BIOS 10140 16 - Inquiry-based Exploration of Biology - Instructor(s) - Megan McNulty

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

Number Enrolled: **27**
Number of Responses: **11**

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.

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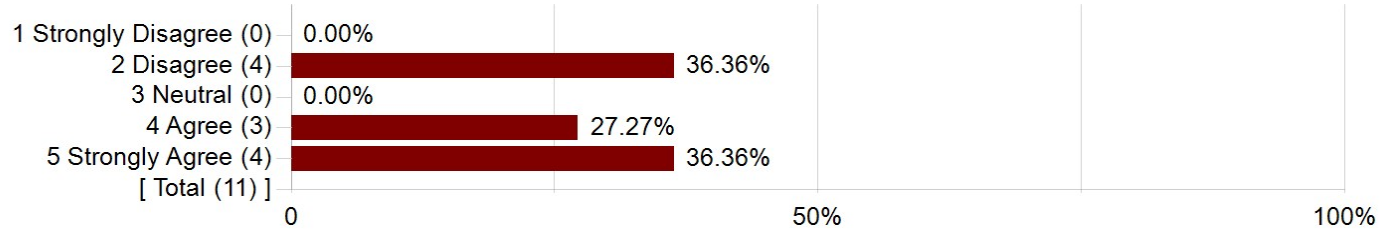

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	3.64
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.36

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

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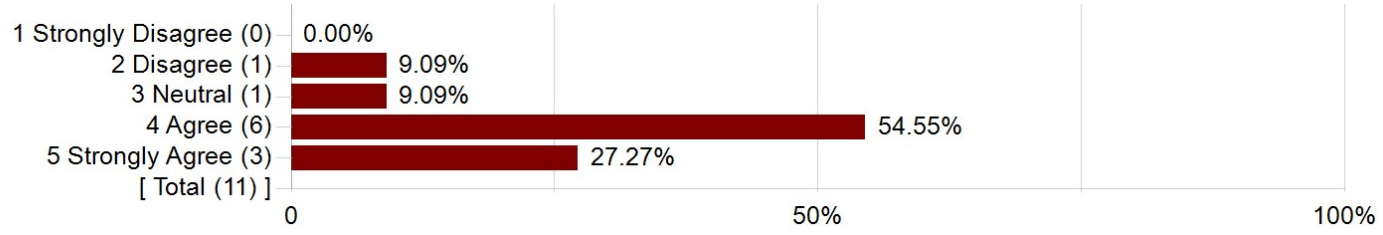

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	4.00
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.89

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

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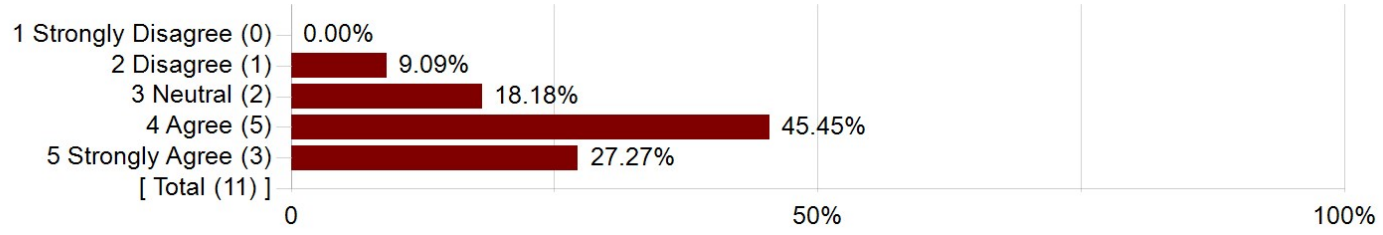

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	3.91
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.94

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

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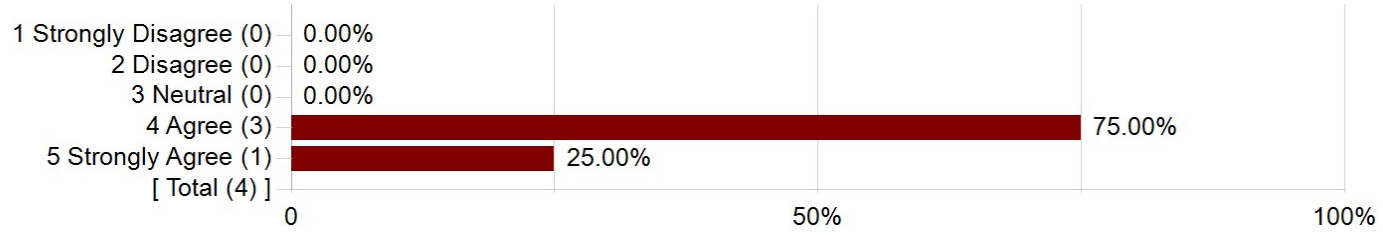
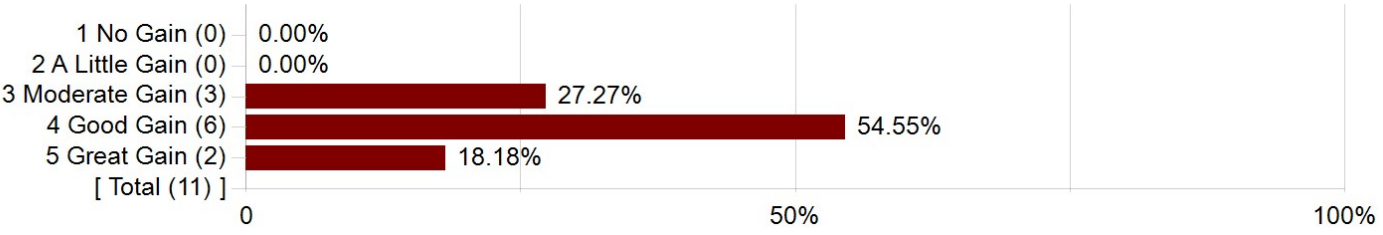


Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	4.25
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.50

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

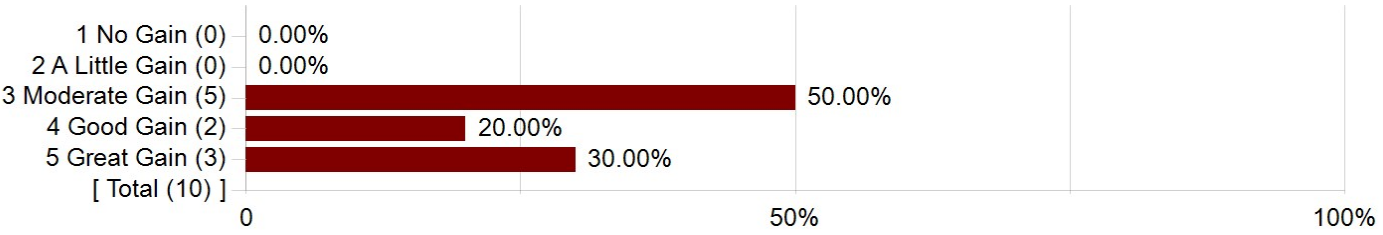
1. Classroom Lectures



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	0	0.00%
Moderate Gain	3	3	27.27%
Good Gain	4	6	54.55%
Great Gain	5	2	18.18%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	3.91
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.70

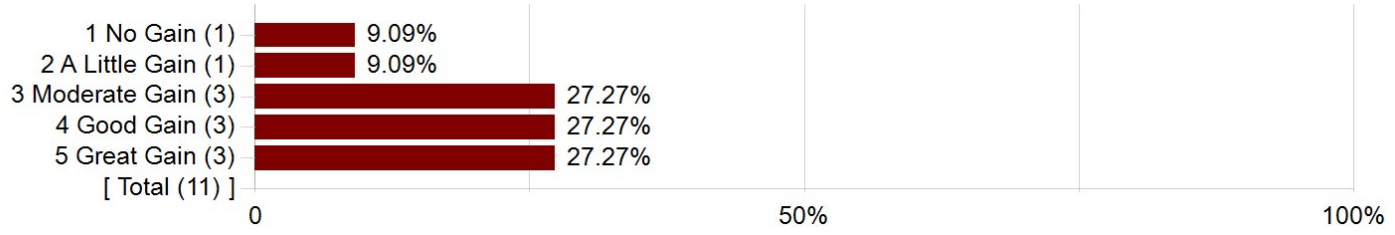
2. Classroom Discussions



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	0	0.00%
Moderate Gain	3	5	50.00%
Good Gain	4	2	20.00%
Great Gain	5	3	30.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	10
Mean	3.80
Median	3.50
Standard Deviation	0.92

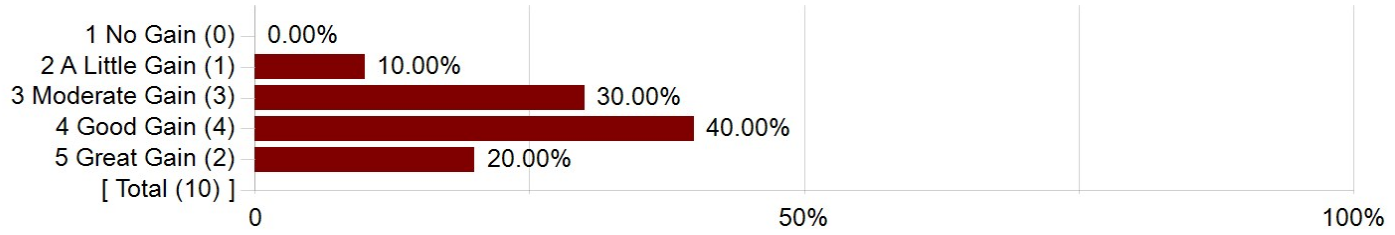
3. Assigned Readings



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	1	9.09%
A Little Gain	2	1	9.09%
Moderate Gain	3	3	27.27%
Good Gain	4	3	27.27%
Great Gain	5	3	27.27%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	3.55
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.29

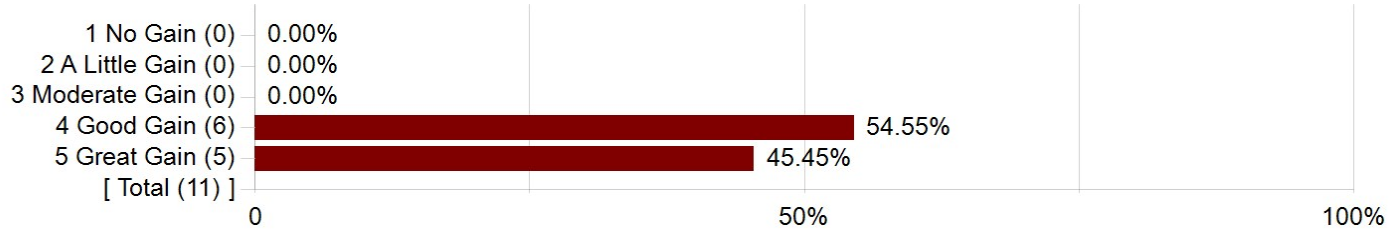
4. Homework Exercises



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	1	10.00%
Moderate Gain	3	3	30.00%
Good Gain	4	4	40.00%
Great Gain	5	2	20.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	10
Mean	3.70
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.95

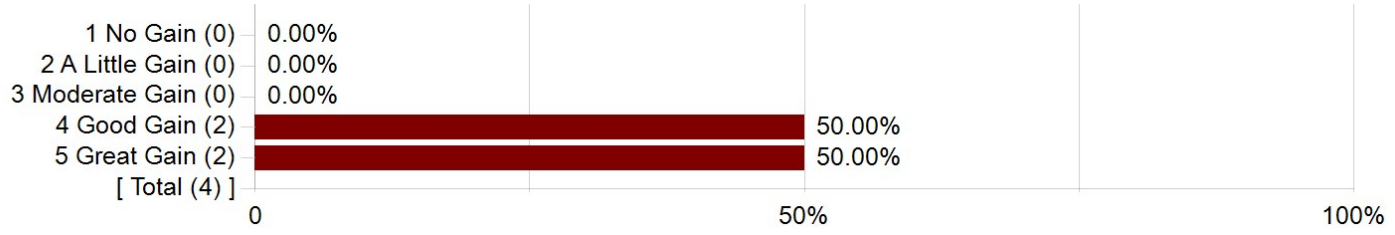
5. Lab Experiences



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	0	0.00%
Moderate Gain	3	0	0.00%
Good Gain	4	6	54.55%
Great Gain	5	5	45.45%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	4.45
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.52

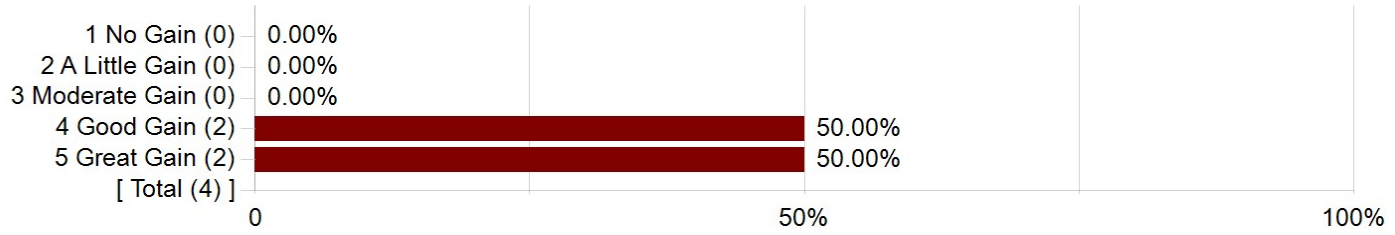
6. Discussion Sessions



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

Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	4.50
Median	4.50
Standard Deviation	0.58

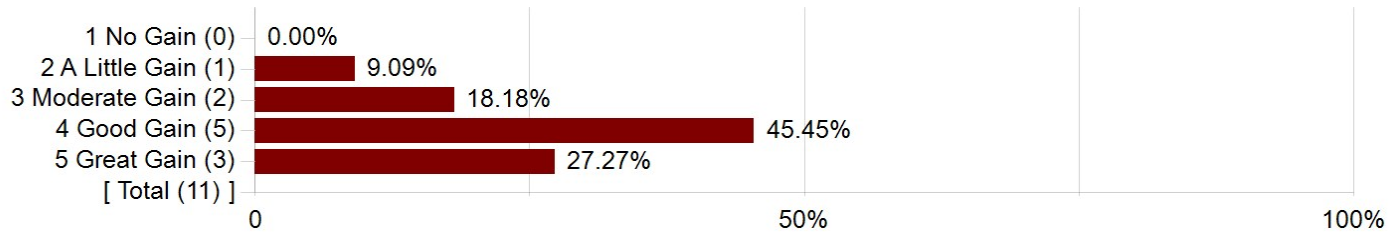
7. Review Sessions



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

Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	4.50
Median	4.50
Standard Deviation	0.58

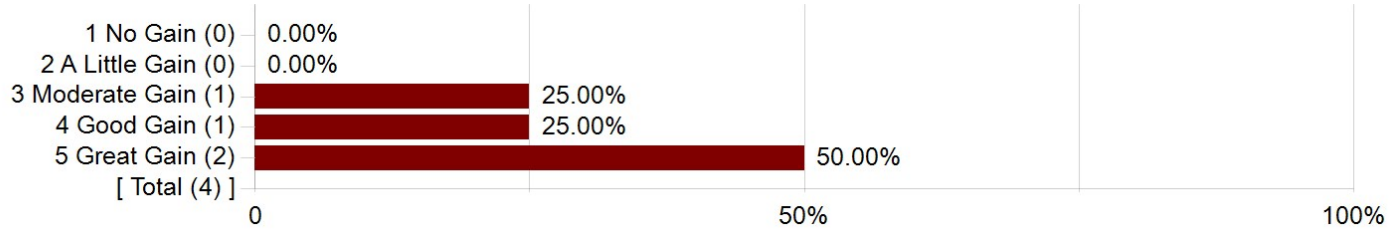
8. Interactions with Other Students



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	1	9.09%
Moderate Gain	3	2	18.18%
Good Gain	4	5	45.45%
Great Gain	5	3	27.27%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	3.91
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.94

9. Faculty Office Hours

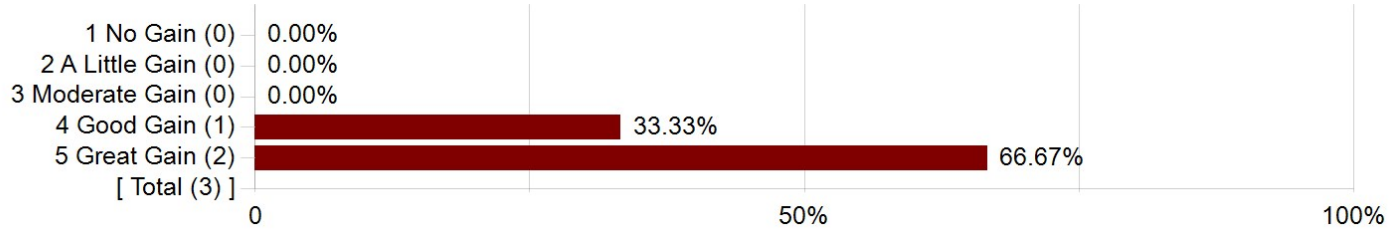


Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	0	0.00%
Moderate Gain	3	1	25.00%
Good Gain	4	1	25.00%
Great Gain	5	2	50.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	4.25
Median	4.50
Standard Deviation	0.96

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	0	0.00%
Moderate Gain	3	0	0.00%
Good Gain	4	1	33.33%
Great Gain	5	2	66.67%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	3
Mean	4.67
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.58

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
I learned about extended lab experimentation, which was very valuable to me. I wish I could have more clearly learned the mechanisms behind neurology, as I feel they were somewhat glossed over.
Lab expiernence
I got better in a lab setting which I find important.
I still don't completely understand the mechanism of base pairs and protein folding. But I really enjoyed learning about genetic variations and neural networks.
I learned about how the brain worked and the connections between dna, genes, and phenotype. I wish I could have learned more about the nervous system and how it worked with those. It felt like we talked about those mechanisms at the beginning and then they largely faded into the background.
The most important thing I learnt was how to design my own scientific experiment. I wish we could have learnt more about the human genome, and the applicability of C. elegans to the human context.
The most important thing to me that I learned in this course was about how organisms can react to their environment in many different ways, such as through evolutionary processes on a species–wide level or through phenotypic plasticity on an individual level. One aspect of the material that is still unclear to me, however, is epigenetic modifications, and I wish I could have learned them better.
Experimental design, epigenetics, working with C. elegans, neurological basis of behavior.
The most important aspect of this course to me was understanding the relationship between stimulus and learned behavior, which I also thought was one of the most interesting topics that was covered in this course. I am still slightly confused about the underlying mechanisms that cause signals to be fired / how the neurological system works, but I think that is also a result of the complexity of that topic.

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

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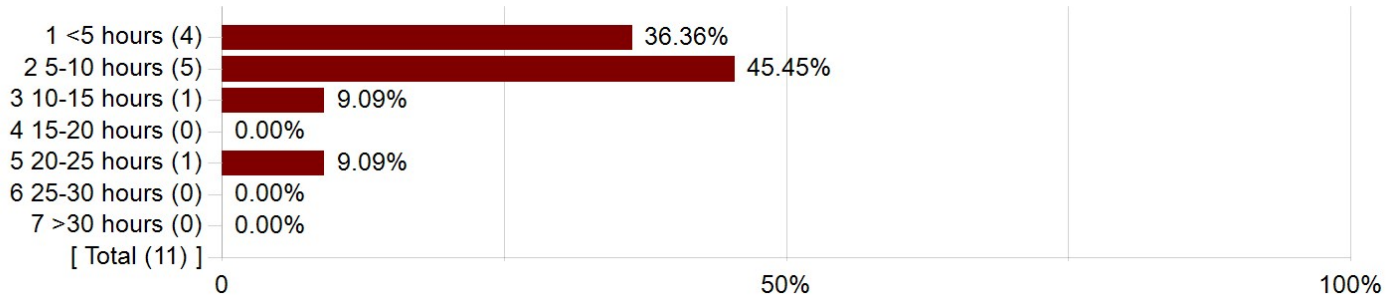
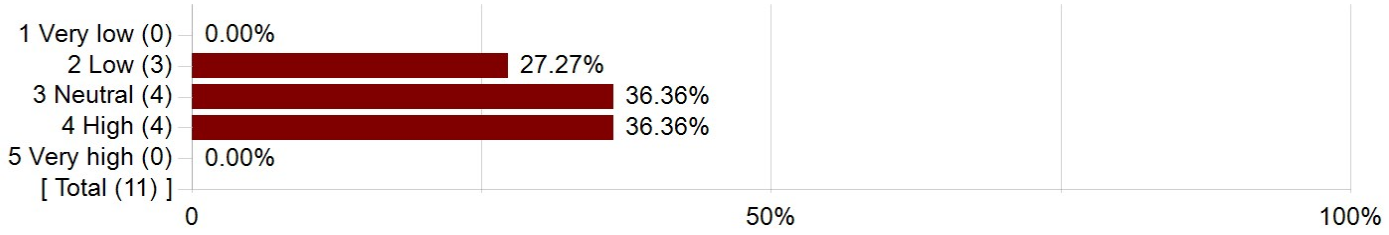


Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	2.00
Median	2.00
Standard Deviation	1.18

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

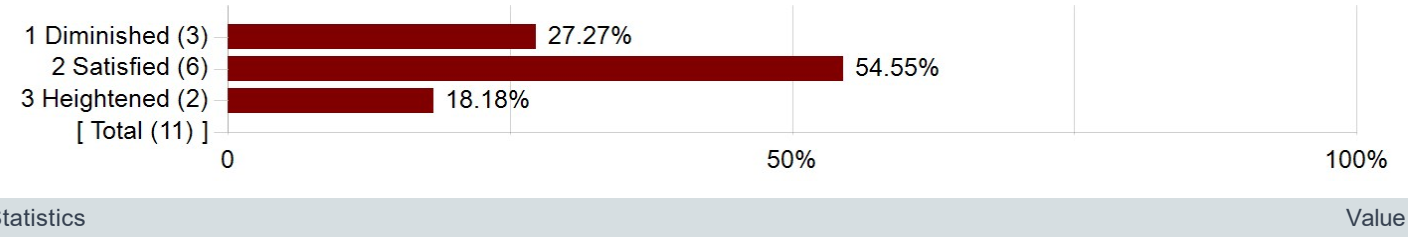
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	3.09
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	0.83

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Now that this class is over, your interest is?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	1.91
Median	2.00
Standard Deviation	0.70

Overall, this was an excellent course.

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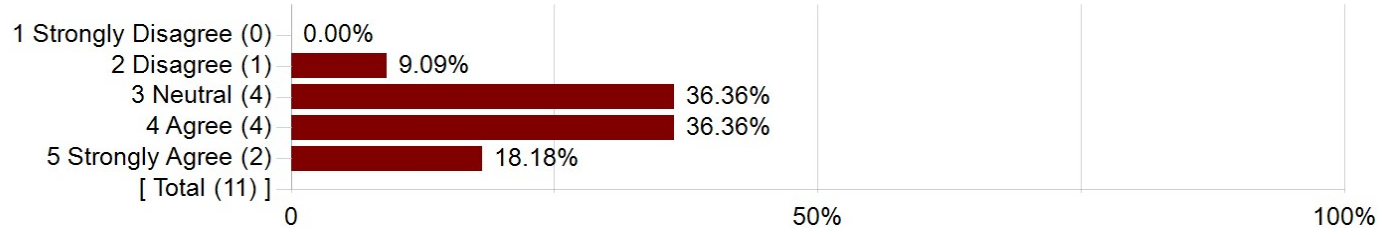


Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	3.64
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.92

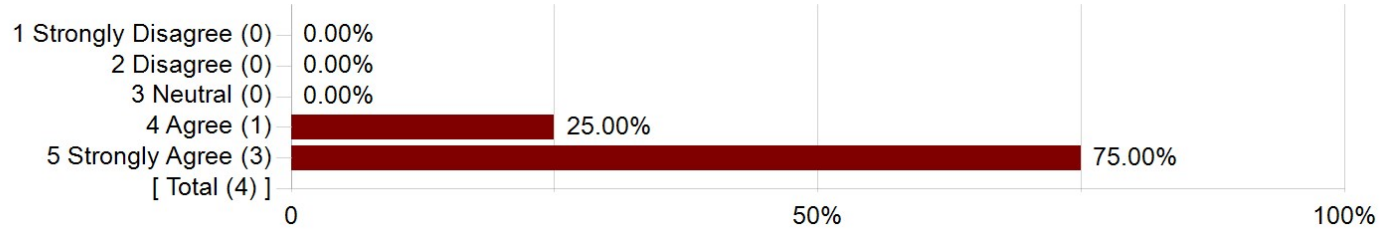
Please share any advice you have for students who are considering taking the course.

Comments
good profesor
Be super careful on every assignment to minimize losing points. They add up quickly and this is a class that is not difficult to get a good grade in.
I honestly don't recommend this class to anyone who is just trying to complete the core, because the grading is quite brutal. However, if you want to get something really meaningful out of your bio class, this is the class to take.
This class is not an easy A. If you work really hard it is possible, but you also need to understand how to write scientifically. If you struggle in science, it might be better to take a different class.
I would advice other students to pay a lot of attention in lecture because the professor goes off of the slides a lot, and sometimes for the checkpoints, there would be certain topics that were briefly touched on in the slides, but were more extensively discussed during lecture.
Quizzes are manageable if you make good use of all the class materials on Canvas.
This course is a lot of work, so make sure to plan roughly a week in advance for when you will complete certain assignments.

Laboratory Meetings

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

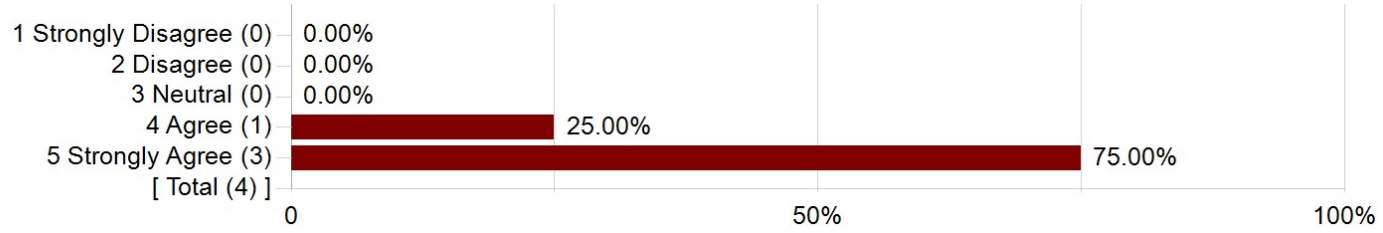
1. The laboratory protocols and instructions were clear and well organized.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	1	25.00%
Strongly Agree	5	3	75.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	4.75
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.50

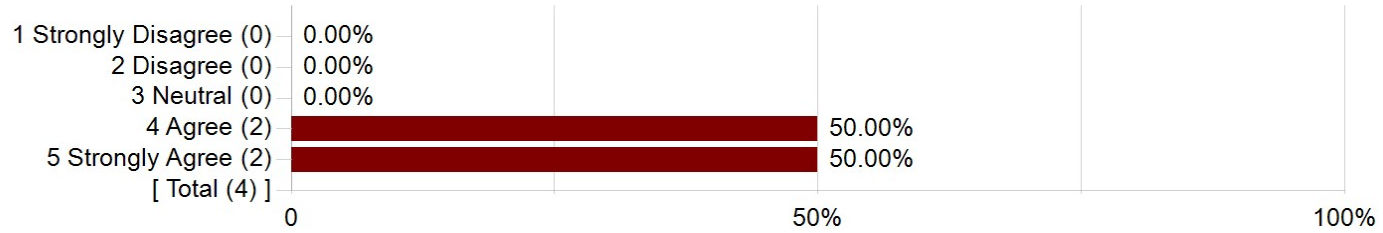
2. Materials and equipment needed for performing the exercises were readily available.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	1	25.00%
Strongly Agree	5	3	75.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	4.75
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.50

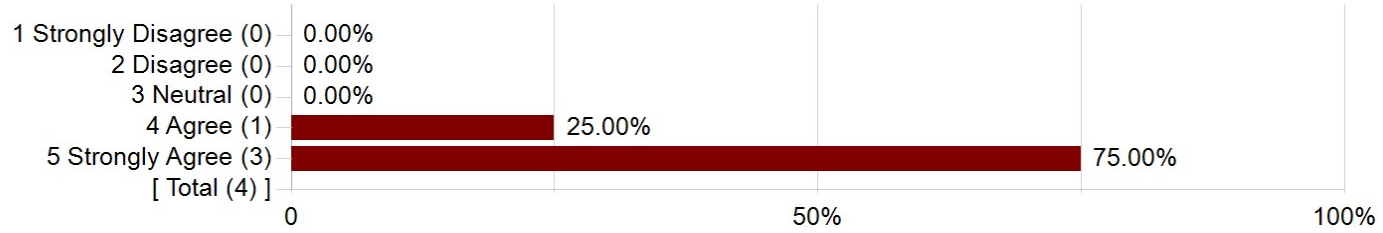
3. The lab exercises had clear educational goals.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	2	50.00%
Strongly Agree	5	2	50.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	4.50
Median	4.50
Standard Deviation	0.58

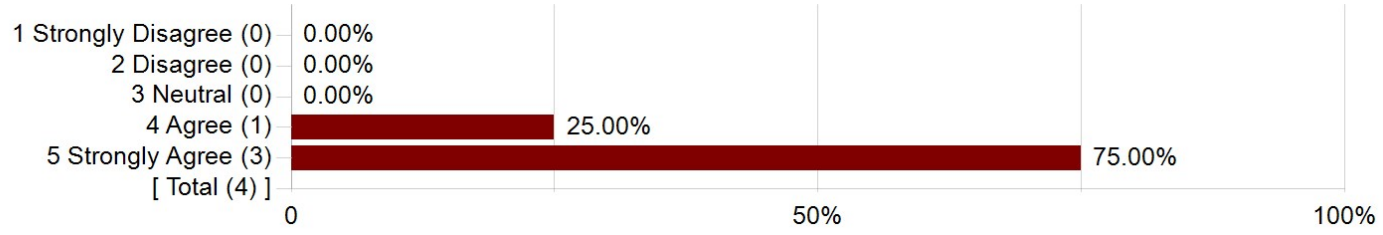
4. The goals of the lab exercises were well integrated with the overall objectives of the course.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	1	25.00%
Strongly Agree	5	3	75.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	4.75
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.50

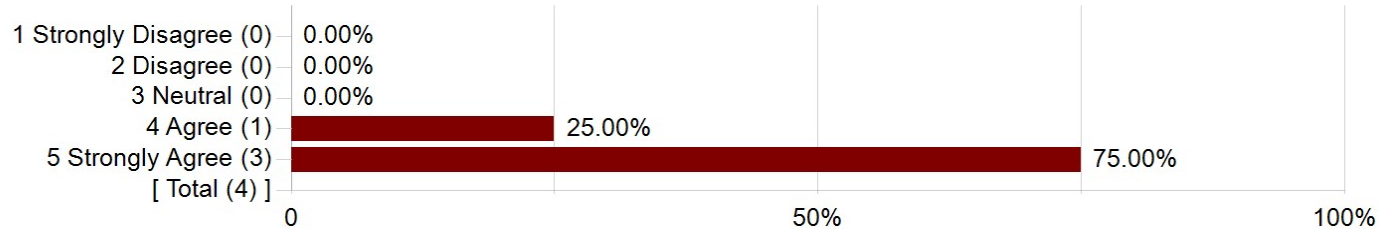
5. The lab exercises explored course topics in ways that could not have been accomplished in lecture or discussion.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	1	25.00%
Strongly Agree	5	3	75.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	4.75
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.50

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	25.00%
Strongly Agree	5	3	75.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	4.75
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.50

The time allocated for completing the lab was:

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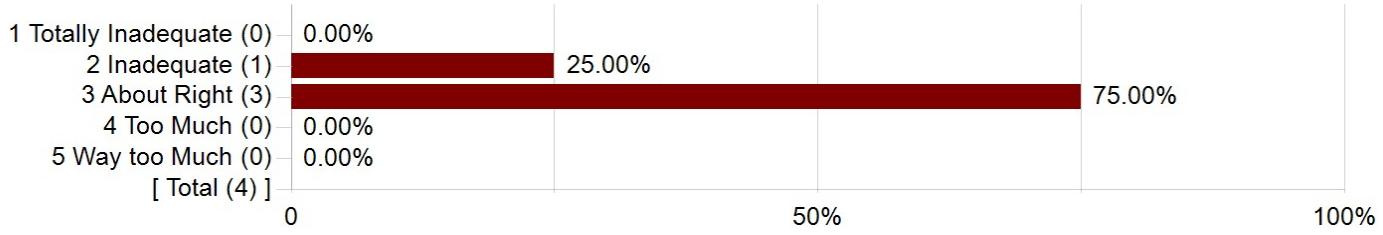

Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	2.75
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	0.50

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
I learnt how to create my own experiment and carry it out with technical lab equipment.
The observational, analytical, and technical skills that gained during the laboratory exercises that enhanced my understanding of how biologists answer questions in neurobiology were how to collect data in experiments, analyze the data collected in experiments, and conduct experiments.
Working with dissection microscopes, C. elegans. Chemotaxis assays.

Please share any recommendations to improve the laboratory learning experience.

Comments
The amount of time given for conducting experiments for the final project was slightly too inadequate, so increasing the number of days dedicated to conducting experiments or offering timeslots to conduct experiments outside of class would have improved the laboratory learning experience immensely.