BIOS 10140 13 - Inquiry-based Exploration of Biology - Instructor(s): Carolyn Martineau

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

Number Enrolled: **30**
Number of Responses: **17**

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, March 28, 2024**

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

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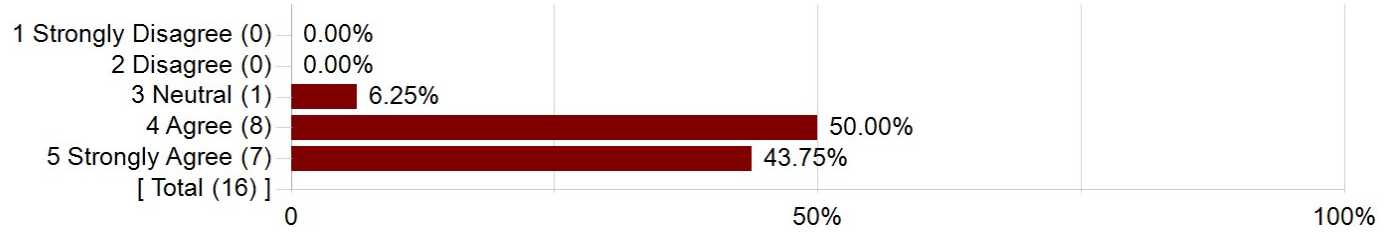

Statistics	Value
Response Count	16
Mean	4.38
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.62

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

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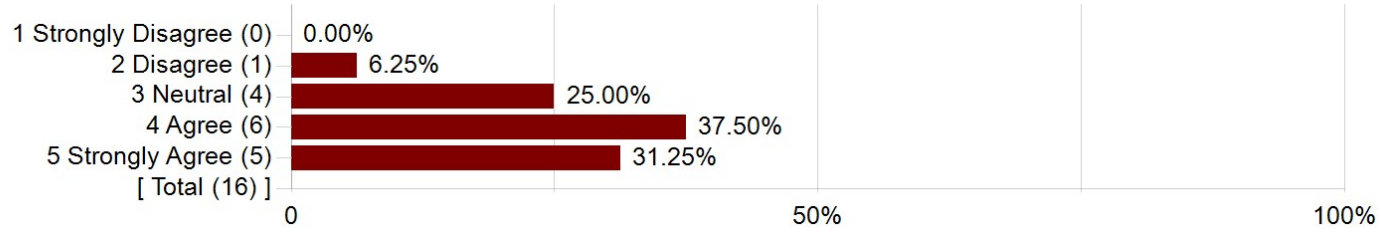

Statistics	Value
Response Count	16
Mean	3.94
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.93

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

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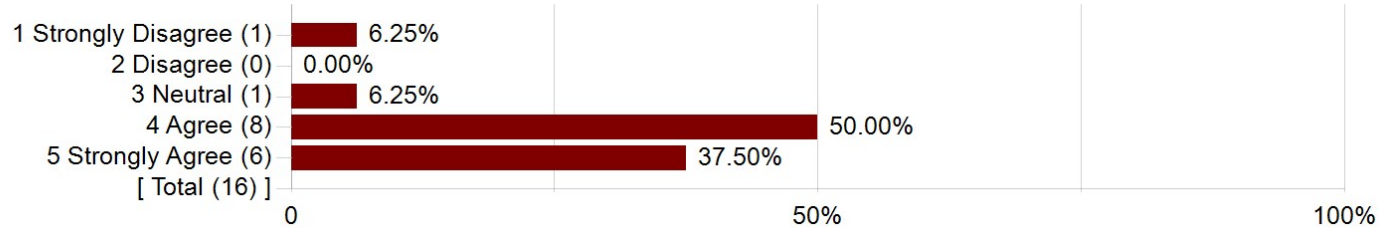

Statistics	Value
Response Count	16
Mean	4.13
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.02

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

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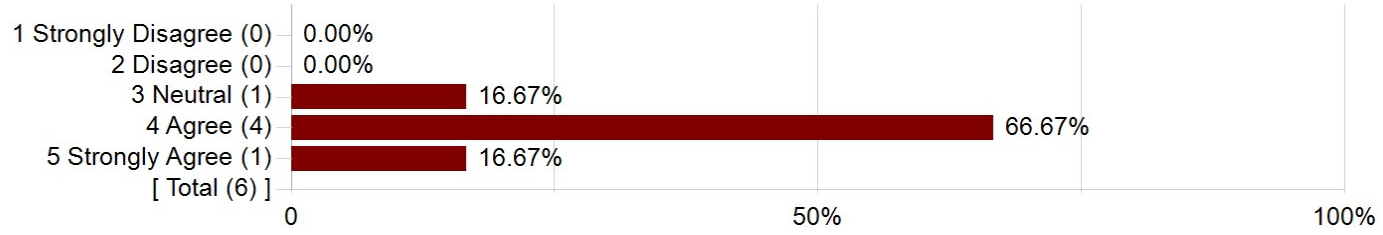
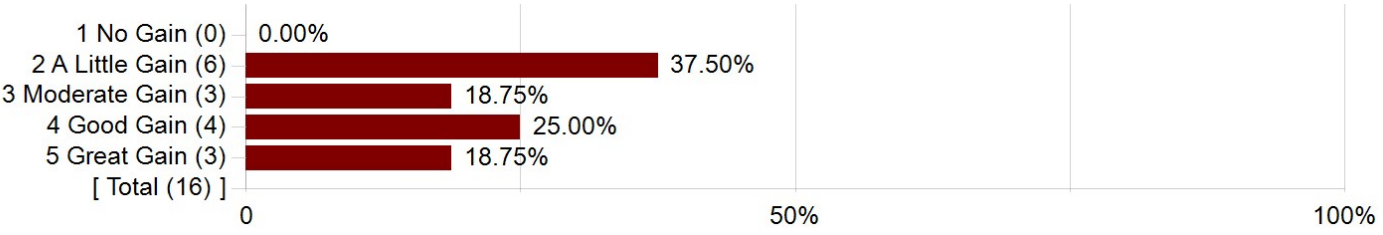


Statistics	Value
Response Count	6
Mean	4.00
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.63

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

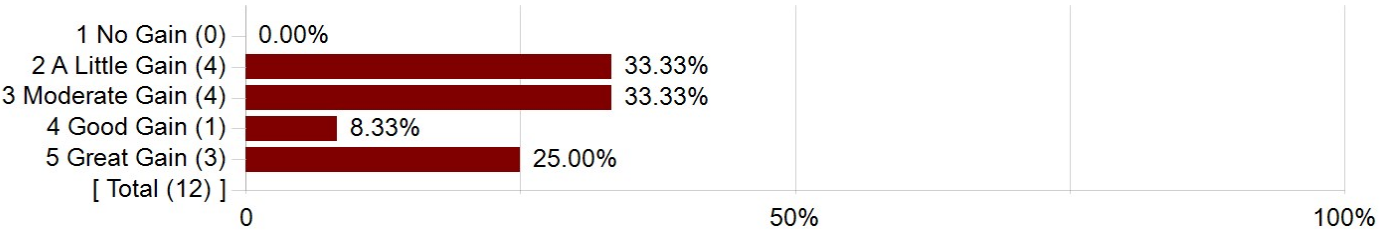
1. Classroom Lectures



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	6	37.50%
Moderate Gain	3	3	18.75%
Good Gain	4	4	25.00%
Great Gain	5	3	18.75%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	16
Mean	3.25
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	1.18

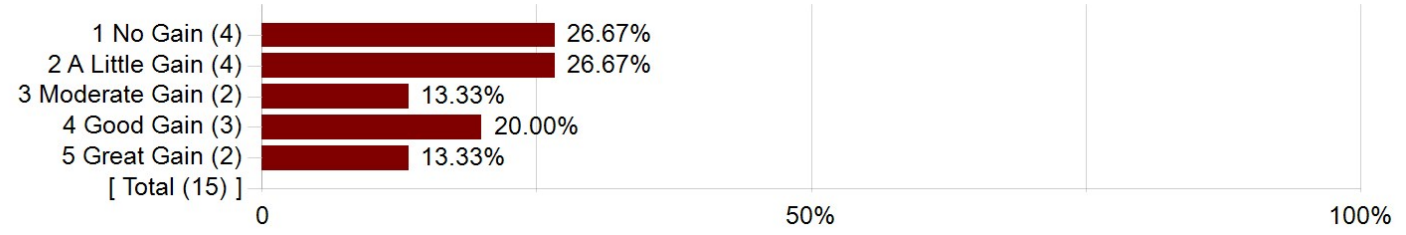
2. Classroom Discussions



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	4	33.33%
Moderate Gain	3	4	33.33%
Good Gain	4	1	8.33%
Great Gain	5	3	25.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	12
Mean	3.25
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	1.22

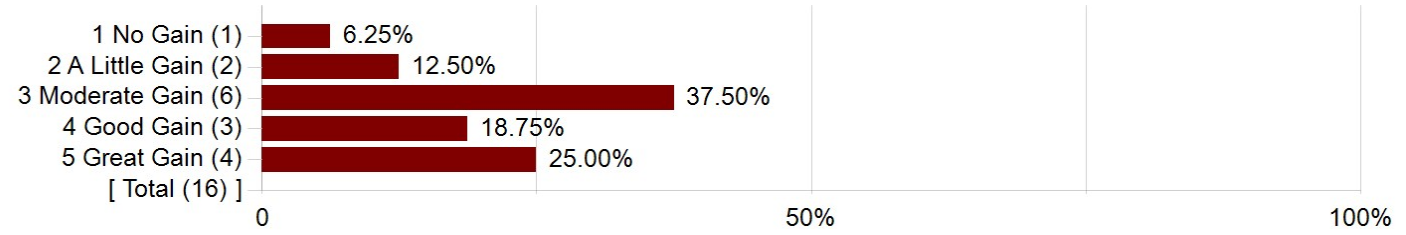
3. Assigned Readings



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	4	26.67%
A Little Gain	2	4	26.67%
Moderate Gain	3	2	13.33%
Good Gain	4	3	20.00%
Great Gain	5	2	13.33%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	15
Mean	2.67
Median	2.00
Standard Deviation	1.45

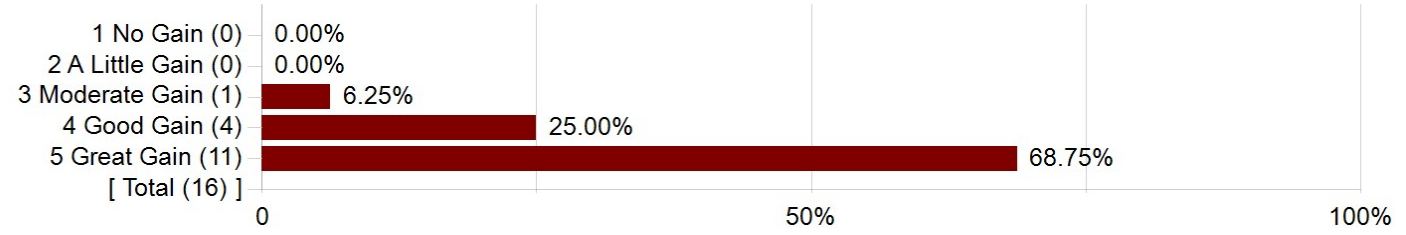
4. Homework Exercises



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	1	6.25%
A Little Gain	2	2	12.50%
Moderate Gain	3	6	37.50%
Good Gain	4	3	18.75%
Great Gain	5	4	25.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	16
Mean	3.44
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	1.21

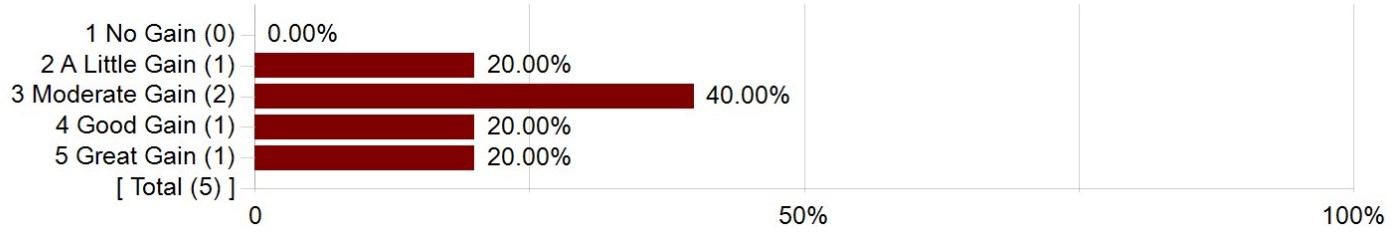
5. Lab Experiences



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	0	0.00%
Moderate Gain	3	1	6.25%
Good Gain	4	4	25.00%
Great Gain	5	11	68.75%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	16
Mean	4.63
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.62

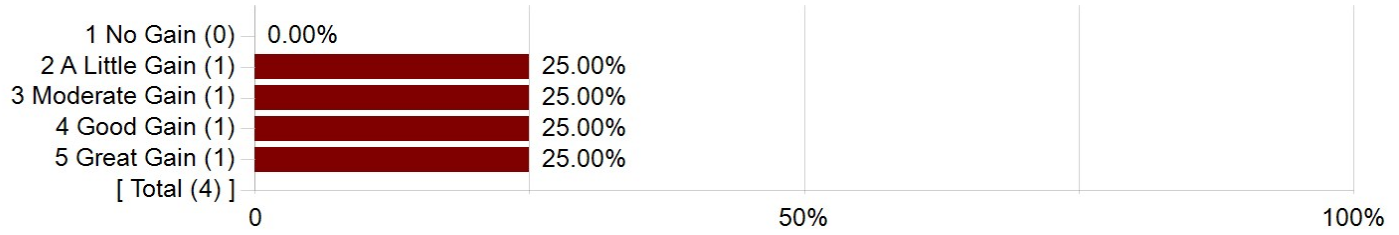
6. Discussion Sessions



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	1	20.00%
Moderate Gain	3	2	40.00%
Good Gain	4	1	20.00%
Great Gain	5	1	20.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	3.40
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	1.14

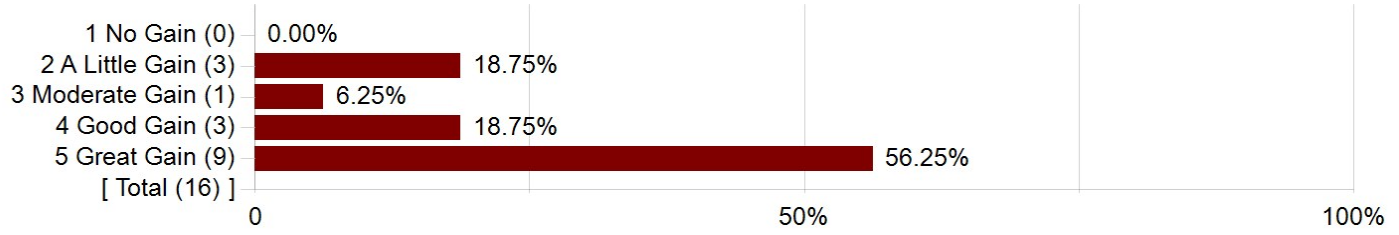
7. Review Sessions



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	1	25.00%
Moderate Gain	3	1	25.00%
Good Gain	4	1	25.00%
Great Gain	5	1	25.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	3.50
Median	3.50
Standard Deviation	1.29

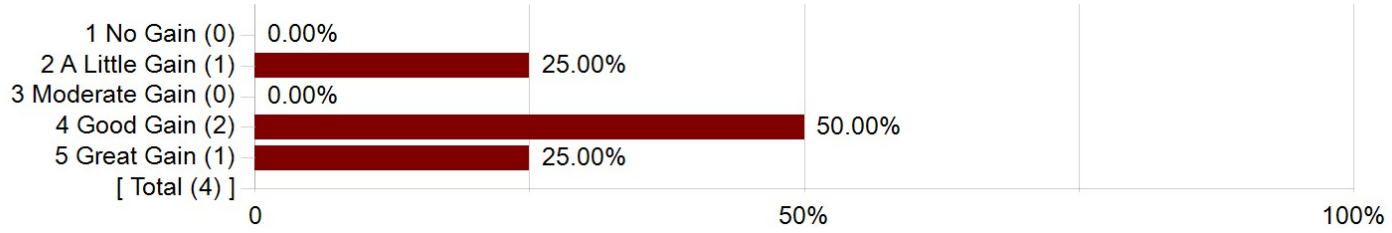
8. Interactions with Other Students



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	3	18.75%
Moderate Gain	3	1	6.25%
Good Gain	4	3	18.75%
Great Gain	5	9	56.25%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	16
Mean	4.13
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.20

9. Faculty Office Hours

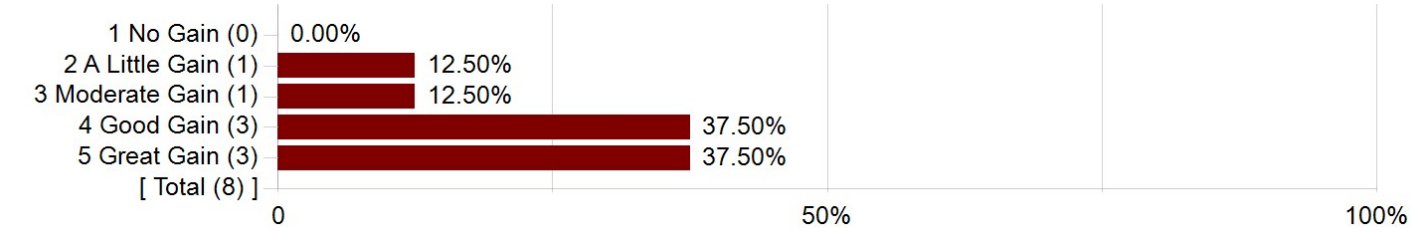


Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	1	25.00%
Moderate Gain	3	0	0.00%
Good Gain	4	2	50.00%
Great Gain	5	1	25.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	3.75
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.26

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

10. Teaching Assistant Office Hours



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	1	12.50%
Moderate Gain	3	1	12.50%
Good Gain	4	3	37.50%
Great Gain	5	3	37.50%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	8
Mean	4.00
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.07

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 to use various experimental setups to research the effects of social/environmental factors on Drosophila in different sex.
I learned a lot about constructing a scientific experiment to test a hypothesis and all the components needed for a successful experiment. The material on the lectures could be unclear at times and more explanations on them would be very helpful.
I learned how to run a bio lab and that's super cool! I also learned how to write a research proposal.
I learned how to succeed in a lab environment.
Although learning about biology concepts was enjoyable, I mainly learned how to develop lab skills such as setting up an experiment and performing an analysis. The course is pretty much multiple experimental designs per week and now I feel so much more prepared to engage in research or lab–based activities. Before, I always thought research was some scary thing only very smart people could do.
The most important thing I learned in the course was how to conduct a research experiment and take significant results away from my data. However, I honestly did not take a lot of biology concepts away from this course. I feel as though all of the biology knowledge I am leaving with I already learned in high school and none of the new material was presented/taught in a manner that facilitated my understanding of it.
Labs were most helpful and interesting
Getting familiar with lab activities and procedures
nothing
I think that learning about the biological mechanisms was interesting and important, but I think much of the content of the lectures is still unclear to me.

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

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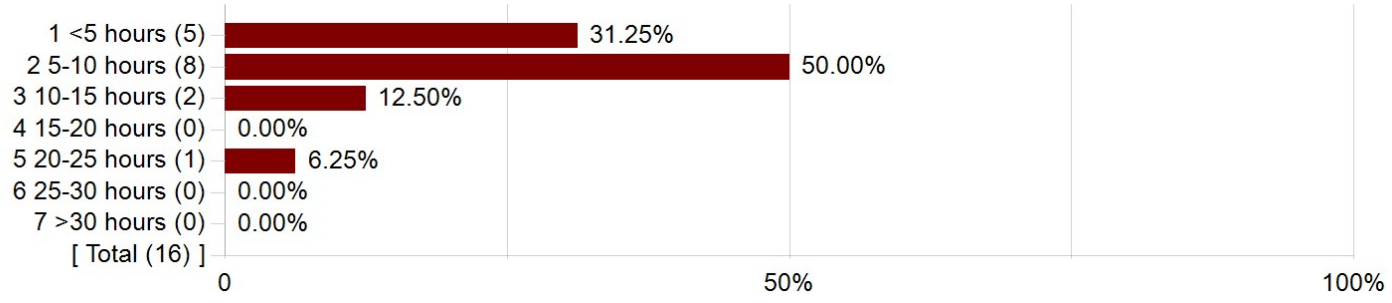
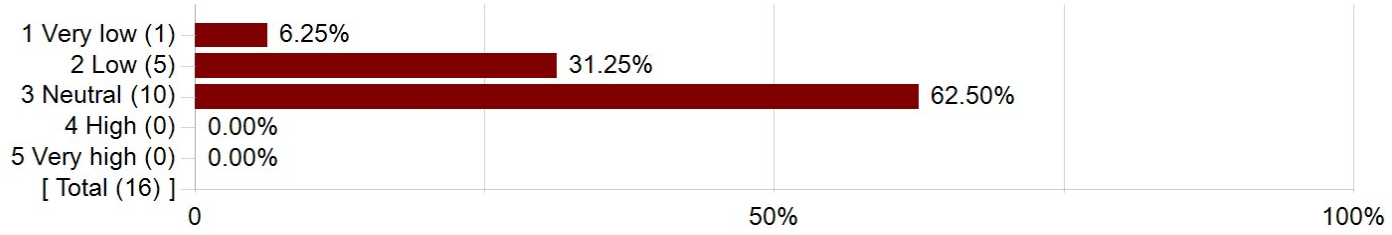


Statistics	Value
Response Count	16
Mean	2.00
Median	2.00
Standard Deviation	1.03

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

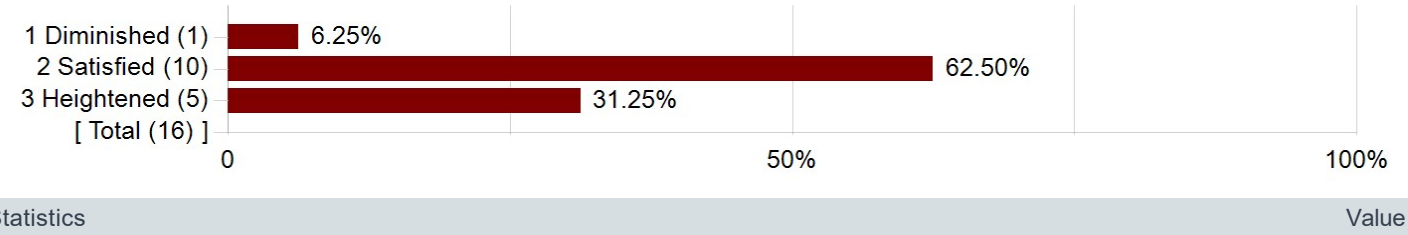
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	16
Mean	2.56
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	0.63

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Now that this class is over, your interest is?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	16
Mean	2.25
Median	2.00
Standard Deviation	0.58

Overall, this was an excellent course.

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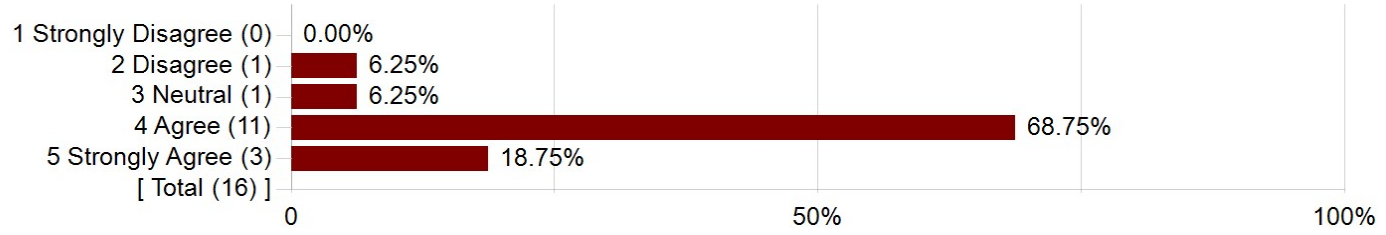


Statistics	Value
Response Count	16
Mean	4.00
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.73

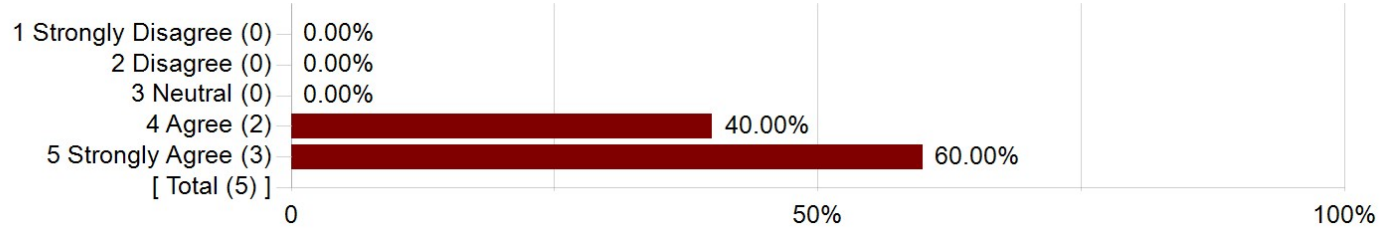
Please share any advice you have for students who are considering taking the course.

Comments
Make sure you communicate well with your group, because that will really help you understand the course materials and will make class more engaging.
Homework (specifically concept checkpoints) can be hard, may need you to pay extra attention to class. Overall, attend the classes (the labs are with the class, so remember to participate for group project), and you should do well.
It's a lot of work. That said, I think it's a fun way to fulfill a bio credit as long as you are ok with killing some flies.
This is a great option to fulfill the BIOS core!
This group involves a lot of group work. I had to meet with my group for 2–4 hours a week to complete lab responses and research project assignments. Ensure you find a good group you want to work with that will communicate well!
take it its easy but get ready for the long labs
Maybe it would be enjoyable if you had an interest in the material, but it was a substantial amount of work for a core bio class. Definitely not an easy A – quite the contrary.
If you try in this class, you will succeed.

Laboratory Meetings

For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.

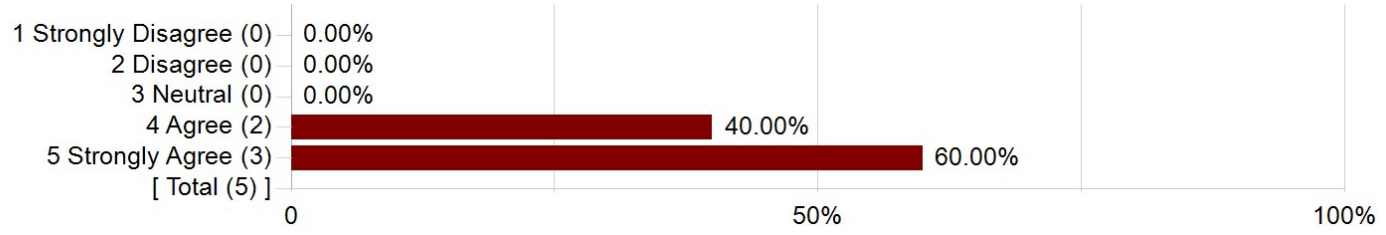
1. The laboratory protocols and instructions were clear and well organized.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	2	40.00%
Strongly Agree	5	3	60.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	4.60
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.55

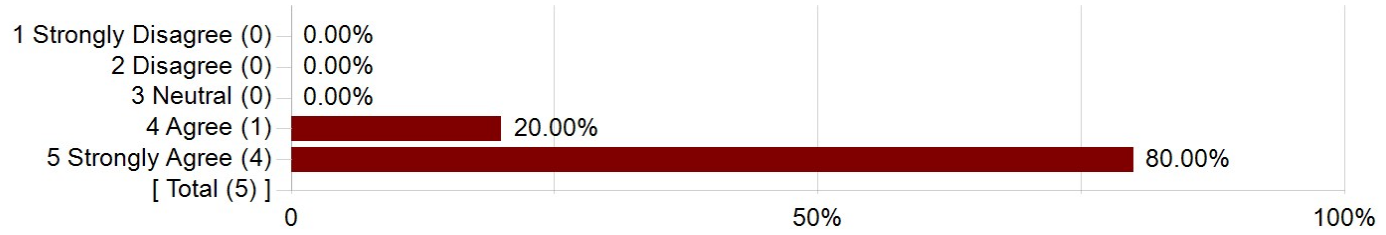
2. Materials and equipment needed for performing the exercises were readily available.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	2	40.00%
Strongly Agree	5	3	60.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	4.60
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.55

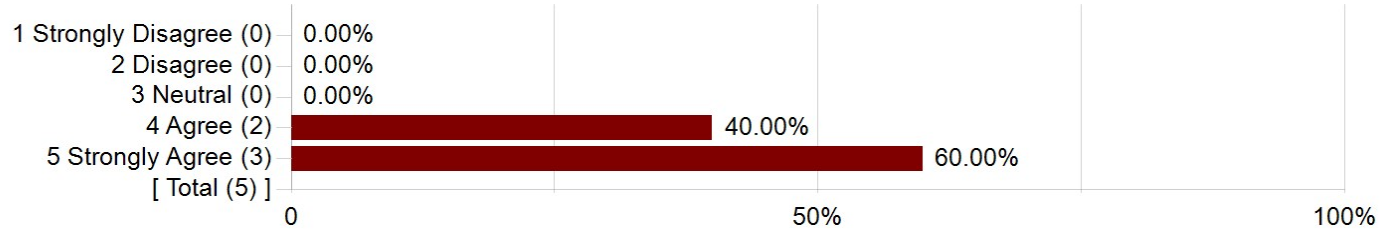
3. The lab exercises had clear educational goals.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	1	20.00%
Strongly Agree	5	4	80.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	4.80
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.45

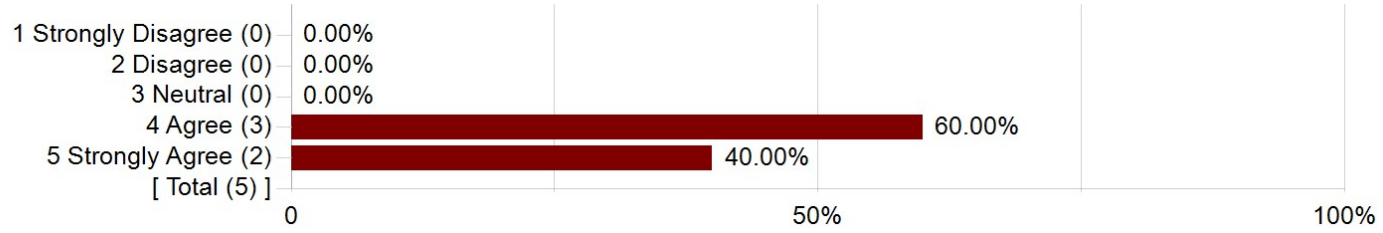
4. The goals of the lab exercises were well integrated with the overall objectives of the course.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	2	40.00%
Strongly Agree	5	3	60.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	4.60
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.55

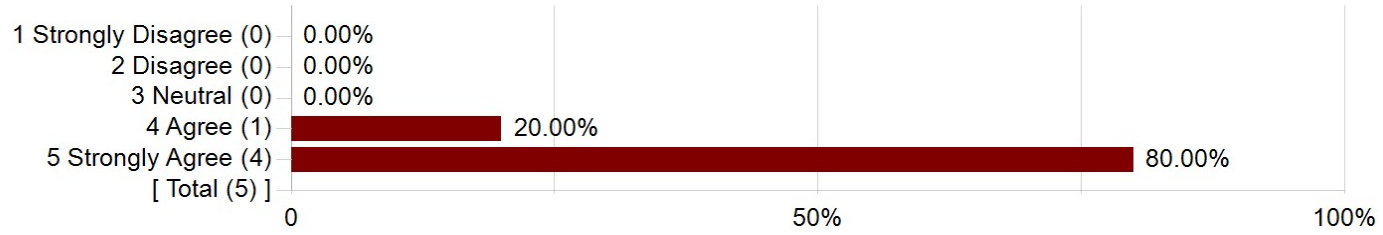
5. The lab exercises explored course topics in ways that could not have been accomplished in lecture or discussion.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	3	60.00%
Strongly Agree	5	2	40.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	4.40
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.55

6. Overall, this was an excellent laboratory experience.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	1	20.00%
Strongly Agree	5	4	80.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	4.80
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.45

The time allocated for completing the lab was:

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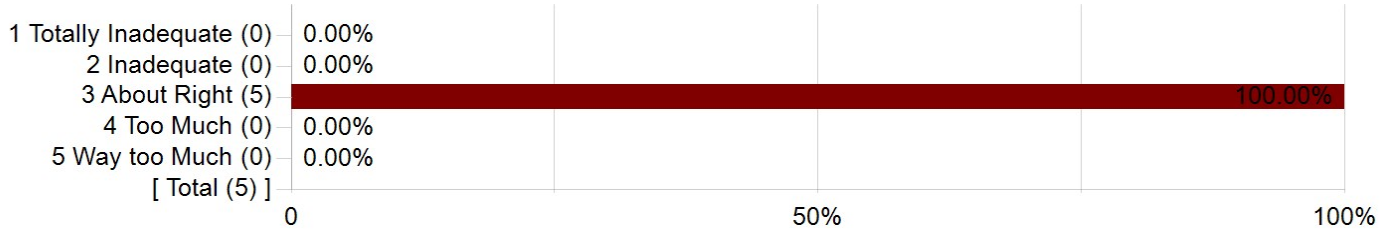

Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	3.00
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	0.00

What observational, analytical, or technical skills did you gain during the laboratory exercises that enhanced your understanding of how biologists answer questions in this particular field?

Comments
One of the skills I gained was figuring out how to quantify observations to get meaningful data, and them interpreting that data.
The labs were honestly just fun! Lots of time to chat and do some cool stuff with flies.
I gained a familiarity with basic lab procedure along with common methods and terminology.

Please share any recommendations to improve the laboratory learning experience.

Comments
As long as you have a good group you should be good. The TA's and the professor are always there to help also.
It was very enjoyable and I learned a lot.

Please comment on how well this class met your expectations for an Inquiry-Based Biology course based on prior Core courses.

Comments
It did meet my expectations because it seemed challenging and though provoking like a core class, but the grade distribution makes it easier to get an A.
I was not excited for bio, but I ended up liking the class.
It was great! Im glad I took inquiry over principals, I think I gained a much better understanding through hands on experience.
This was my first UChicago Science–Core course and I found the Inquiry Based form very engaging. It was useful to be able to complete labs right after learning the information.
It was a lot like what I expected it to be: labs and lab reports
I think that this course went in many different directions and I am unsure whether I am prepared for the second sequence of bio.
This class met expectations for a non–STEM major class.

Please comment on how well the assigned readings and instructor support prepared you to engage in course content and activities.

Comments
The readings and lectures were always on topic, and did give us context to do labs, but they were mostly meant for the concept checkpoints.
I love this instructure. She's super cool and a great teacher.
The assigned readings were interesting but not necessary to gain an understanding of the material. Lecture was very informative and covered almost everything on the concept checkpoints.
The readings were optional but I found them somewhat useful. They are helpful so then you can better understand the lecture in class.
Assigned readings were not particularly helpful; instructor offered support outside of class well
It could be hard to motivate myself to do the readings because they were relatively unnecessary for participating in the class.

Please comment on topics and/or activities that contributed most to your interest in and/or engagement with course material.

Comments
The labs were the most helpful activities.
I really liked the labs because they made stuff we read about real.
The labs were the most interesting and engaging part of the experience. Working with drosophila was an eye–opening experience into the animal world.
Labs with flies were a new experience and proved to be engaging

Please comment on topics and/or activities that best supported the development of your scientific knowledge and/or skills.

Comments
The lab procedures helped me learn more about making a scientific experiment.
I took a bio class my sophomore of high school and just prayed.
Repeating the scientific and lab process over and over was repetitive but extremely helpful. I am now able to understand and interpret complex lab reports published and journals and I can more confidently set up an experiment to test any ideas I have.
Overall, being able to work in a lab setting was most helpful