

Clemson University Student Evaluation of Teaching

Evaluation Report for Jens Oberheide teaching PHYS 321 001 during Fall Semester 2011

Respondents = 10; Enrolled = 24; Response rate = 42%

University Questions(3686)

G1. The instructor clearly communicated what I was expected to learn.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
1 (10.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (10.00%)	4 (40.00%)	4 (40.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.000	1.247	4	10		
Same Level	3.600	1.053	4	45		
Same Discipline	4.127	0.998	4	1591		

G2. The instructor made the relevance of the course material clear.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
1 (10.00%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (20.00%)	1 (10.00%)	6 (60.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.100	1.370	5	10		
Same Level	3.711	1.141	4	45		
Same Discipline	4.090	1.013	4	1589		

G3. The course was well organized.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
1 (10.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (10.00%)	2 (20.00%)	6 (60.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.200	1.317	5	10		
Same Level	3.652	1.320	4	46		
Same Discipline	4.235	0.946	4	1588		

G4. There was a positive interaction between the class and the instructor.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
1 (10.00%)	1 (10.00%)	0 (0.00%)	5 (50.00%)	3 (30.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	3.800	1.317	4	10		
Same Level	3.913	1.226	4	46		
Same Discipline	4.138	1.040	4	1583		

G5. The instructor's teaching methods helped me understand the course material.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
1 (10.00%)	1 (10.00%)	2 (20.00%)	2 (20.00%)	4 (40.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	3.700	1.418	4	10		
Same Level	3.174	1.305	3	46		
Same Discipline	3.774	1.254	4	1585		

G6. The instructor's verbal communication skills helped me understand the course material.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	
1	2	3	4	5	NR	
2 (20.00%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (20.00%)	3 (30.00%)	3 (30.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	3.500	1.509	4	10		
Same Level	3.304	1.412	3	46		
Same Discipline	3.710	1.305	4	1587		

G7. The instructor clearly explained what was expected on assignments and tests

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	
1	2	3	4	5	NR	
1 (10.00%)	1 (10.00%)	1 (10.00%)	3 (30.00%)	4 (40.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	3.800	1.398	4	10		
Same Level	3.609	1.220	4	46		
Same Discipline	4.140	1.044	4	1584		

G8. The instructor kept me informed about my progress in the course.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	
1	2	3	4	5	NR	
1 (10.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	3 (30.00%)	6 (60.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.300	1.252	5	10		
Same Level	3.578	1.390	4	45		
Same Discipline	4.286	0.958	5	1589		

G9. The feedback I received on assignments and tests gave me the opportunity to improve my performance.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	
1	2	3	4	5	NR	
1 (10.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	5 (50.00%)	4 (40.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.100	1.197	4	10		
Same Level	3.370	1.306	3	46		
Same Discipline	3.896	1.164	4	1581		

G10. Overall, the instructor is an effective teacher.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	
1	2	3	4	5	NR	
1 (10.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (10.00%)	4 (40.00%)	4 (40.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.000	1.247	4	10		
Same Level	3.630	1.199	4	46		
Same Discipline	4.004	1.114	4	1582		

G11. The instructor's grading procedures gave a fair evaluation of my understanding of the material.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	
1	2	3	4	5	NR	
1 (10.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (40.00%)	2 (20.00%)	3 (30.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	3.600	1.265	3.5	10		

Same Level	3.717	1.205	4	46
Same Discipline	4.125	1.015	4	1580

G12. How much work did you put into this course relative to your other courses?

Type: How much

Not at all				Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5	
0 (0.00%)	1 (10.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	9 (90.00%)	0 (0.00%)
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations	
Class	4.700	0.949	5	10	
Same Level	3.935	1.063	4	46	
Same Discipline	3.737	1.059	4	1583	

G13. How difficult was this course for you relative to your other courses?

Type: How much

Not at all				Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5	
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (10.00%)	9 (90.00%)	0 (0.00%)
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations	
Class	4.900	0.316	5	10	
Same Level	3.891	1.120	4	46	
Same Discipline	3.647	1.123	4	1586	

G14. To what extent was this course a requirement for you?

Type: How much

Not at all				Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5	
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	10 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations	
Class	5.000	0.000	5	10	
Same Level	4.844	0.424	5	45	
Same Discipline	4.563	0.831	5	1583	

G15. Was this course in your major?

Type: Yes - No

Yes	No	NR
10 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

G16. Was this course team-taught?

Type: Yes - No

Yes	No	NR
0 (0.00%)	9 (90.00%)	1 (10.00%)

G17. Please indicate your satisfaction with the availability of the instructor outside the classroom by choosing one response from the scale. In selecting your rating, consider the instructor's availability via established office hours, appointments, and other opportunities for face-to-face interaction as well as via telephone, email, fax and other means.

Type: Satisfaction

Very Dissatisfied				Very Satisfied	NR
1	2	3	4		
1 (10.00%)	1 (10.00%)	0 (0.00%)	8 (80.00%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations	
Class	3.500	1.080	4	10	
Same Level	3.156	0.878	3	45	
Same Discipline	3.412	0.703	4	1591	

G18. Please comment on the strengths of the instructor and the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Dr. Oberheide is very competent and certainly knows his stuff. As a student, this was very comforting to know. He could always be approached with questions. He also always had his office door open, which made it really easy to swing by and ask him a quick question.
- #4 - He was in his office literally all the time.
- #5 - Professor Oberheide is a very good teacher. His notes are very detailed and organized. Also, the homework problems chosen are very helpful for grasping the concepts going on.
- #6 - Prof. Oberheide is very knowledgeable about the course material and is very approachable outside of class.
- #7 - Dr. Oberheide is always willing to take time to help you with the homework
- #9 - Dr. Oberheide is a great teacher and ridiculously smart. His method is well organized and straight forward, a method I would expect high level physics class to have. The only problem with this class was it was ridiculously hard. I learned a whole ton about classical mechanics and physics, but the grade I will probably receive would not be favorable. It's just because the homework is beyond hard usually, and the tests are very challenging.
- #10 - Very smart and knowledgeable, does a good job of demonstrating the principles in class.

G19. Please comment on the weaknesses of the instructor and the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Mechanics is a hard subject, but some of the stuff we learned, especially at the beginning of the semester, is not taught to other students until graduate school. I was really overwhelmed with this material and spent many hours trying to understand it. I'm not sure if I understand it now. Dr. Oberheide might want to try to lessen the load just a bit.
- #2 - For some chapters there was a definite emphasis placed on theory almost to the exclusion of application to problems. This is fine for those bright students that only need to see the theory behind a problem and they can then apply that to whatever the problem requires. It doesn't work that way for me at least. When I see theory I say, "good, this is how the method works," then, if I run into trouble working a problem I will look back at the theory to see if I have messed up somewhere with the application. That is why when you work examples in class I always get a little happier. A good mix of theory and worked examples works best for me. Other people may feel differently.
- #4 - The material was very difficult and could have been reviewed more specifically in the cases on which we were tested.
- #5 - I personally don't feel that the instructor or course have any weaknesses. The class is tough but Professor Oberheide is reasonable.
- #7 - I often have trouble deciphering his handwriting.

G20. Please comment on any teaching methods you found particularly helpful, and suggest alternative methods that you feel would improve the course.

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - I enjoyed that I had one week for homework assignments and that he graded assignments and tests very quickly. The homework load was sometimes a bit excessive and I spent more time on homework in this class than in any other class. Some weeks, it exceeded 15 hours.
- #4 - great derivations but few in class examples.
- #5 - I would like to see more examples that are not in the texts. It helps to see a teacher problem solve in person rather than just see their answers on paper.
- #10 - The homework definitely prepares you for the exams

G21. I would recommend this instructor to a friend. Yes or no? Why?

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Yes. Even though Dr. Oberheide made me work like an ox, I believe that I learned a lot in this class and that it prepared me for harder courses to come.
- #2 - Yes. It is easy to "haze over" sometimes when in the middle of a problem or theory in class, but that just doesn't seem to happen as often with this teacher. I think you have an

enthusiasm for the subject that tends to keep things interesting.

- #3 - no
- #4 - Probably not because the course requires far too much work.
- #5 - Yes, Professor Oberheide gives good lectures and quality homework. The homework is very tough and time consuming but it is also very beneficial.
- #6 - Yes, Prof. Oberheide is extremely knowledgeable about the course material and can help with any physics problem one may have.
- #7 - no. He is a really nice guy and KNOWS his physics, but it's hard enough material without trying to understand his accent and handwriting. :(
- #9 - If my friend was a math genius or has the room to take some damage to his GPA, most definitely.
- #10 - Yes, physics is ballin'.