

Clemson University Student Evaluation of Teaching

Evaluation Report for Jens Oberheide teaching PHYS 8210 001 during Fall Semester 2013
 Respondents = 11; Enrolled = 17; Response rate = 65%

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		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (18.18%)	3 (27.27%)	6 (54.55%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.364	0.809	5	11		
Same Level	4.815	0.483	5	27		
Same Discipline	3.918	1.142	4	1619		

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		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (18.18%)	4 (36.36%)	5 (45.45%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.273	0.786	4	11		
Same Level	4.556	0.801	5	27		
Same Discipline	3.889	1.174	4	1618		

G3. The course was well organized.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	NR
1	2	3	4	5		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (9.09%)	4 (36.36%)	6 (54.55%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.455	0.688	5	11		
Same Level	4.407	0.971	5	27		
Same Discipline	4.119	1.050	4	1616		

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		
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (9.09%)	6 (54.55%)	4 (36.36%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.273	0.647	4	11		
Same Level	4.769	0.430	5	26		
Same Discipline	3.904	1.208	4	1610		

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

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	
1	2	3	4	5	NR	
1 (9.09%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (9.09%)	5 (45.45%)	4 (36.36%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.000	1.183	4	11		
Same Level	4.615	0.697	5	26		
Same Discipline	3.556	1.347	4	1613		

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	
0 (0.00%)	1 (9.09%)	0 (0.00%)	5 (45.45%)	5 (45.45%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.273	0.905	4	11		
Same Level	4.538	0.905	5	26		
Same Discipline	3.507	1.392	4	1618		

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	
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (9.09%)	6 (54.55%)	4 (36.36%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.273	0.647	4	11		
Same Level	4.407	0.844	5	27		
Same Discipline	3.894	1.216	4	1616		

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	
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (9.09%)	2 (18.18%)	8 (72.73%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.636	0.674	5	11		
Same Level	4.385	1.023	5	26		
Same Discipline	4.133	1.057	4	1614		

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	
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	5 (45.45%)	6 (54.55%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.545	0.522	5	11		
Same Level	4.407	1.083	5	27		
Same Discipline	3.687	1.273	4	1619		

G10. Overall, the instructor is an effective teacher.

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	
1	2	3	4	5	NR	
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (18.18%)	4 (36.36%)	5 (45.45%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.273	0.786	4	11		
Same Level	4.593	0.636	5	27		
Same Discipline	3.811	1.253	4	1610		

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	
0 (0.00%)	2 (18.18%)	1 (9.09%)	6 (54.55%)	2 (18.18%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	3.727	1.009	4	11		
Same Level	4.667	0.555	5	27		
Same Discipline	3.974	1.134	4	1607		

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

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	
1	2	3	4	5	NR	
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (18.18%)	4 (36.36%)	5 (45.45%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.273	0.786	4	11		
Same Level	3.852	1.199	4	27		
Same Discipline	3.776	0.979	4	1613		

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

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	
1	2	3	4	5	NR	
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (18.18%)	3 (27.27%)	5 (45.45%)	1 (9.09%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.300	0.823	4.5	10		
Same Level	3.556	1.396	4	27		
Same Discipline	3.781	1.053	4	1614		

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

Type: How much

Not at all					Very much	
1	2	3	4	5	NR	
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (36.36%)	7 (63.64%)	0 (0.00%)	
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations		
Class	4.636	0.505	5	11		
Same Level	4.423	0.987	5	26		
Same Discipline	4.537	0.900	5	1614		

G15. Was this course in your major?

Type: Yes - No

Yes	No	NR
10 (90.91%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (9.09%)

G16. Was this course team-taught?

Type: Yes - No

Yes	No	NR
1 (9.09%)	9 (81.82%)	1 (9.09%)

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
1	2	3	4	NR
0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (9.09%)	10 (90.91%)	0 (0.00%)
Focus	Mean	Stdev	Median	Observations
Class	3.909	0.302	4	11
Same Level	3.704	0.724	4	27
Same Discipline	3.386	0.768	4	1613

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

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - He has a very good knowledge of the course material.
- #2 - Jens gives a great instruction on every topic of the course, course materials are well organized.
- #3 - very careful
- #4 - The text was very heavy on derivations, but sparse on examples. If more examples (problems) were done in class, where the theory was explained as we went through the problem, I feel this would be much more effective in illustrating the concepts rather than going through mostly derivations in class, since we could just do that on our own time as a reading assignment.
- #5 - Dr. Oberheide knows the material very well and is able to communicate that information at a graduate student level of understanding.
- #6 - Dr. Oberheide is dedicated, available, and clearly very knowledgeable about the subject. I enjoyed hearing about the applications of the things we were learning; it put everything into perspective.
- #7 - for me, I appreciate the effort he puts in making us understand and solve more problems. Especially the assignments he gives is what I love coz it always has independent problems which is based on the concept of the corresponding chapters and helps figure out the theory even better.
- #8 - Dr. Oberheide is very organized and punctual. He is fairly available to answer questions in his way.
- #9 - Instructor: Systematic, Organized.
- #10 - really good professor
- #11 - The course was very well organized and communicated, and the homework kept us on our toes. The problems were well chosen with the level of mathematical rigor being close to optimal. One area I'd like the instructor to work on is the ability to explain a problem from different angles. When a student's line of thought is different from the instructor's, and leads to a result that clashes with the instructor's, this skill will be very handy in telling the student exactly where he/she is going wrong. Of course, I understand that this is a very hard thing to perfect. The only reason I am writing about this is because nearly everything else was perfectly delivered.

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

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - He does not solve any problems (with 1-2 exception) in class so that one can get the algorithm of solving problems.
- #2 - Couldn't think of any, very hard working professor. Hope the course could cover the chapter 4 and 5.
- #5 - Time constraints. One semester is a short period of time to assimilate that amount of information.
- #6 - Although the material covered in the course was all necessary and relevant, I found myself having difficulties prioritizing information; particularly for exams. It might have been helpful to have had an

awareness of the nature of what we'd be expected to do (i.e. heavy math vs. heavy concepts) during the exams.

- #7 - I like the way he teaches but I would suggest him to solve more problems in class if possible.
- #8 - His handwriting is not very clear. His homework solutions, which is suppose to be our way to figure out what we haven't got the right answer, is all over the place, sometimes with mistakes that he said that are unacceptable, such as inconsistencies. He does not bring a lot of examples that could make the understanding of the Classical Mechanics theory much easier.
- #9 - Communication while teaching is poor. Could make the course much more interesting and interactive. Monotone voice. Handwriting on board as well as paper is very poor; sometimes very difficult to comprehend if one misses what he says. Grading is too strict.
- #10 - more examples

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 - The theory and problems should go simultaneously. After completion of theory, solving few problems with different level of difficulties will really help.
- #2 - Homework presentation is very helpful. The best course ever. Looking forward to next semester.
- #5 - I think the homework interviews were really helpful. It gave me a chance to redeem myself for some bad grades and I walked away with a better understanding of the material.
- #6 - The outside office hours were quite helpful.
- #8 - The after homework meetings are very effective. This kind of feedback is very important to our improvement. To post the homework solutions in latex would improve a lot the understanding of these materials. Bring short examples after each topic would also improve.
- #9 - Helpful: Personal presentation cleared a lot of doubts. Improvement: Can make classes more interactive and interesting. More problem solving in class.
- #10 - notes is really good and clear

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

Type: Essay

Student Comments

- #1 - Yes, because as a whole he is very good.
- #2 - Of course. Great course.
- #3 - yes
- #5 - To another graduate student in physics, yes. Although it is a short amount of time to learn it all, I have learned much more about mechanics at a higher level of understanding.
- #6 - Yes; he's clearly passionate about effectively teaching.
- #7 - yes. He is a good lecturer, always available and very helpful.
- #9 - Yes, but with the following Warnings: Do not be late to the class. Prof. never satisfied with your H.W. and will it grade hard. Go and talk to him personally as he communicates much clearer & in a more friendly way individually than in class.
- #10 - yes, really helpful