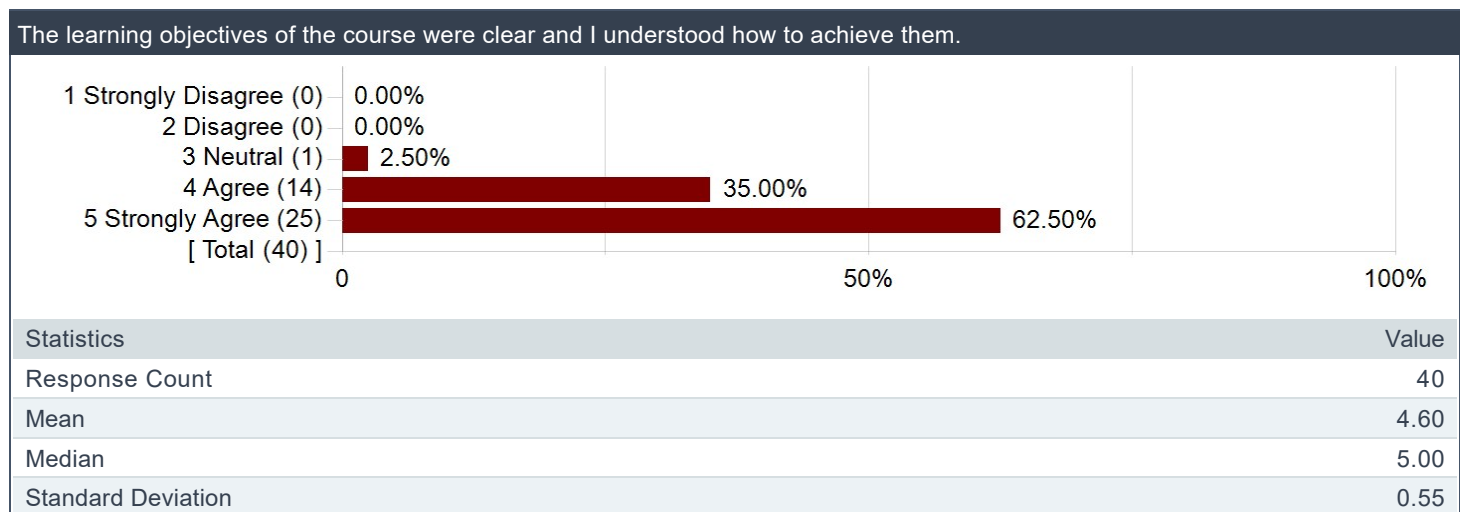
Number of Responses: **49**

Report Comments

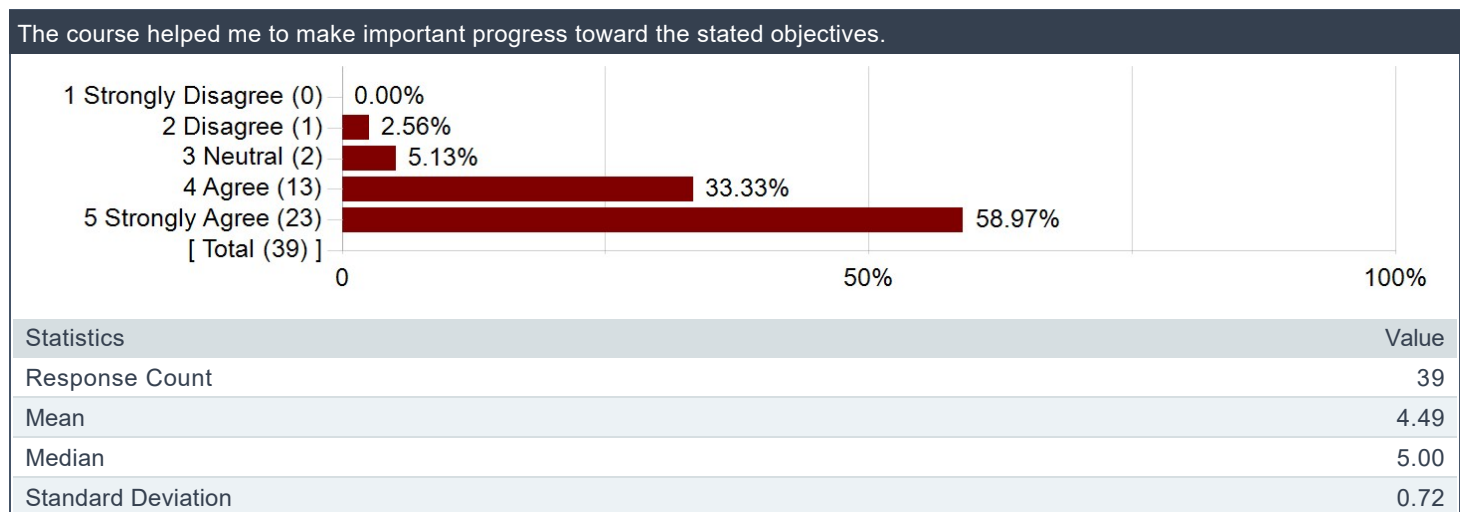
Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Thursday, July 11, 2024**

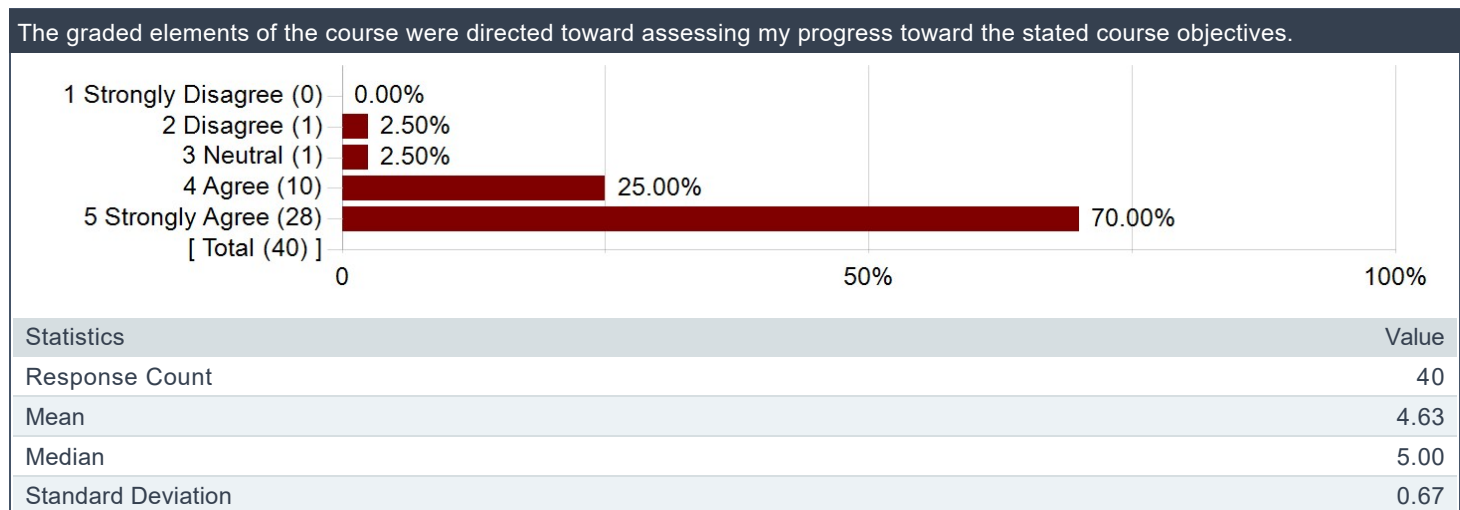
The learning objectives of the course were clear and I understood how to achieve them.



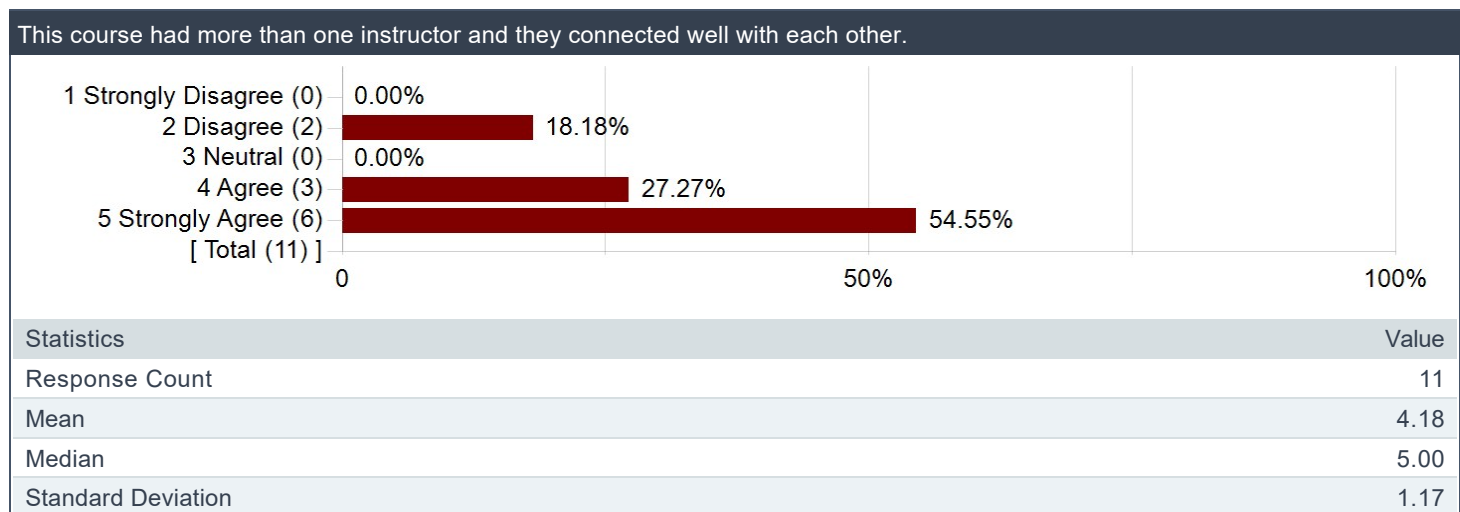
The course helped me to make important progress toward the stated objectives.



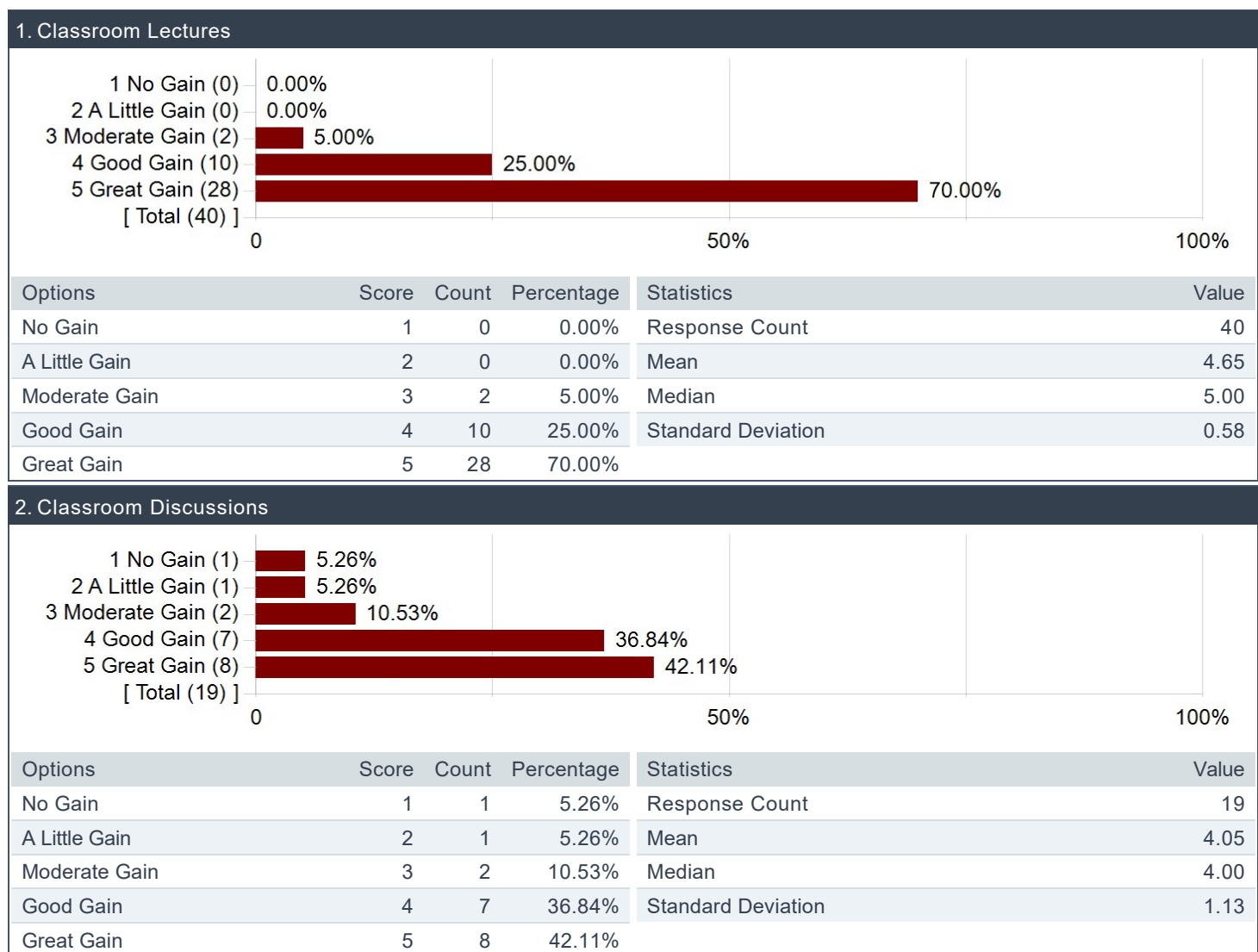
The graded elements of the course were directed toward assessing my progress toward the stated course objectives.



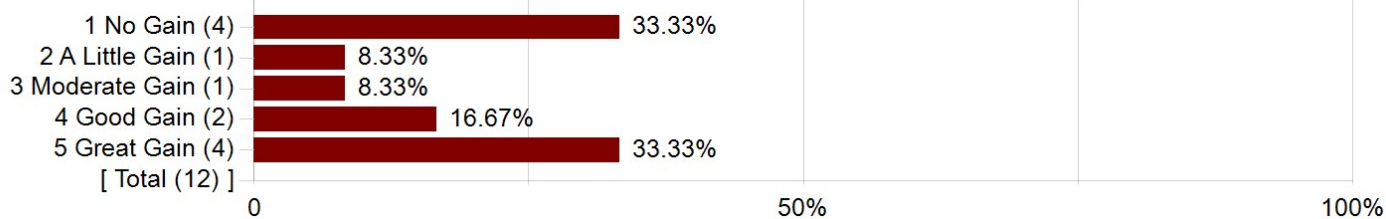
This course had more than one instructor and they connected well with each other.



How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

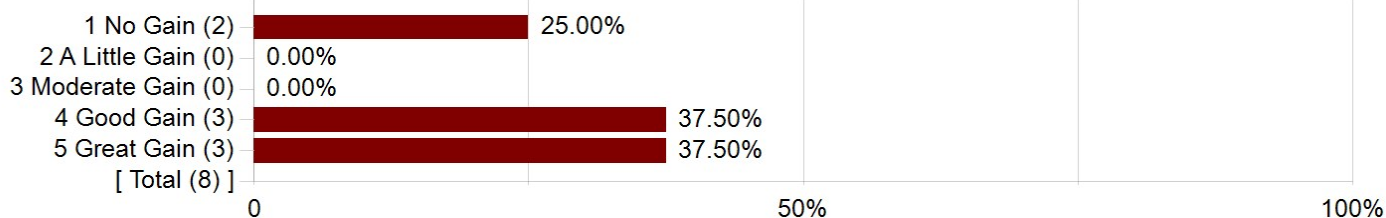


3. Assigned Readings



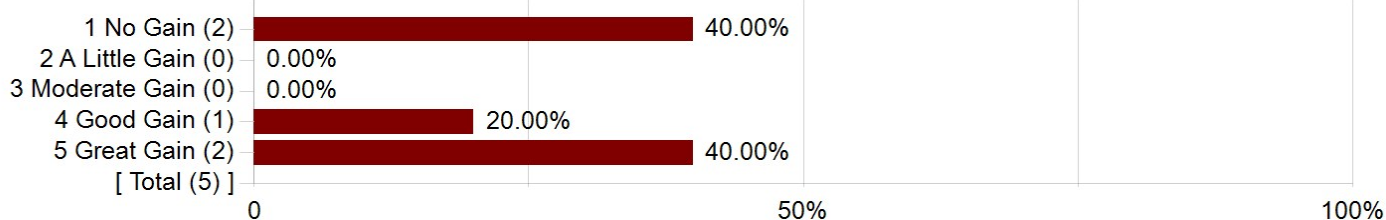
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	4	33.33%	Response Count	12
A Little Gain	2	1	8.33%	Mean	3.08
Moderate Gain	3	1	8.33%	Median	3.50
Good Gain	4	2	16.67%	Standard Deviation	1.78
Great Gain	5	4	33.33%		

4. Homework Exercises



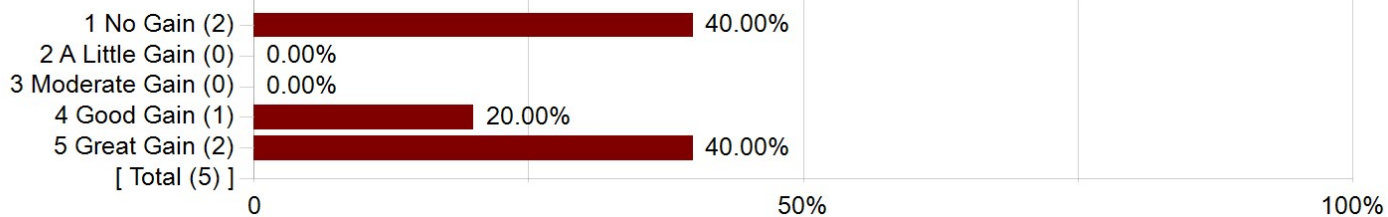
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	2	25.00%	Response Count	8
A Little Gain	2	0	0.00%	Mean	3.63
Moderate Gain	3	0	0.00%	Median	4.00
Good Gain	4	3	37.50%	Standard Deviation	1.69
Great Gain	5	3	37.50%		

5. Lab Experiences



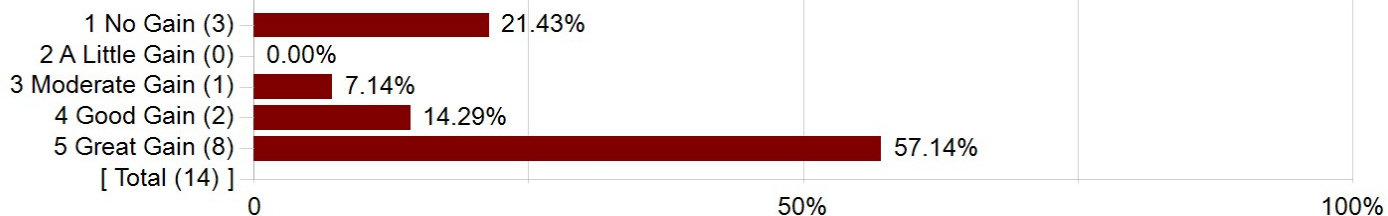
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	2	40.00%	Response Count	5
A Little Gain	2	0	0.00%	Mean	3.20
Moderate Gain	3	0	0.00%	Median	4.00
Good Gain	4	1	20.00%	Standard Deviation	2.05
Great Gain	5	2	40.00%		

6. Discussion Sessions



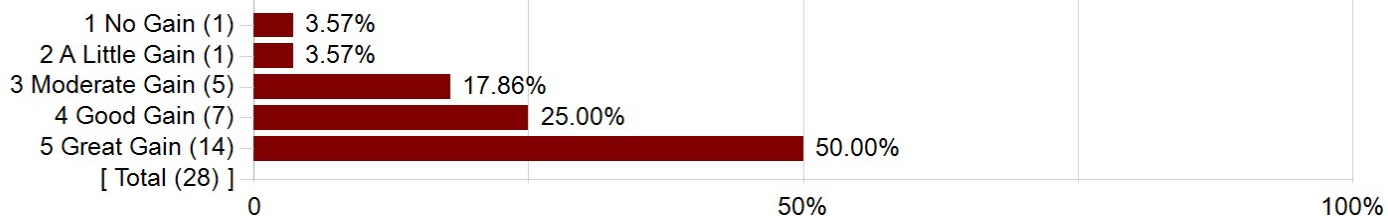
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	2	40.00%	Response Count	5
A Little Gain	2	0	0.00%	Mean	3.20
Moderate Gain	3	0	0.00%	Median	4.00
Good Gain	4	1	20.00%	Standard Deviation	2.05
Great Gain	5	2	40.00%		

7. Review Sessions



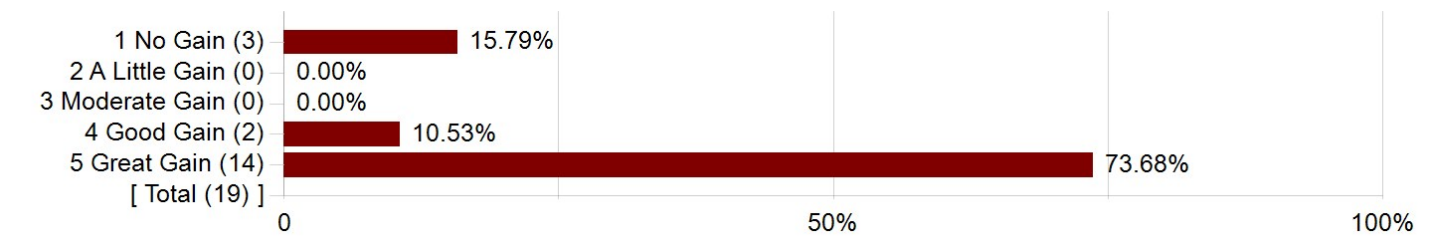
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	3	21.43%	Response Count	14
A Little Gain	2	0	0.00%	Mean	3.86
Moderate Gain	3	1	7.14%	Median	5.00
Good Gain	4	2	14.29%	Standard Deviation	1.66
Great Gain	5	8	57.14%		

8. Interactions with Other Students



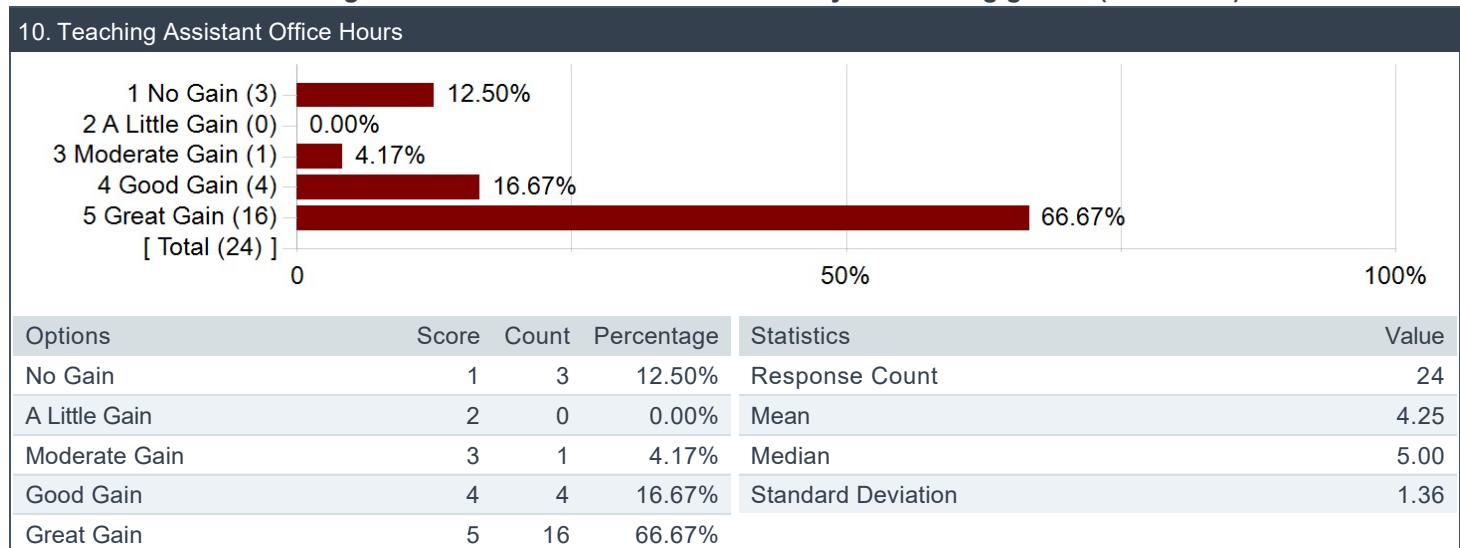
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	1	3.57%	Response Count	28
A Little Gain	2	1	3.57%	Mean	4.14
Moderate Gain	3	5	17.86%	Median	4.50
Good Gain	4	7	25.00%	Standard Deviation	1.08
Great Gain	5	14	50.00%		

9. Faculty Office Hours



Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	3	15.79%	Response Count	19
A Little Gain	2	0	0.00%	Mean	4.26
Moderate Gain	3	0	0.00%	Median	5.00
Good Gain	4	2	10.53%	Standard Deviation	1.48
Great Gain	5	14	73.68%		

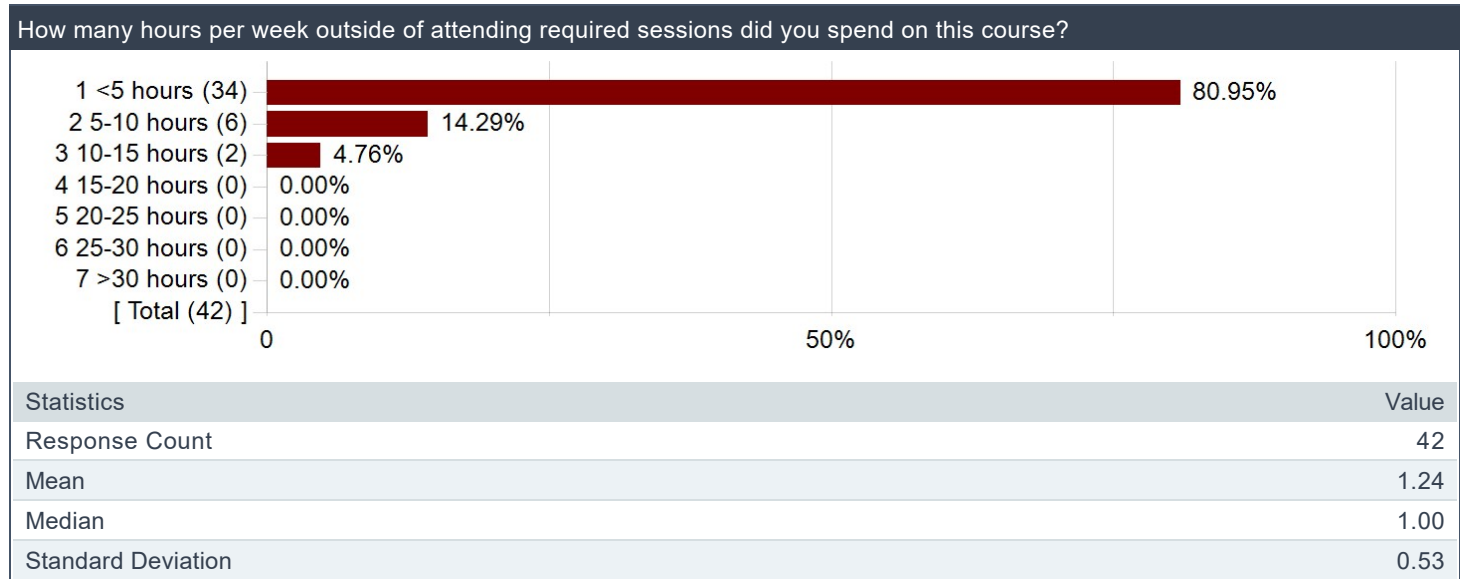
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains? (continued)



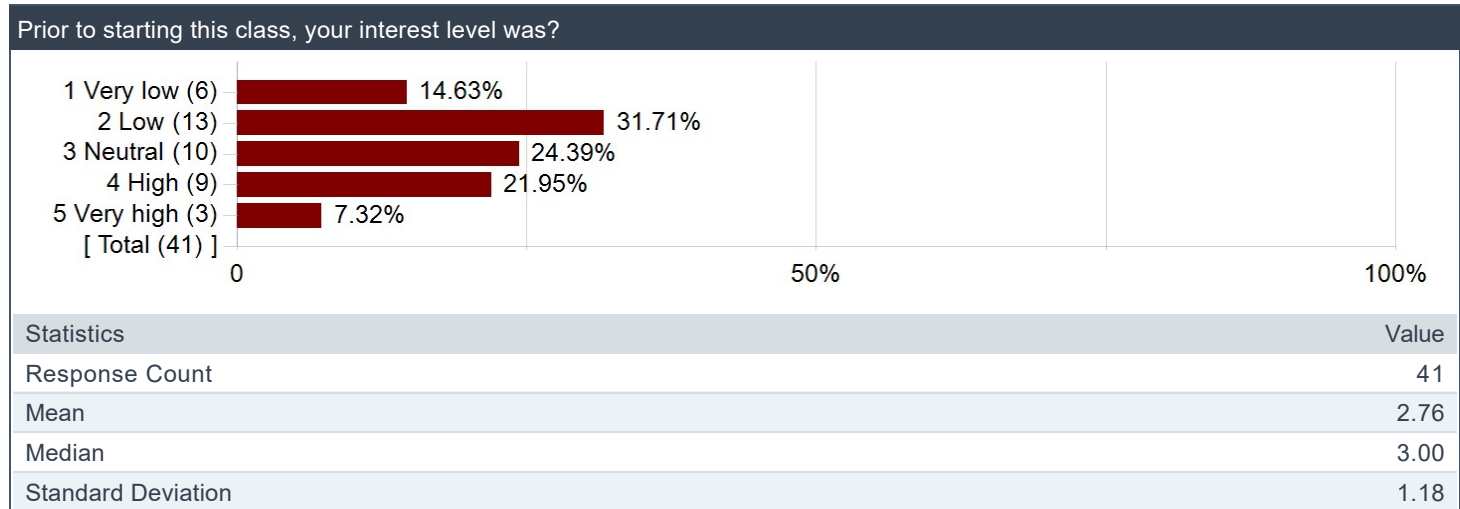
What was the most important thing (to you) that you learned in this course? What aspect of the material is still unclear for you, that you wish you could have learned better?

Comments
How deserts form and rainfall patterns as well as different adaptations of desert plants that help them survive different precipitation patterns
all about deserts although I had 0 background!
About North American Deserts and their characteristics. It really made me think about how I interact with the outside natural world! (Road trip?)
about deserts
The most important thing I learned is that you should not pick up Gila Monsters. I wish we could have talked about more specific animals.
Different way deserts are formed and about the animals and plants that live there
I think the most important thing that I learned in this course is how deserts actually become deserts, and the different processes that lead to this. There wasn't any material in particular that I was necessarily completely lost on, but I was a little bit confused about the geographical history leading up to the megafauna extinction.
The adaptations of different plants and animals in the North American deserts
I learned about the environment of the Nort American Dessert, how they occurred, and how humans have lived in them and affected them.
everything related to deserts
The most important thing I learned was the causes of deserts and adaptions of plants and animals to the environment.
I learned the ways that deserts are different from other environments.
idk deserts ig
I learned a lot about geophysical factors, weather, animals, plants, and human impacts on the deserts of the southwest.
Learned about desert ecosystems
Pack rat middens!
learned about formation and interactions in deserts
n/a
How deserts work and what elements within them contribute to the general workings of the environment
The most important thing is the importance of preserving each unique habitat.

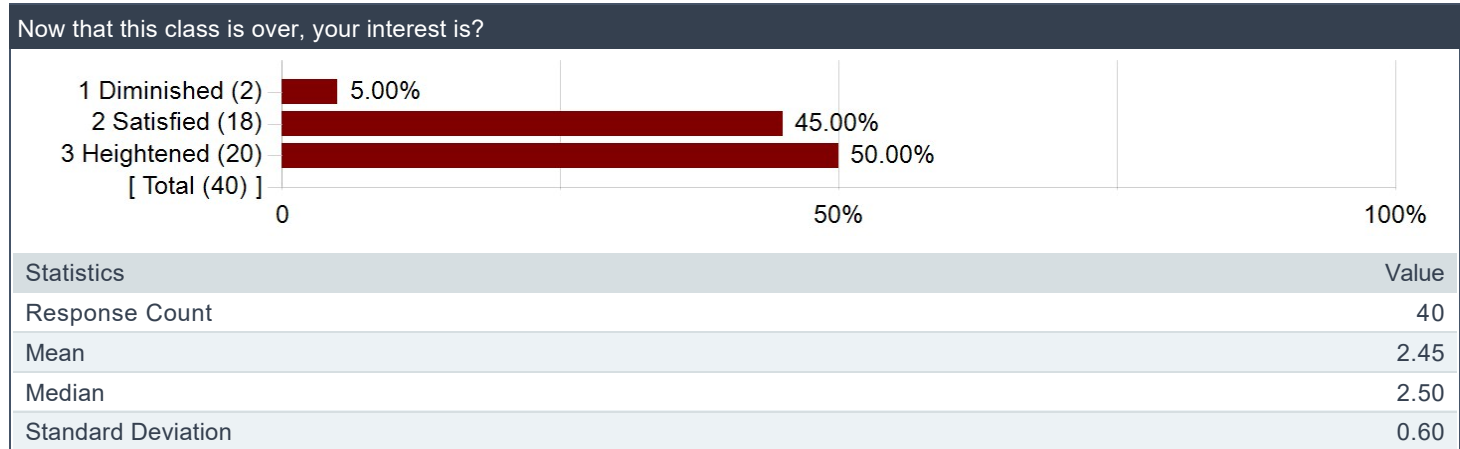
How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



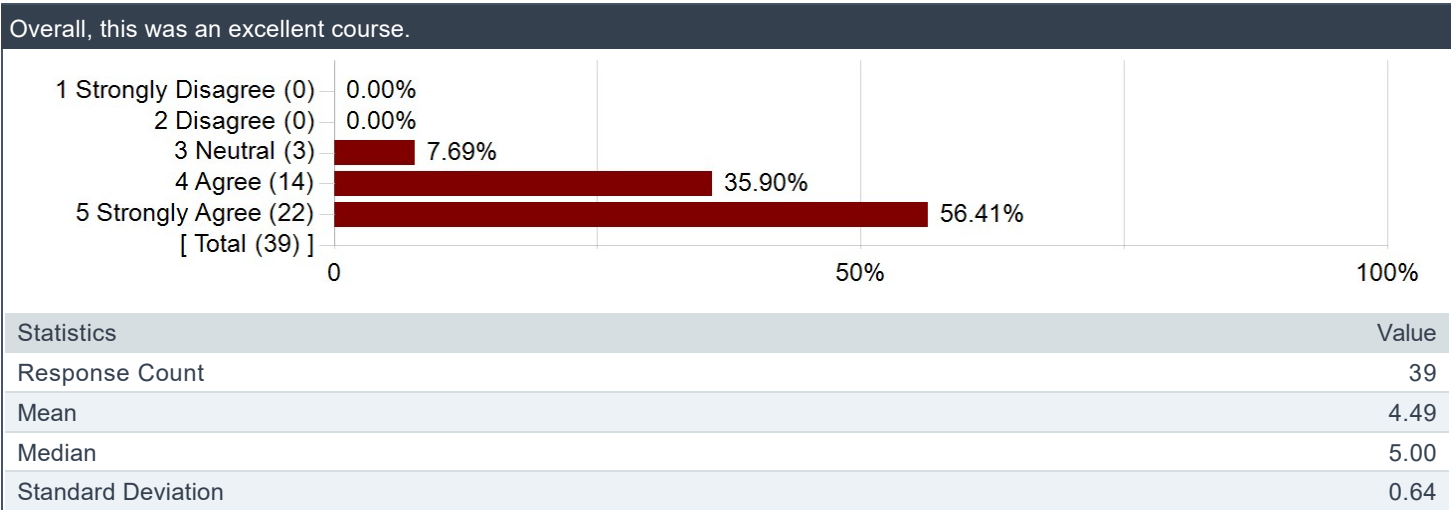
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



Now that this class is over, your interest is?



Overall, this was an excellent course.



Please share any advice you have for students who are considering taking the course.

Comments
Go to lecture and study the slides before the quizzes and you will succeed
Don't waste your time trying to understand exactly everything because you most probably do not have the bio background to understand it. What Prof Larsen explains in class matches the depth in which you should understand stuff
I would definitely recommend you take the course! I started the course skeptical because there are so many people in the class and some of those people are bound to know more than you and participate a lot, but as long as you study for the quizzes (really study the slides), you should be golden! The class is decently interesting and it's not a struggle or too much to handle.
study for quizzes
Because the class is so lecture heavy, and the slides can be quite sparse, I would really recommend attending lecture most if not all of the time.
Structure of the class is nice – three quizzes, six discussion answers, four discussion questions, and one optional final
Definitely go to office hours the day/a few days before the assessments. They were very helpful in aiding my studying process, as well as narrowing down certain topics to the most important parts.
It's easy but make sure to study for the quizzes with enough time to go to TA office hours.
Take this course. Super easy and kind of interesting, Larsen is funny
you just need to study for the quizzes from the lectures/slides + do the discussion posts (super easy) – we also had an optional final
This is a great class for people who do not want to attend labs, go to office hours, do homework, or spend any time on the material outside of class. However, be sure to review the material on the slides 2 days before the quizzes, which are every 3 weeks. To be honest, I found that there was a lot of material. The quizzes are graded pretty nicely, but make sure you study. The final is optional.
Take good notes and review material before quizzes.
STRONGLY recommend taking notes during lectures/from the video recordings because this class' grade is based on 3 quizzes and some discussion posts, and each quiz requires actual knowledge on the material. Simply using the slides is not always enough, as they are quite bare in terms of information. Also attend TA office hours before quizzes because the TAs actually create the quiz questions so they will essentially tell you what to focus on. Group study is also quite helpful. Lastly, don't leave discussion posts til last minute, just do them during class in the first few weeks so you don't have to worry about them.
very easy class in regards to the fact that the entire grade is just 3 quizzes so you don't have to show up to class or do any hw or assignments BUT if you mess up on any of the quizzes then you're done, finished, destroyed so prep very well for the quizzes and do very good and actually try 3 times
Grade consists of 3 quizzes (each 100 points) and 6 discussion posts (worth 50 points) for a total of 350. If you are happy with your percentage out of 350, you don't have to take the final.
Make sure to start studying for quizzes a few days in advance. Make quizlets/flashcards of lecture topics and go through discussion questions to make sure you understand the content in–depth.
Its not bad at all just review the slides before the test
Take it.
Its easy for bio topics
study for the quizzes
Take it! Highly recommend
You should definitely take this course!
This is a super fun, super easy class as long as you go to the lectures. You don't have to take the final if you like your grade from the homework discussion posts and three quizzes. The quizzes are easy as long as you review the material beforehand.