



BIOS 10130 2 - Principles of Biology - Instructor(s): Alison Hunter

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2023**

Number Enrolled: **39**

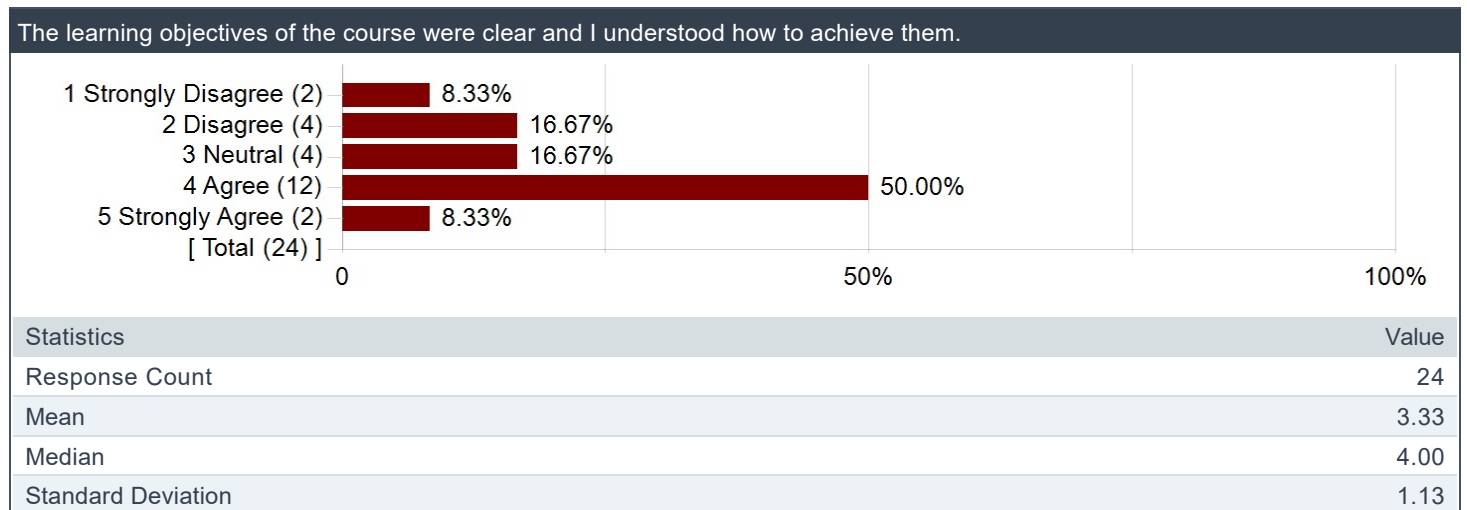
Number of Responses: **25**

Report Comments

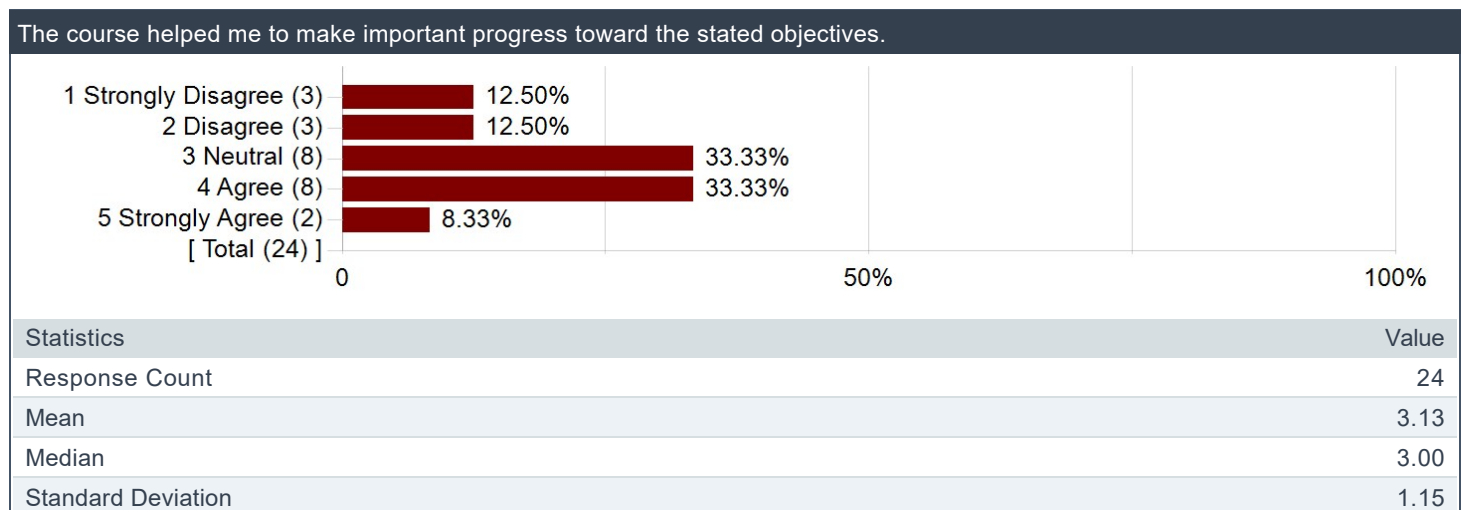
Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Friday, February 2, 2024**

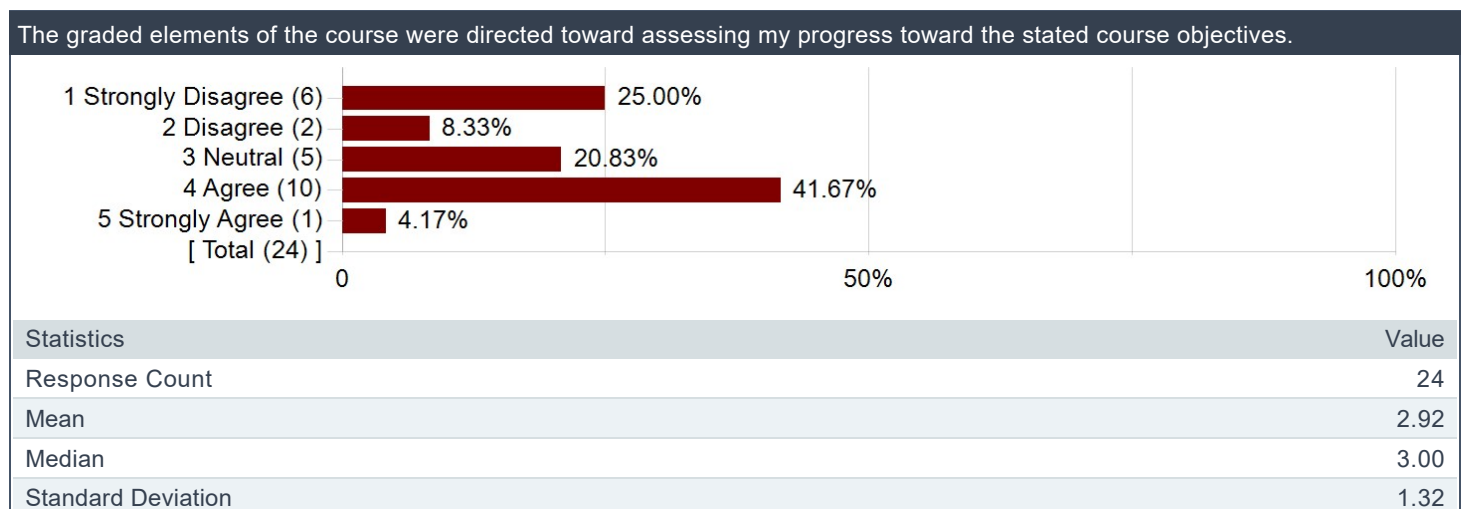
The learning objectives of the course were clear and I understood how to achieve them.



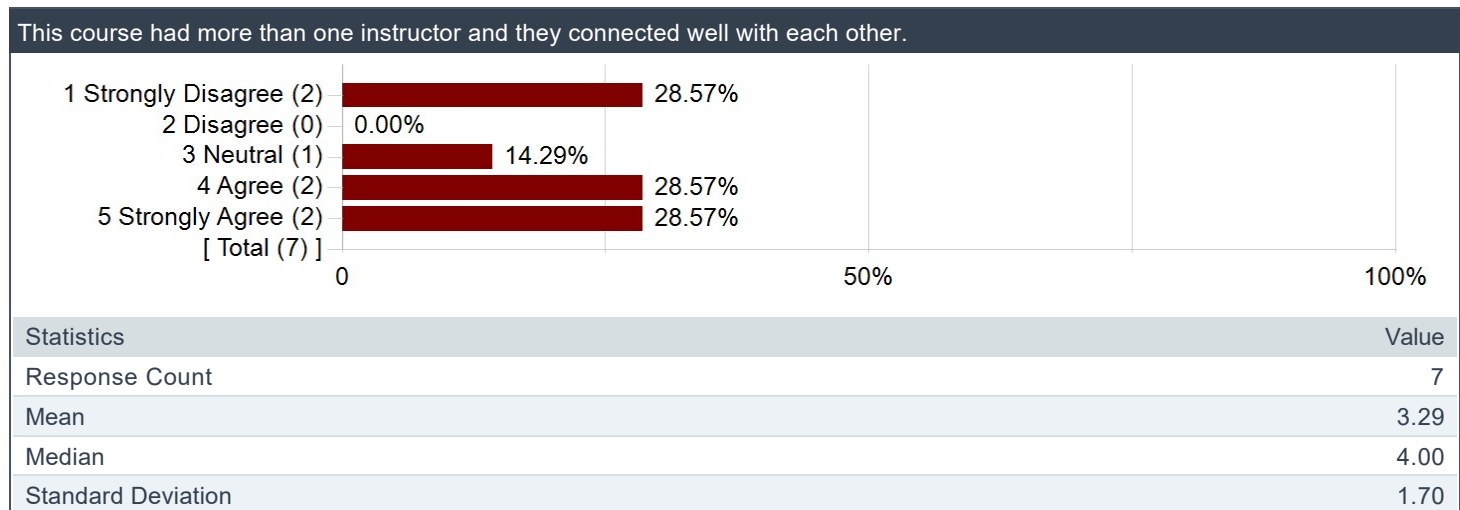
The course helped me to make important progress toward the stated objectives.



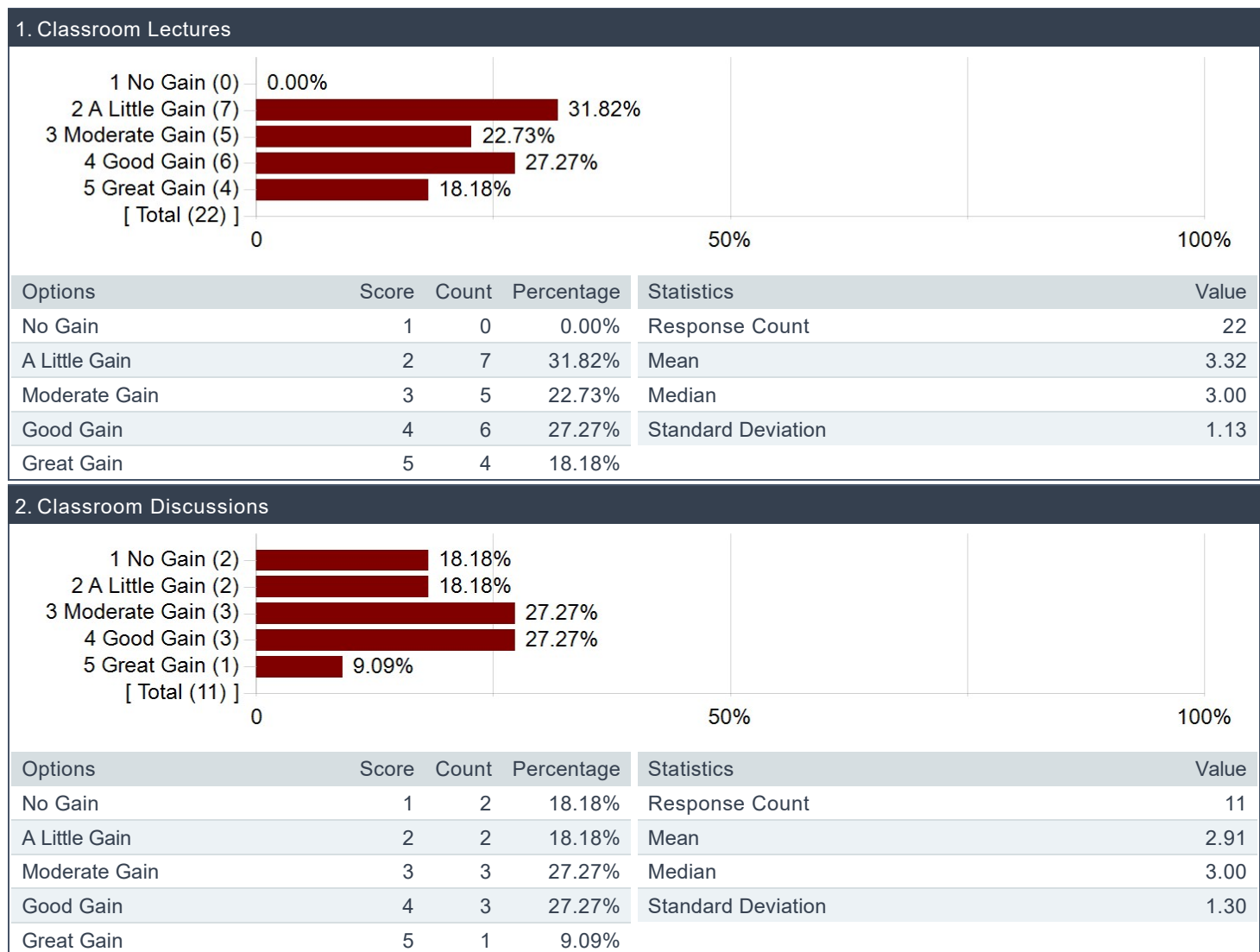
The graded elements of the course were directed toward assessing my progress toward the stated course objectives.



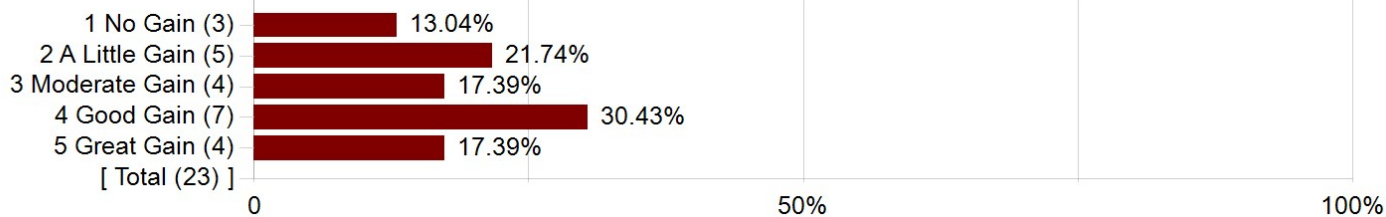
This course had more than one instructor and they connected well with each other.



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

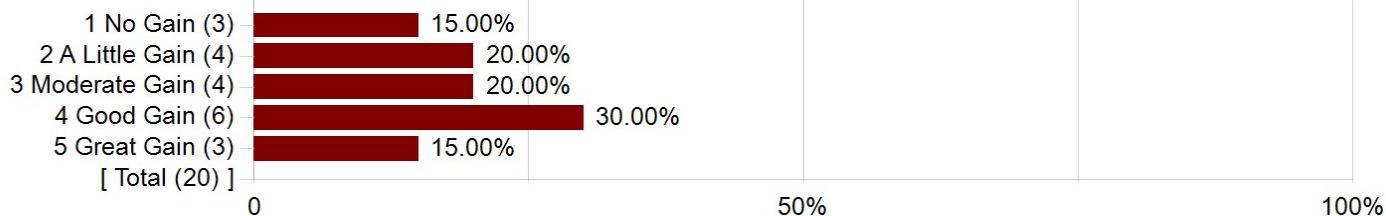


3. Assigned Readings



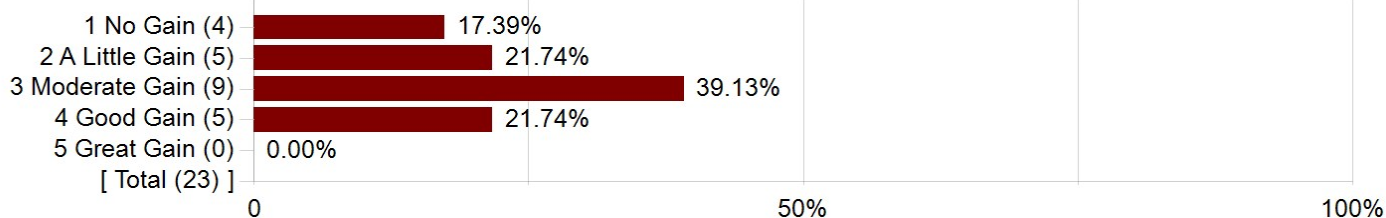
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	3	13.04%	Response Count	23
A Little Gain	2	5	21.74%	Mean	3.17
Moderate Gain	3	4	17.39%	Median	3.00
Good Gain	4	7	30.43%	Standard Deviation	1.34
Great Gain	5	4	17.39%		

4. Homework Exercises



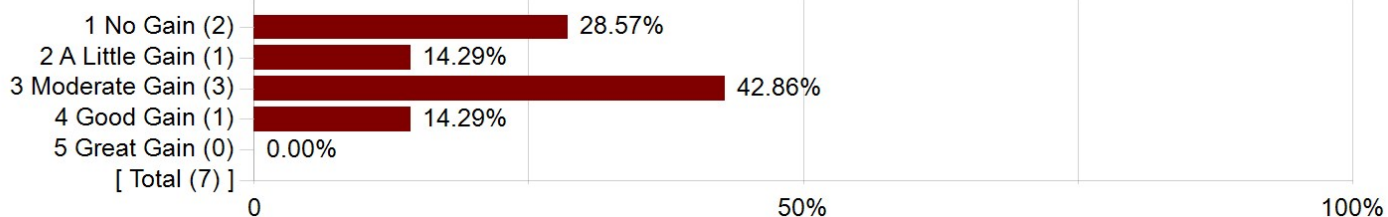
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	3	15.00%	Response Count	20
A Little Gain	2	4	20.00%	Mean	3.10
Moderate Gain	3	4	20.00%	Median	3.00
Good Gain	4	6	30.00%	Standard Deviation	1.33
Great Gain	5	3	15.00%		

5. Lab Experiences



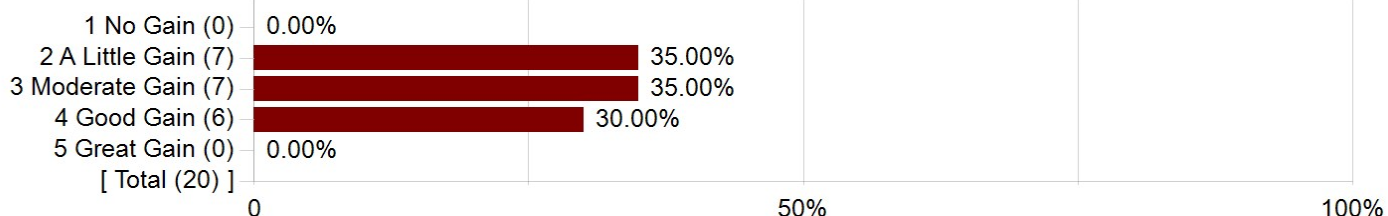
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	4	17.39%	Response Count	23
A Little Gain	2	5	21.74%	Mean	2.65
Moderate Gain	3	9	39.13%	Median	3.00
Good Gain	4	5	21.74%	Standard Deviation	1.03
Great Gain	5	0	0.00%		

6. Discussion Sessions



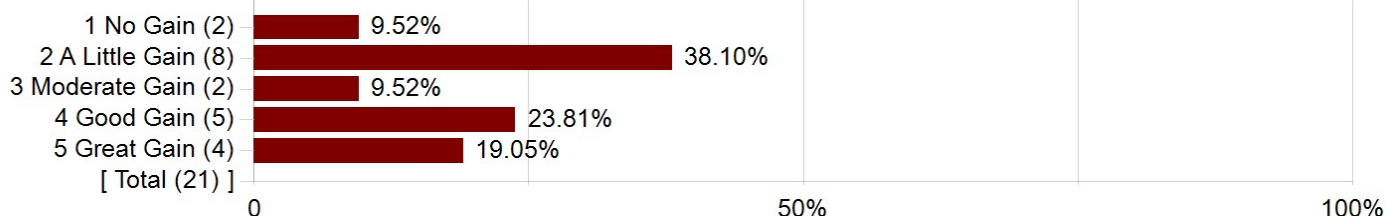
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	2	28.57%	Response Count	7
A Little Gain	2	1	14.29%	Mean	2.43
Moderate Gain	3	3	42.86%	Median	3.00
Good Gain	4	1	14.29%	Standard Deviation	1.13
Great Gain	5	0	0.00%		

7. Review Sessions



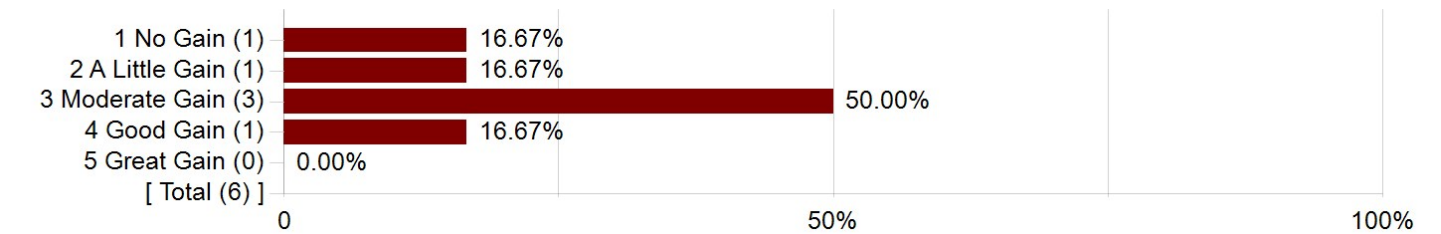
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	0	0.00%	Response Count	20
A Little Gain	2	7	35.00%	Mean	2.95
Moderate Gain	3	7	35.00%	Median	3.00
Good Gain	4	6	30.00%	Standard Deviation	0.83
Great Gain	5	0	0.00%		

8. Interactions with Other Students



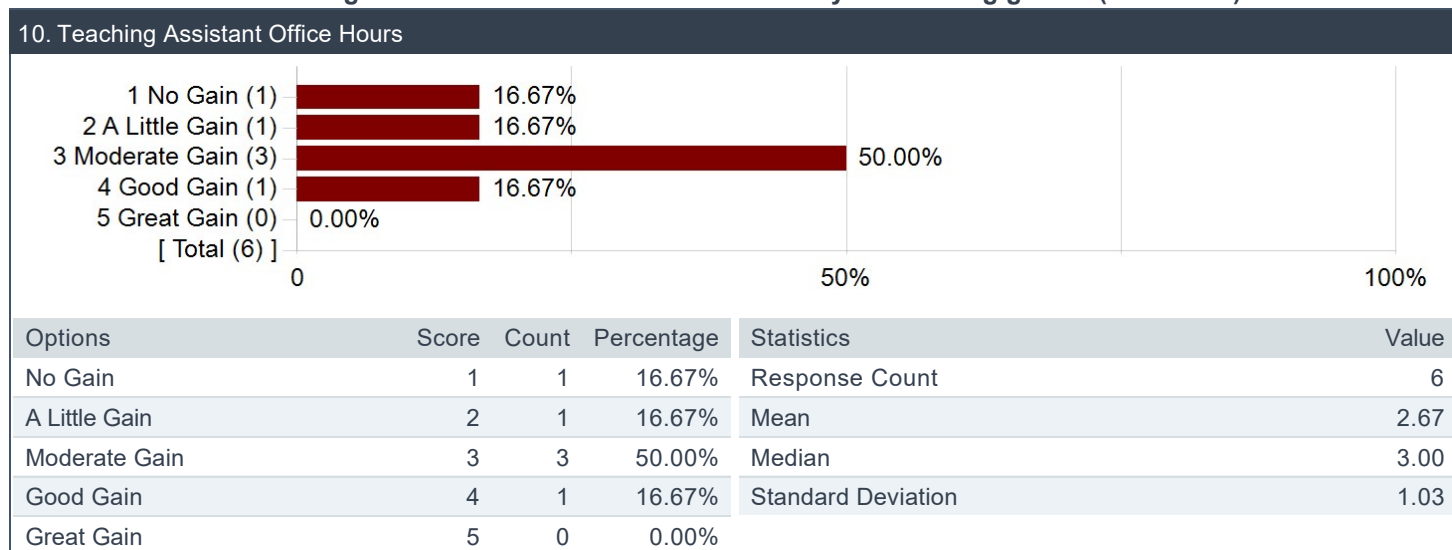
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	2	9.52%	Response Count	21
A Little Gain	2	8	38.10%	Mean	3.05
Moderate Gain	3	2	9.52%	Median	3.00
Good Gain	4	5	23.81%	Standard Deviation	1.36
Great Gain	5	4	19.05%		

9. Faculty Office Hours



Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
No Gain	1	1	16.67%	Response Count	6
A Little Gain	2	1	16.67%	Mean	2.67
Moderate Gain	3	3	50.00%	Median	3.00
Good Gain	4	1	16.67%	Standard Deviation	1.03
Great Gain	5	0	0.00%		

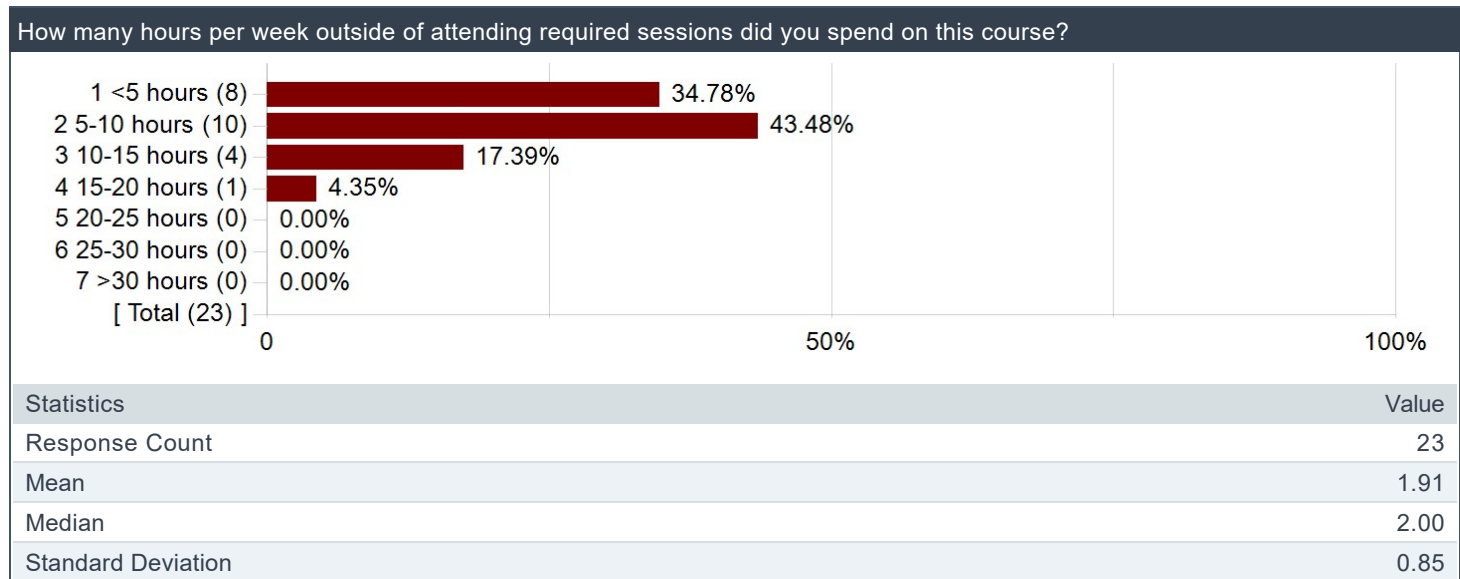
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains? (continued)



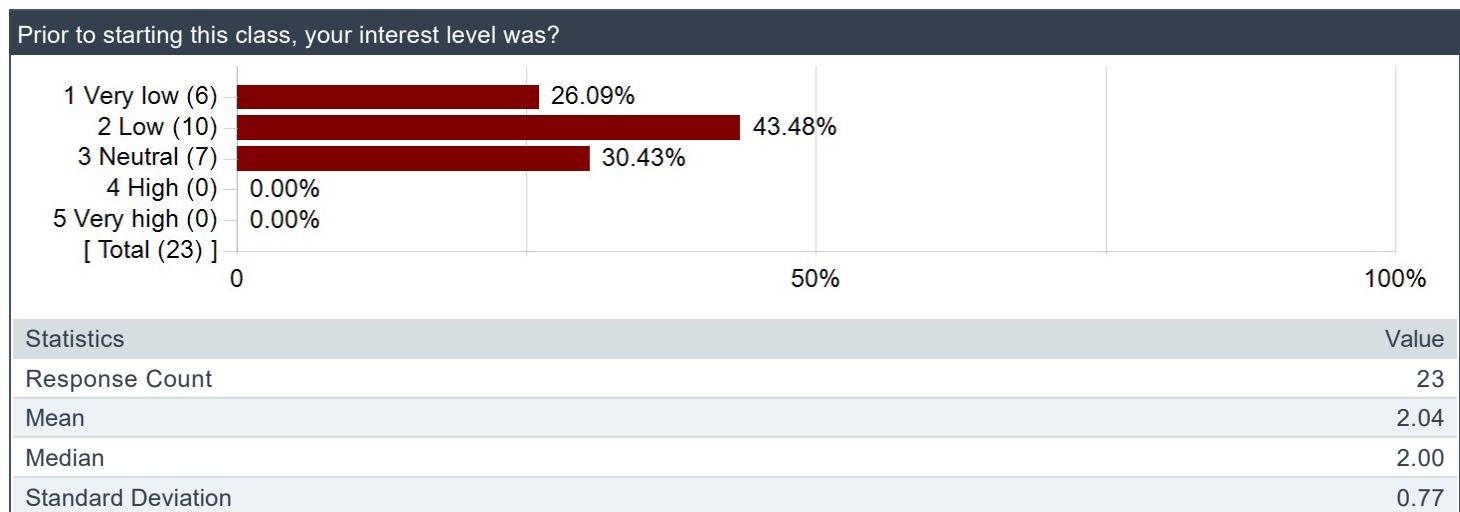
What was the most important thing (to you) that you learned in this course? What aspect of the material is still unclear for you, that you wish you could have learned better?

Comments
That I am thankful that I am not a bio major.
There is no specific thing I learned that I consider to be the most important. The overall aspect of how certain processes work such as DNA replication are still unclear to me. I feel that the way it was taught was confusing and often messy.
anything relating to the brain was interesting, I wish more time was dedicated to it
I learned about some fundamental biology concepts like evolution and the way cells and various systems in the body work.
n/a
I learned about the mechanisms of genetics and evolution, as well as certain biochemical processes.
The genetics and DNA stuff are still unclear to me.
How cells are structured, and how DNA forms genes and how genes regulate the expression of traits. Also how organisms evolve.
Certain lab techniques like PCR remain hazy to me. I enjoyed/thought it was important learning about natural selection, allele flow, evo-devo.
I learned a lot on the topic of genetics and the sequencing of DNA, the nervous system and immune system, and gained a better understanding of evolution. I am most unclear on the history of life and phylogeny, which I felt we did not spend enough time on.
Evolution is pretty cool
I can't say I really learned anything that I would hold on to.
How evolution works; I wanted to learn more about how each part of the course connected to each other because it felt relatively unconnected at times.
Im unsure we learned so much important topics!

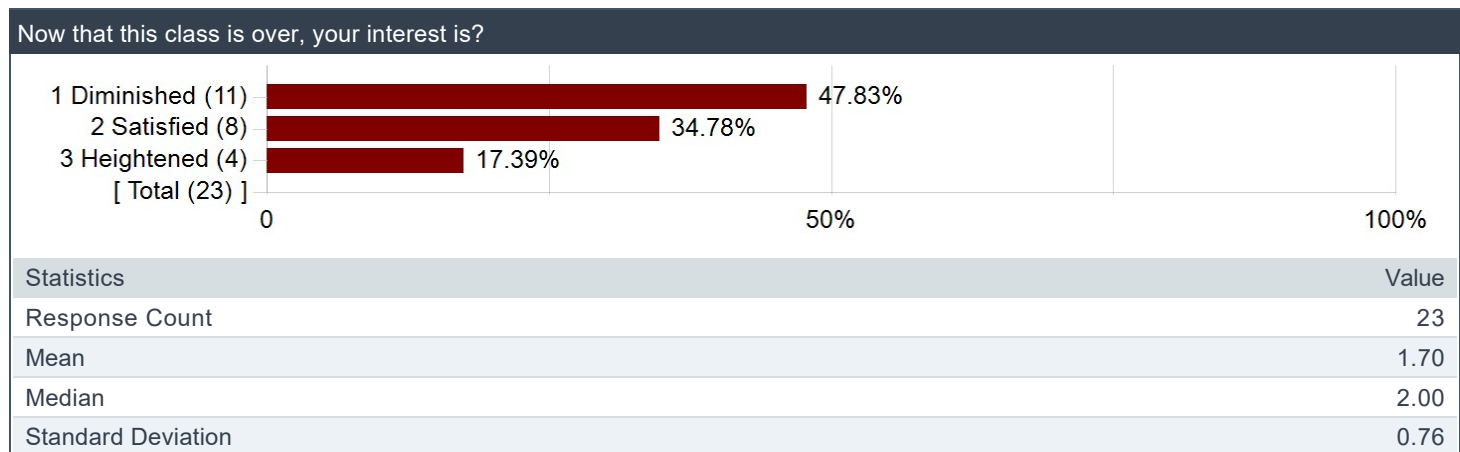
How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



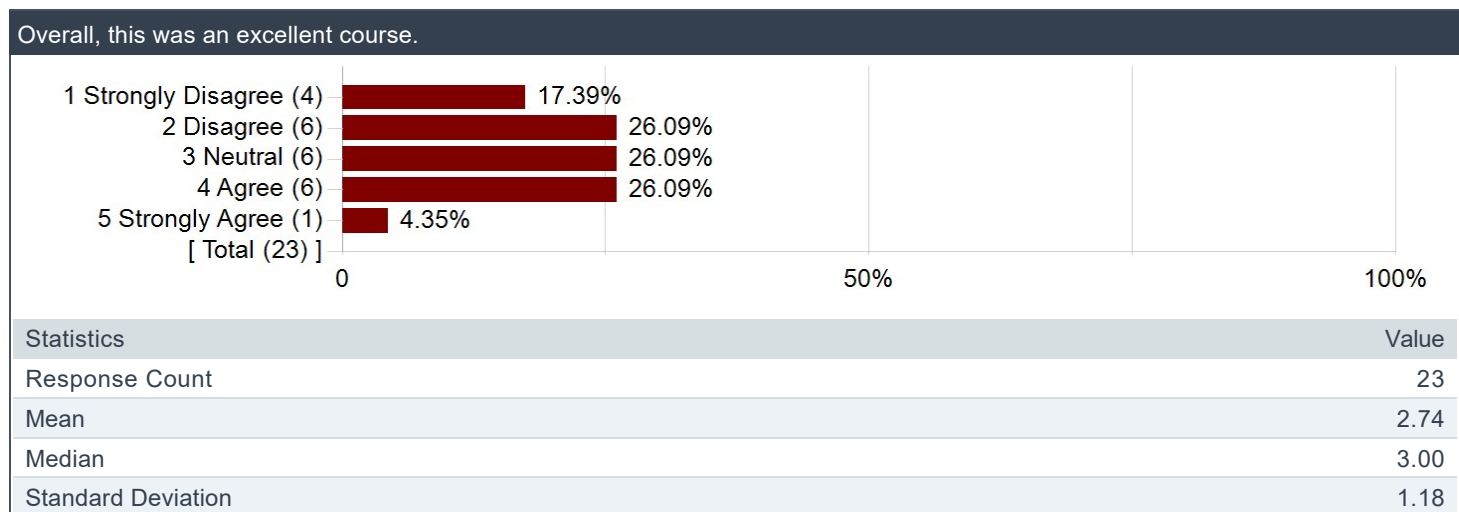
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



Now that this class is over, your interest is?



Overall, this was an excellent course.



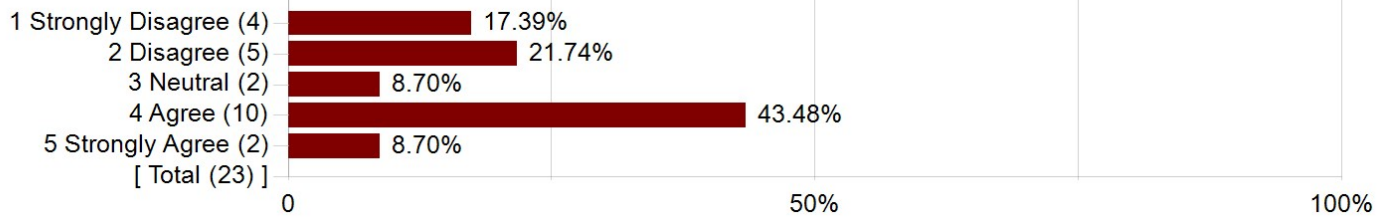
Please share any advice you have for students who are considering taking the course.

Comments
Don't
I advise that you have patience with yourself and the instructor because they way they structured this class made it difficult to understand and even complete the lab work. So take your time with everything you do and take advantage of the office hours because you will most likely need it. Also expect a large amount of excel sheets and statistics for some reason.
You will have to go over everything you learn multiple times over before an exam, Questions——on top of sometimes being semantic traps——are also frequently on minutiae that you often do not expect to be important enough to quiz on. A lot of teaching/drilling yourself and a lot of frustration. I do not think I've learned much from this course.
Also make sure you have a familiarity with Excel, as many of the labs and daily in–class assignments are built around Excel/Google Sheets (though primarily the labs).
This class has a lot of assignments that feel like busywork and it's easy to miss points on labs/quizzes for minor things. But, a lot of assignments are dropped, so the grading doesn't end up being too harsh. This class isn't too difficult and has somewhat interesting content, but I think there are a lot of other core biology classes that have a lot less work.
If you don't like bio, please do yourself a favor and take another core. And it's very easy to assume, like I did, that if you work hard, no matter how terrible people say the class is you can still get a good grade – optimism is not the solution for this class, sorry <3 (prayer is though, only God can help)
If you have nearly no previous experience with biology, I wouldn't suggest you to take this course. I don't feel it's friendly to students who don't have experience in biology.
It's a requirement – if it's the only option take it, since in the end grading is relatively generous. However, my understanding is that there are other sections with less busywork.
Try not to if possible, if you must take it don't stress too hard, if you do everything decently the bad grades will be dropped and it will work out probably, I genuinely don't know how I got through this class, a great way to meet people through trauma bonding
Don't take if you have a tight schedule
Hard core bio class; tests cover a wide breadth of material
Pay attention in class do your notes and you should be good!

Laboratory Meetings

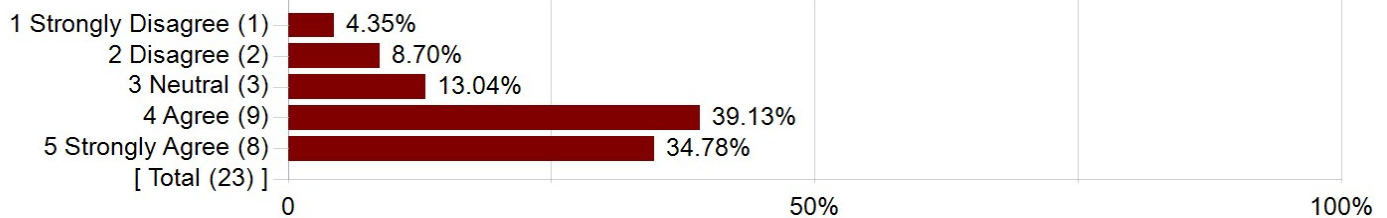
For each of the following statements, please indicate your level of agreement.

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



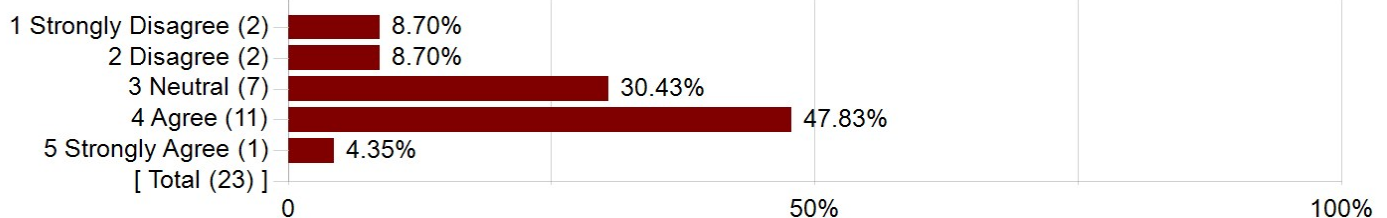
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
Strongly Disagree	1	4	17.39%	Response Count	23
Disagree	2	5	21.74%	Mean	3.04
Neutral	3	2	8.70%	Median	4.00
Agree	4	10	43.48%	Standard Deviation	1.33
Strongly Agree	5	2	8.70%		

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



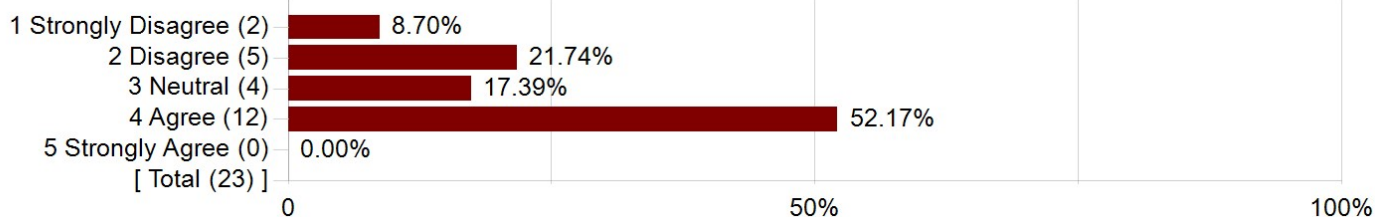
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
Strongly Disagree	1	1	4.35%	Response Count	23
Disagree	2	2	8.70%	Mean	3.91
Neutral	3	3	13.04%	Median	4.00
Agree	4	9	39.13%	Standard Deviation	1.12
Strongly Agree	5	8	34.78%		

3. The lab exercises had clear educational goals.



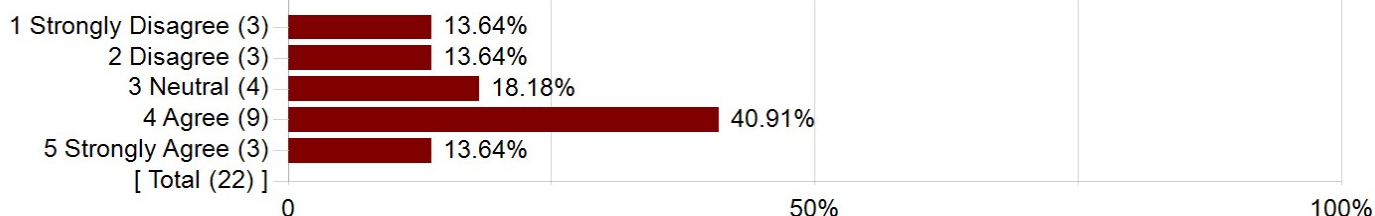
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
Strongly Disagree	1	2	8.70%	Response Count	23
Disagree	2	2	8.70%	Mean	3.30
Neutral	3	7	30.43%	Median	4.00
Agree	4	11	47.83%	Standard Deviation	1.02
Strongly Agree	5	1	4.35%		

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



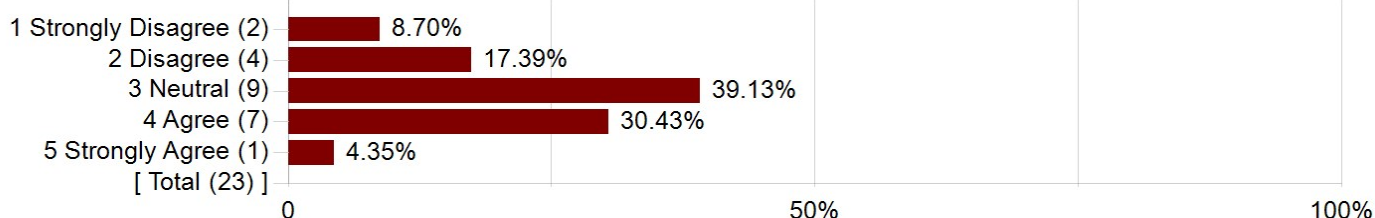
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
Strongly Disagree	1	2	8.70%	Response Count	23
Disagree	2	5	21.74%	Mean	3.13
Neutral	3	4	17.39%	Median	4.00
Agree	4	12	52.17%	Standard Deviation	1.06
Strongly Agree	5	0	0.00%		

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



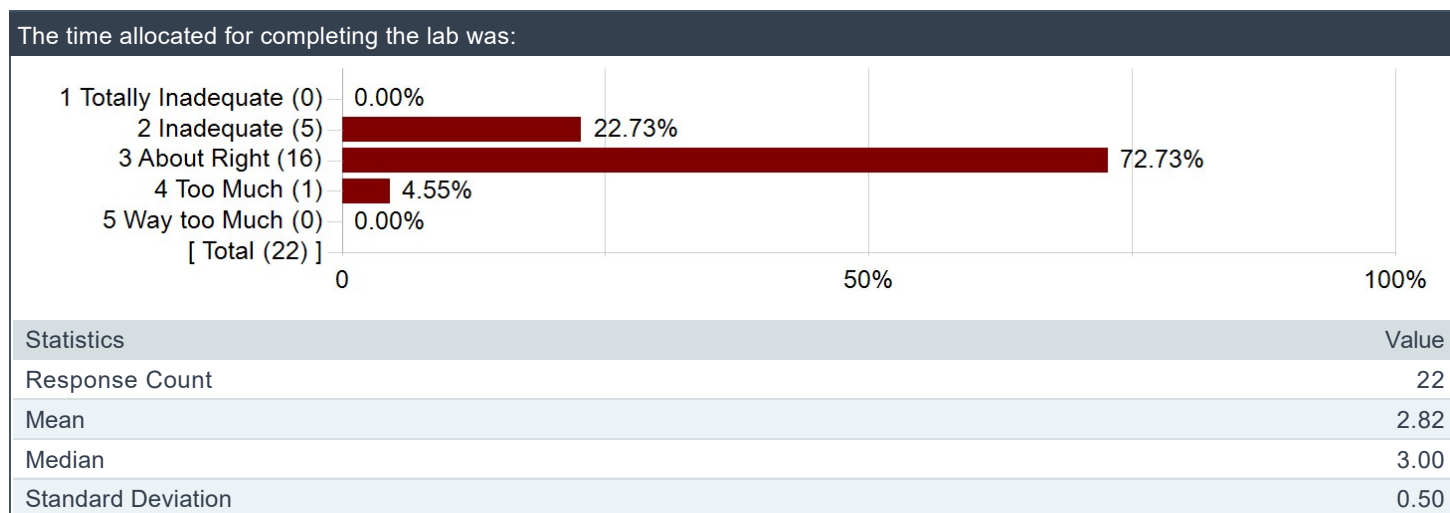
Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
Strongly Disagree	1	3	13.64%	Response Count	22
Disagree	2	3	13.64%	Mean	3.27
Neutral	3	4	18.18%	Median	4.00
Agree	4	9	40.91%	Standard Deviation	1.28
Strongly Agree	5	3	13.64%		

6. Overall, this was an excellent laboratory experience.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage	Statistics	Value
Strongly Disagree	1	2	8.70%	Response Count	23
Disagree	2	4	17.39%	Mean	3.04
Neutral	3	9	39.13%	Median	3.00
Agree	4	7	30.43%	Standard Deviation	1.02
Strongly Agree	5	1	4.35%		

The time allocated for completing the lab was:



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
None
I learned the specific processes biologists use when conducting experiments.
I learned how to use lab equipment and Excel.
I learned how to analyze biological data on a variety of scales (genetic sequences, population statistics, etc.)
Learned how to use microscopes, dilute chemicals, run a PCR reaction, and simulate evolution.
Excel – data analysis and statistical testing, Figi – image measurement/observation/data collection
Statistically analysis to test our null hypotheses and comparing observed results to expected theoretical outcomes.
A few statistical tools.
How to use excel sheets; did not have much experience handling actual equipment.
How to work better with others.

Please share any recommendations to improve the laboratory learning experience.

Comments
Make the instructions and the assignments themselves clearer and easier to complete.
Lab tasks were sooooo long and felt like they were never going to end even though we barely ever used up the 2 hours. But still, half the time, I had no clue what was happening, and my partner and I would make guesses on the questions based on everything but biology (the only humor I got from the class). Wish it was less work fr.
Also can there be an alternative for students who do not wish to play around with flies and things of the sort?
Many lab sessions were really 2–4 labs in one. I had to stay late (sometimes up to 1+ hours past end time) pretty consistently. There was too much material being crammed into labs.
Many of the labs did not require any lab resources and were just answering questions to gradescope quizzes. This could have been an in class activity or homework.
Having the materials ready for use and more prepared prior to labs.
Create labs that are more relevant to what is taught in lectures.
Nothing