BIOS 10140 11 - Inquiry-based Exploration of Biology - Instructor(s): Pliny Smith

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

Number Enrolled: **23**
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, March 28, 2024**

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

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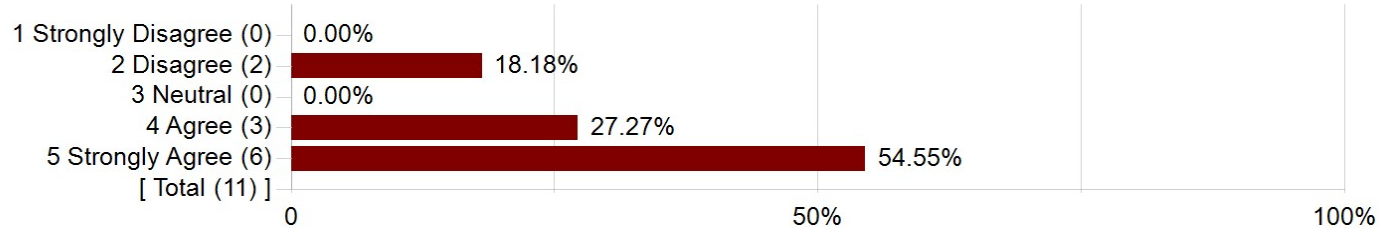

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	4.18
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.17

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

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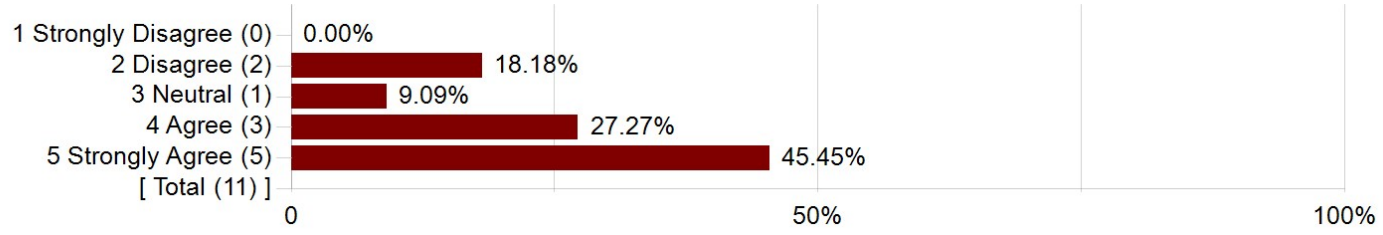

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	4.00
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.18

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

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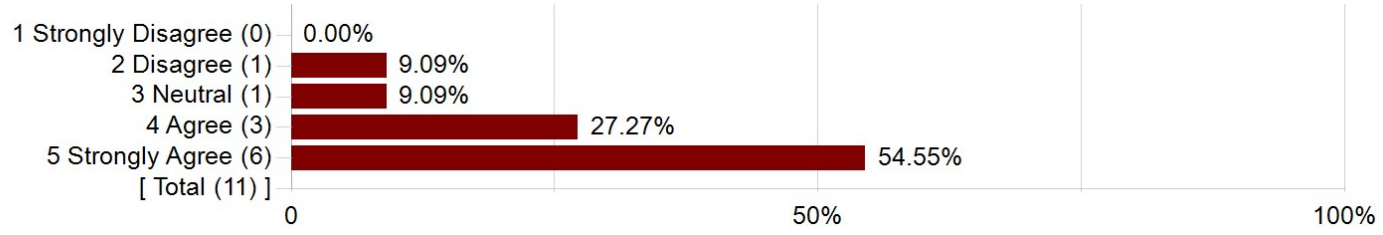

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	4.27
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.01

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

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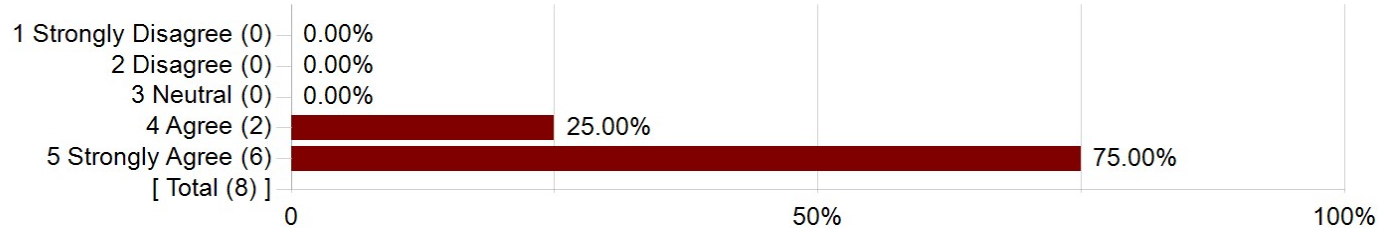
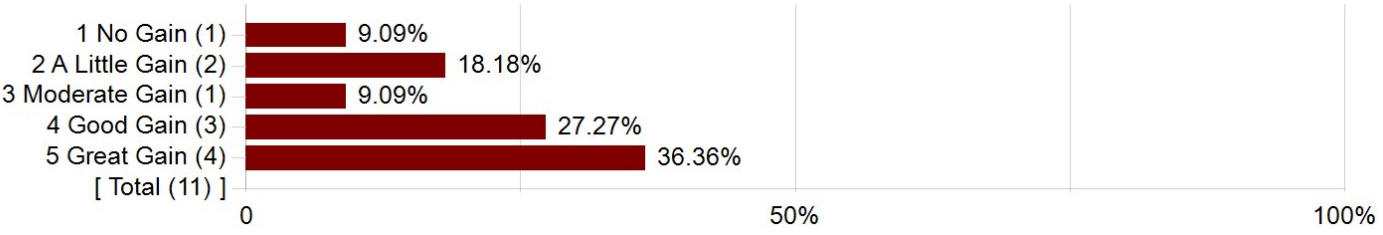


Statistics	Value
Response Count	8
Mean	4.75
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.46

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

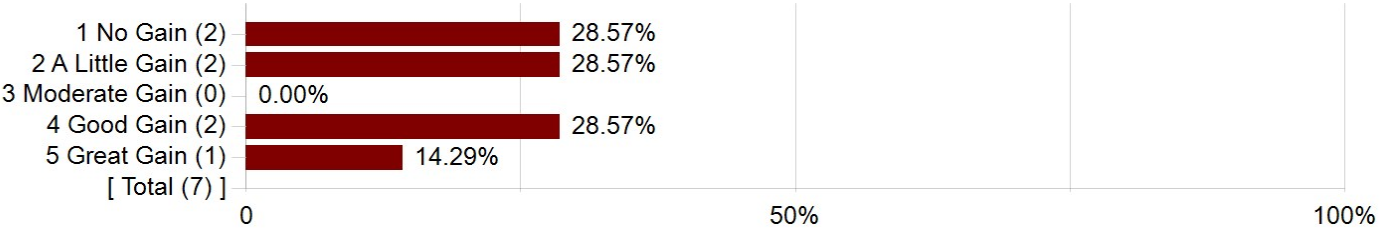
1. Classroom Lectures



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	1	9.09%
A Little Gain	2	2	18.18%
Moderate Gain	3	1	9.09%
Good Gain	4	3	27.27%
Great Gain	5	4	36.36%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	3.64
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.43

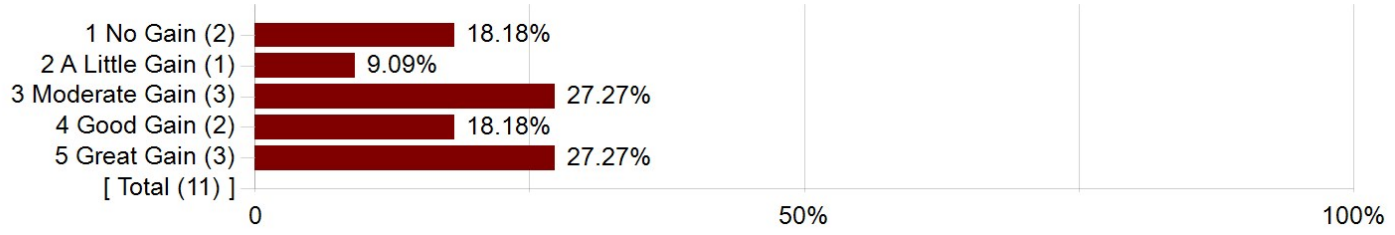
2. Classroom Discussions



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	2	28.57%
A Little Gain	2	2	28.57%
Moderate Gain	3	0	0.00%
Good Gain	4	2	28.57%
Great Gain	5	1	14.29%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	7
Mean	2.71
Median	2.00
Standard Deviation	1.60

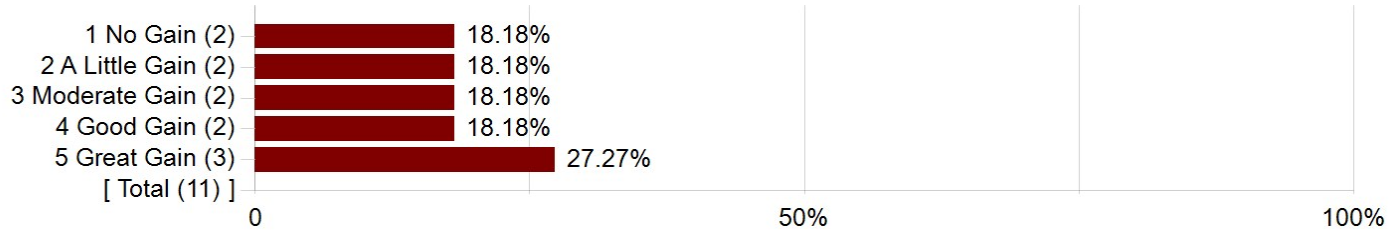
3. Assigned Readings



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

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	3.27
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	1.49

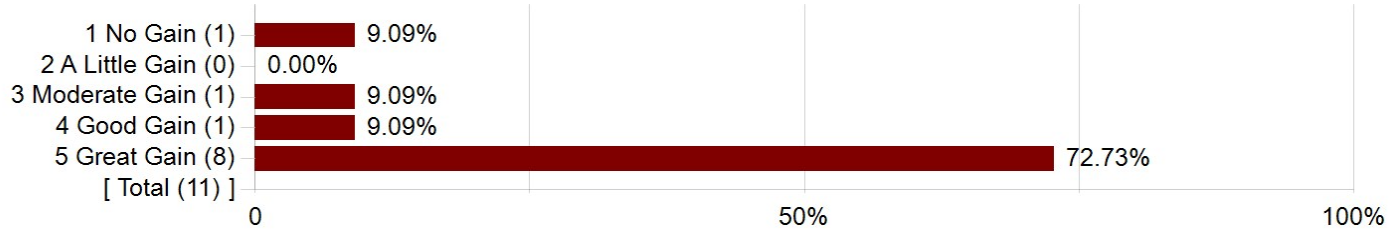
4. Homework Exercises



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

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	3.18
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	1.54

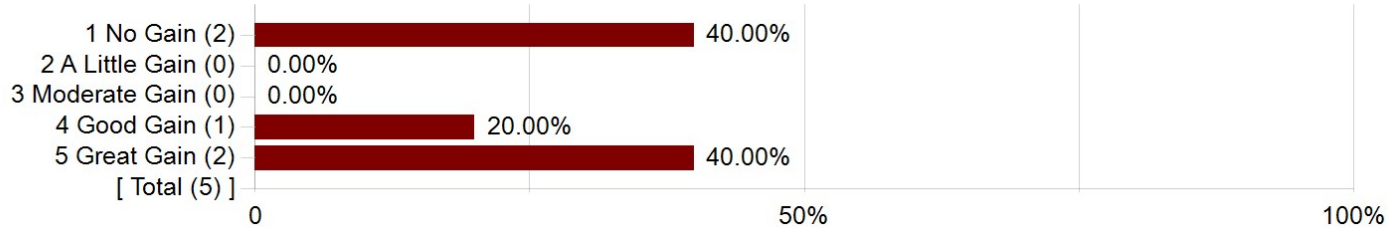
5. Lab Experiences



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	1	9.09%
A Little Gain	2	0	0.00%
Moderate Gain	3	1	9.09%
Good Gain	4	1	9.09%
Great Gain	5	8	72.73%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	4.36
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.29

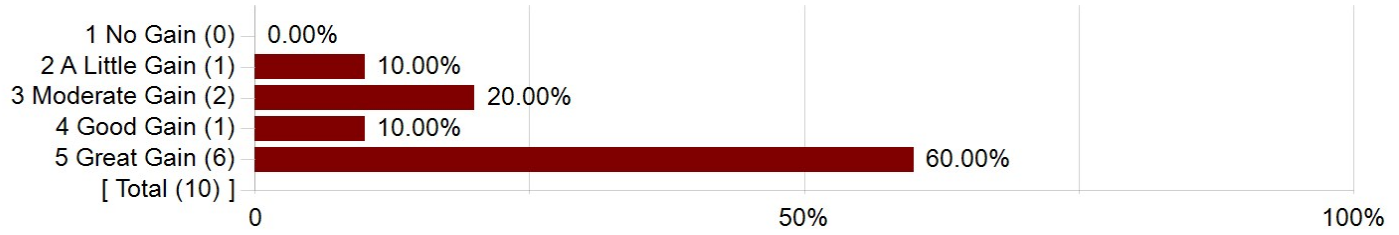
6. Discussion Sessions



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

Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	3.20
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	2.05

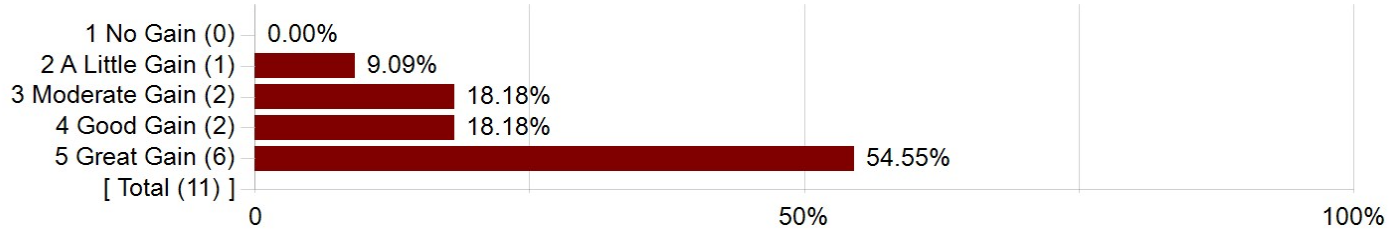
7. Review Sessions



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	1	10.00%
Moderate Gain	3	2	20.00%
Good Gain	4	1	10.00%
Great Gain	5	6	60.00%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	10
Mean	4.20
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.14

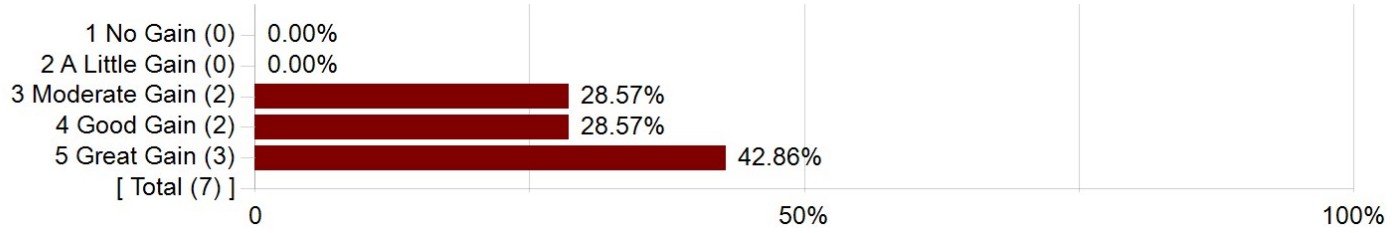
8. Interactions with Other Students



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	2	18.18%
Great Gain	5	6	54.55%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	4.18
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	1.08

9. Faculty Office Hours

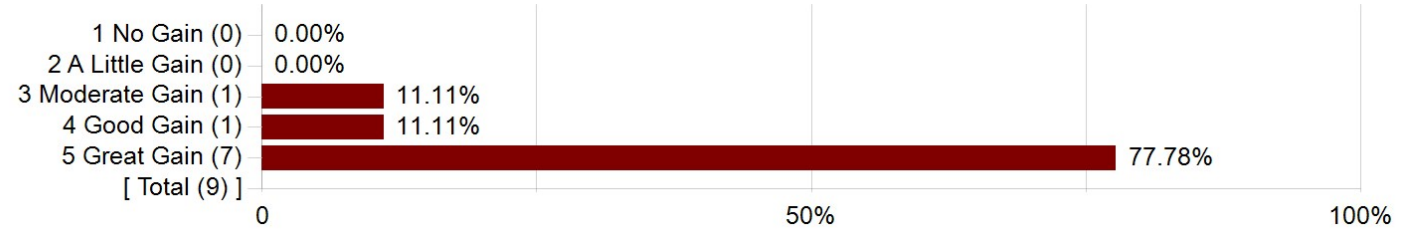


Options	Score	Count	Percentage
No Gain	1	0	0.00%
A Little Gain	2	0	0.00%
Moderate Gain	3	2	28.57%
Good Gain	4	2	28.57%
Great Gain	5	3	42.86%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	7
Mean	4.14
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.90

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	1	11.11%
Good Gain	4	1	11.11%
Great Gain	5	7	77.78%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	9
Mean	4.67
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.71

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
Learning about the inner workings of the human body, particularly with regard to the workings of cells. I wish that some of the material was more deeply explained, as a lot of genes and proteins were often stated in class with not extensive explanation as to what they are or what they entirely do
I learned that no matter how much of the stuff I did I still wouldn't know any of it. All of the material is still unclear to me
Learned about the origins of life, genes and regulation, cells and enzymes, caloric restriction, DNA replication, transcription and translation and aging, limb development, and completed a weeks–long lab/presentation about the effect of different compounds on the lifespan of C. elegans. Not really anything I wish we learned better — the class felt like it was a great pace and we covered everything pretty thoroughly.
I was able to confidently understand the majority of topics, but I struggled on smaller scale topics such as the functions of specific genes.
I really loved how the whole course was focused on aging and related many different concepts back to this central idea. You can see how seemingly abstract course content actually does impact us. I wish during the first practice worm–transfer day we had also gone over best worm–counting practices, though. We had to figure that out ourselves with varying success.
How to conduct a scientific expirement.
mechanisms of aging
The course's main topic (aging) was the most important thing I learned.

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

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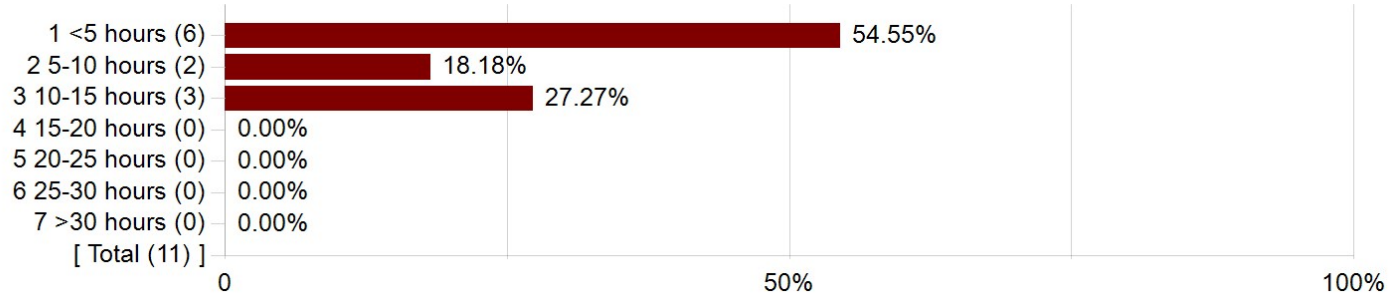
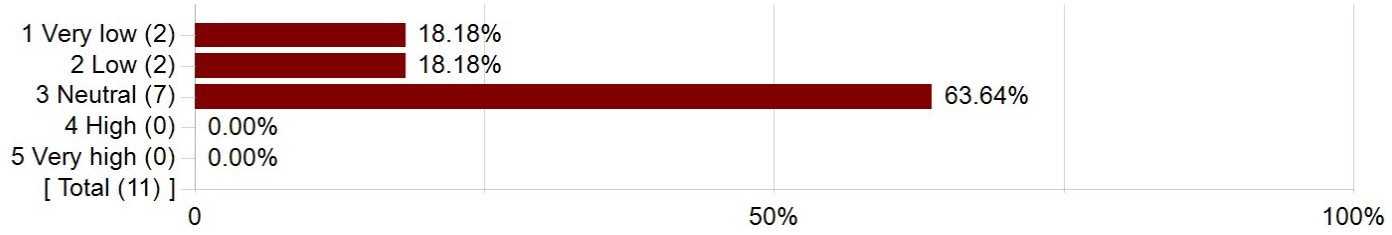


Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	1.73
Median	1.00
Standard Deviation	0.90

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

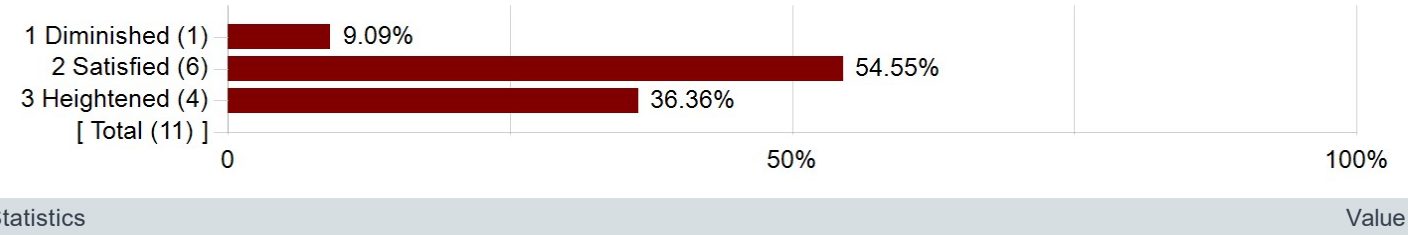
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	2.45
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	0.82

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Now that this class is over, your interest is?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	2.27
Median	2.00
Standard Deviation	0.65

Overall, this was an excellent course.

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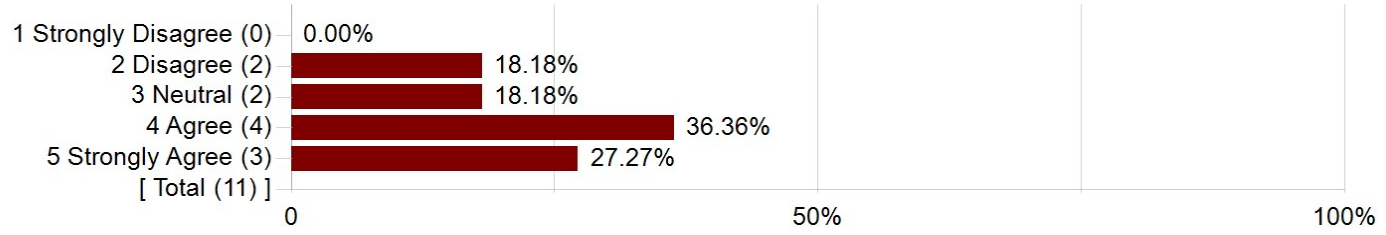


Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	3.73
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.10

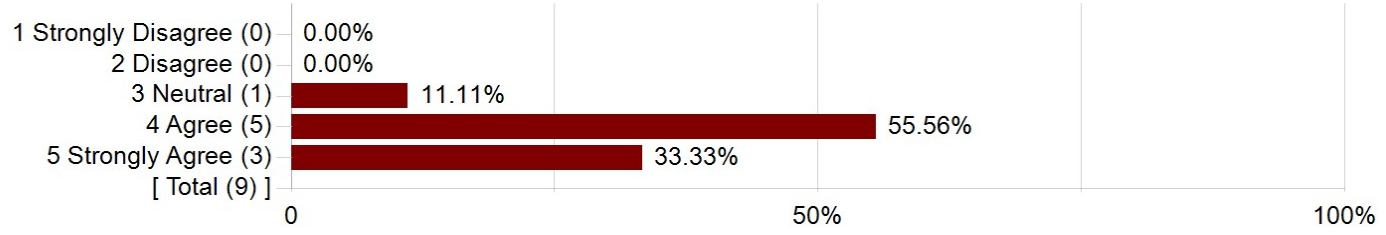
Please share any advice you have for students who are considering taking the course.

Comments
Lots of memorization, def not a very difficult course if you apply yourself but be ready to have to memorize
Do not take this course. The quizzes were impossible
Great class, would recommend to anyone.
Collaborate with your peers because that is where most learning comes from in a lab based class.
The course evals from last quarter made this class seem impossible. It's definitely not, but the amount of work sometimes can be annoying. If you're interested in biology, you'll definitely learn a lot. If you're just taking it for the core, go to another section if possible but still fine if not.
If you put in the work, you'll get an A. Also at the cost of counting hundreds of worms, but you'll get an A.
It is a long class so it is best to have an interest in the subject. Being interested in what is being taught helps with making time go by faster.

Laboratory Meetings

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

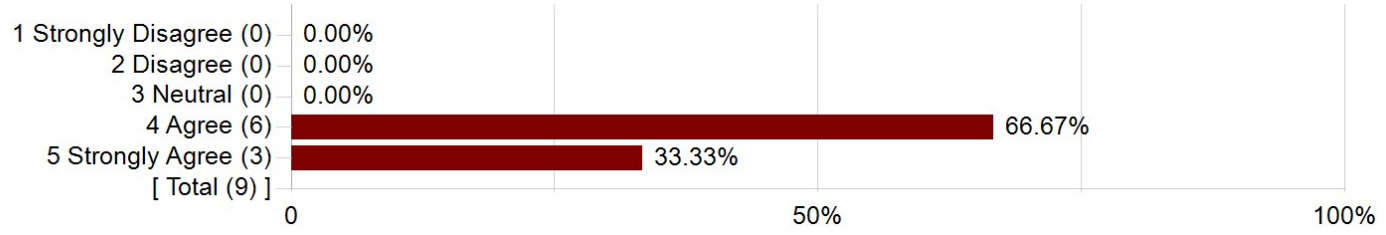
1. The laboratory protocols and instructions were clear and well organized.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	1	11.11%
Agree	4	5	55.56%
Strongly Agree	5	3	33.33%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	9
Mean	4.22
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.67

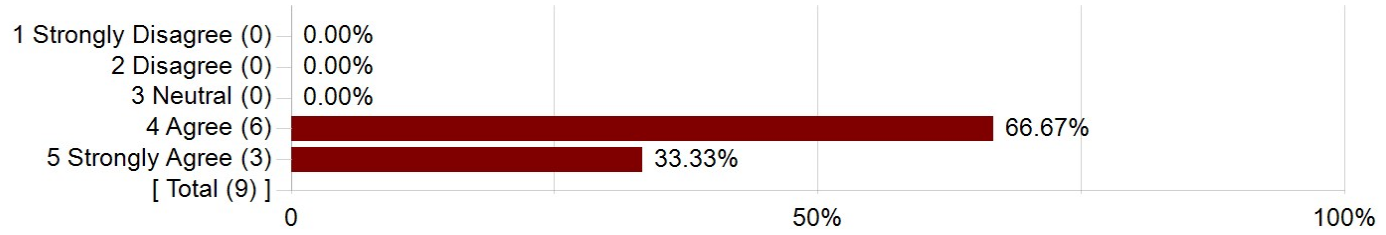
2. Materials and equipment needed for performing the exercises were readily available.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	6	66.67%
Strongly Agree	5	3	33.33%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	9
Mean	4.33
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.50

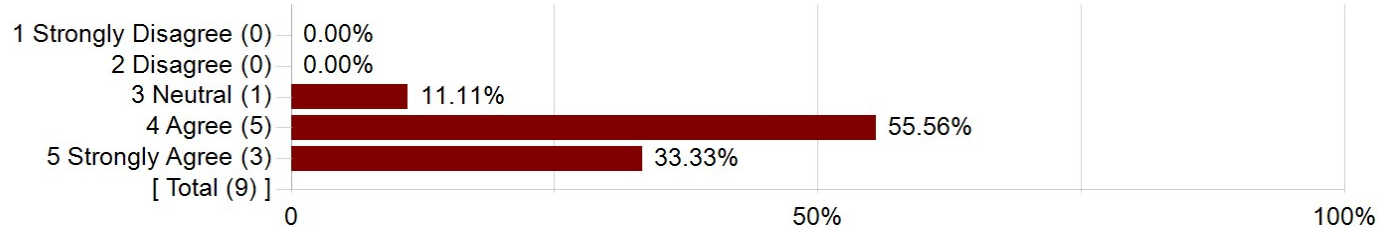
3. The lab exercises had clear educational goals.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	6	66.67%
Strongly Agree	5	3	33.33%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	9
Mean	4.33
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.50

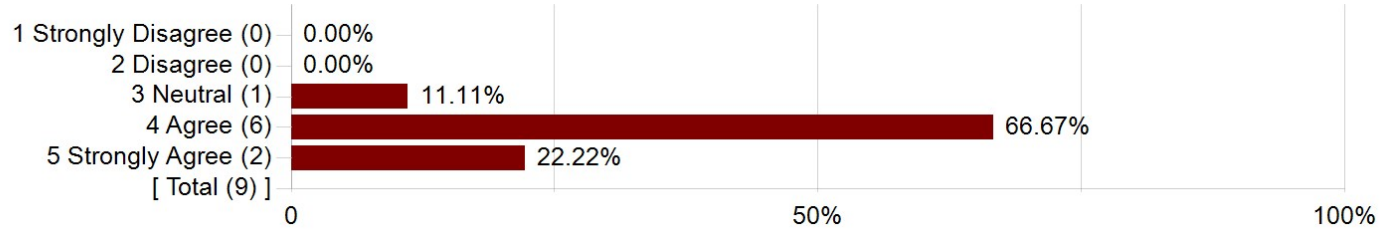
4. The goals of the lab exercises were well integrated with the overall objectives of the course.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	1	11.11%
Agree	4	5	55.56%
Strongly Agree	5	3	33.33%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	9
Mean	4.22
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.67

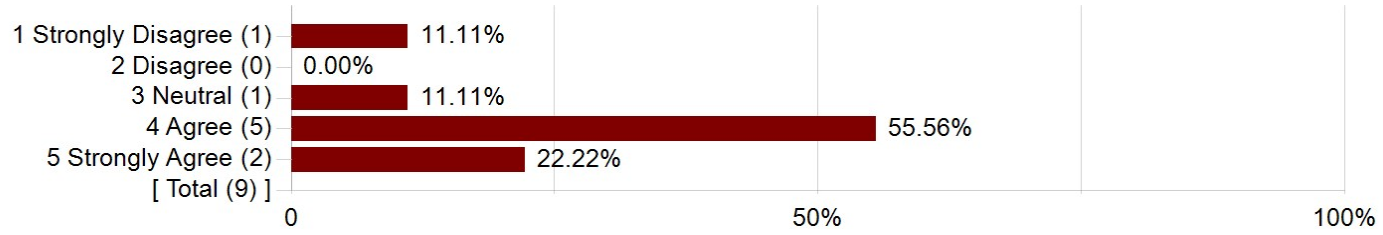
5. The lab exercises explored course topics in ways that could not have been accomplished in lecture or discussion.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	1	11.11%
Agree	4	6	66.67%
Strongly Agree	5	2	22.22%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	9
Mean	4.11
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.60

6. Overall, this was an excellent laboratory experience.

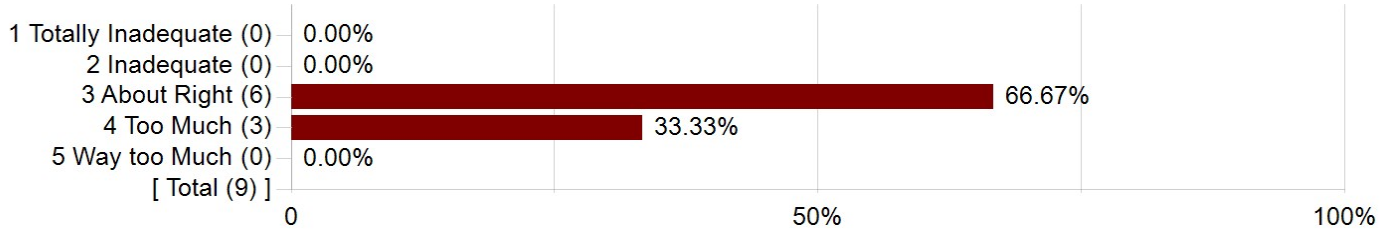


Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	1	11.11%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	1	11.11%
Agree	4	5	55.56%
Strongly Agree	5	2	22.22%

Statistics	Value
Response Count	9
Mean	3.78
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.20

The time allocated for completing the lab was:

The time allocated for completing the lab was:



Statistics	Value
Response Count	9
Mean	3.33
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
How to move C elegans across Petri dishes, how to pipette the appropriate amount of a solution, and how to use a microscope to count the number of C elegans still alive on the plate.
I became proficient in using a microscope and analyzing organisms.
The worm longevity experiment gave us so many skills I can't list them all. I feel like a scientist now.
I learned how to use a micropipette and microscopes. We also performed gel electrophoresis and PCR which was a really cool experience.

Please share any recommendations to improve the laboratory learning experience.

Comments
I wish we had a larger variety of experiements.
Considering the amount of work, all groups should've had ≥5 people.