

Courses Taught

I have been an Instructor for 1 course, a co-instructor for 1 course, and a teaching assistant for 13 courses:

1. [Spring 2005: 3D Computer Modeling and Animation \(COMP 006D\)](#) – Teaching Assistant
2. Fall 2009: Introduction to Software Design (CS 1114) – Graduate Teaching Assistant
3. Fall 2010: Engineering Exploration (ENGE 1024) – Workshop Leader
4. Spring 2011: Exploration of the Digital Future (ENGE 1104) – Workshop Leader
5. Fall 2011: [Introduction to Media Computation \(CS 1124\)](#) – **Co-Instructor**
6. Spring 2012: [Introduction to Media Computation \(CS 1124\)](#) – **Instructor**
7. Fall 2014: [Preparing the Future Professoriate \(GRAD 5104\)](#) – Graduate Teaching Assistant
8. Spring 2015: [Preparing the Future Professoriate \(GRAD 5104\)](#) – Graduate Teaching Assistant
9. Summer 2015: [Global Perspectives in Higher Education \(GRAD 5954\)](#) – Graduate Teaching Assistant¹
10. Fall 2015: [Preparing the Future Professoriate \(GRAD 5104\)](#) – Graduate Teaching Assistant
11. Spring 2016: [Preparing the Future Professoriate \(GRAD 5104\)](#) – Graduate Teaching Assistant
12. Summer 2017: [Global Perspectives in Higher Education \(GRAD 5954\)](#) – Graduate Teaching Assistant¹
13. Fall 2016: [Preparing the Future Professoriate \(GRAD 5104\)](#) – Graduate Teaching Assistant
14. Spring 2017: [Preparing the Future Professoriate \(GRAD 5104\)](#) – Graduate Teaching Assistant
15. Summer 2017: [Global Perspectives in Higher Education \(GRAD 5954\)](#) – Graduate Teaching Assistant¹

¹ Global Perspectives in Higher Education (GRAD 5954) is a study abroad course. I am the primary organizer of this experience. With support of Vice President and Dean of Graduate Education Karen DePauw, I contact our participating institutions abroad, plan our travel, lodging, meals, and itinerary. I then help in the successful execution of these plans by traveling with the group and facilitating successful interactions between our cohort and our hosts.

Teaching Evaluations

It is difficult to report my teaching evaluations in a meaningful way. While my evaluations are quite good, the response rates were low, and the evaluations were only gathered at the end of the semester via the standard questionnaire utilized by the entire university. When I teach, I solicit anonymous feedback at regular intervals throughout the semester. Also, I only have these reports for those semesters where I was instructor of record (#5 and #6 above). Nonetheless, I will share these values below.

There were 12 questions on the end of course evaluations that asked responding students to rate statements on a 6-point likert scale (from Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree). All of these questions were worded so that positive valence was reflected in the agreement side of the scale. I mapped students' responses to a numerical scale with:

6: Strongly Agree, **5:** Agree, **4:** Somewhat Agree, **3:** Somewhat Disagree, **2:** Disagree, **1:** Strongly Disagree

1. Co-Instructor of CS 1124 (Introduction to Media Computation) in Fall 2011 with 58 students.
 - $\bar{x}=5.28$ (out of 6.0), $\sigma=0.98$ across all 12 questions across all students (n=35 of 58, 60% response rate).
 1. More detail can be found in the actual reports below.
 2. N.B. according to my department head, the average for 2008-spring 2011 for this course was 2.73/4.00. Then the evaluation form was changed, and from Fall 2011-Spring 2014 (when we last offered the course) the average for this course was 4.33/6.0.
2. Instructor of CS 1124 (Introduction to Media Computation) in Spring 2012 with 54 students.
 - $\bar{x}=5.47$, $\sigma=0.82$ across all 12 questions across all students (n=31 of 54, 57% response rate).
 1. More detail can be found in the actual reports below.
 2. N.B. according to my department head, the average for 2008-spring 2011 was 2.73/4.00. Then the evaluation form was changed, and from Fall 2011-Spring 2014 (when we last offered the course) the average was 4.33/6.0.

Selected Student Feedback

- “He’s pretty good at breaking down (often abstract) computer science concepts and putting them in simple language. For example, he’ll use metaphors.”
- “Drew demonstrations of the subject on the board.”
- “**very respectful** and friendly. excellent use of Piazza.”
- “Explained programming concepts in non-programming ways. Since I have never programmed before, this was especially valuable to me.”
- “**Overall, one of the best structured classes I’ve taken.** Everything seemed very well planned out to meet certain learning objectives.”
- “**Michael Stewart really cared for each student’s understanding of what was being taught.**”
- “Posted lectures online. Very active on Piazza. Always willing to help.”
- “Explained everything well, **kept the class active.**”
- “Slow, detailed, and interesting explanations of concepts were extremely helpful.”
- “You are exceptionally good at explaining things. I would basically just encourage you to be as available to students as possible with more hours because I’ve how well I understand the material after you explain it.”
- “He was always there to answer questions, no matter what”
- “Michael did a good job attempting to make up for what couldn’t do. He was always very helpful, and often stayed beyond his office hours to help all of the people that would be there trying to get help for our homeworks and projects.”
- “Always willing to help you out if you have a problem. Takes a great interest in making sure you understand material.”
- “Especially in the labs, Michael was incredibly helpful. Even if it was past our scheduled lab time, he stayed to make sure we had everything done and completed. **Michael definitely will make a good instructor of this course in the future.**”

Please find attached all Student Perceptions of Teaching results from those aforementioned semesters.

Fall 2011 Virginia Tech Student Perception of Teaching (SPOT) Survey

CS_1124_91892_201109

Results of survey

Started: November 26, 2011

Ended: December 8, 2011

Reply rate: 63% (19 / 30)

Fall 2011 Virginia Tech Student Perception of Teaching (SPOT) Survey

If a course was taught by multiple instructors, you will be asked to respond to the same items for each instructor. For course-related items, please consider the nature of the course as it was taught by each named instructor.

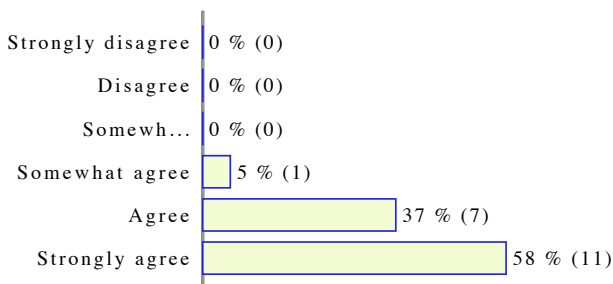
Thank you for contributing to the goal of continuously improving teaching and learning at Virginia Tech!

Instructor/Evaluatee: Michael Stewart

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:

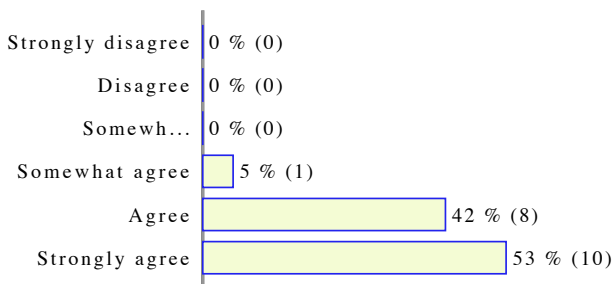
1. The instructor was well prepared.

19 answers, mean = 5.53



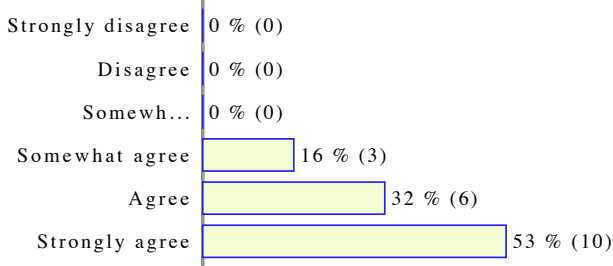
2. The instructor presented the subject matter clearly.

19 answers, mean = 5.47



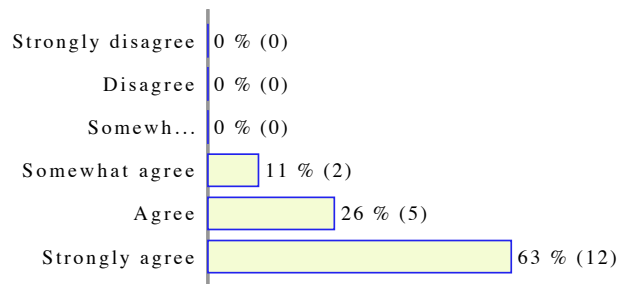
3. The instructor provided feedback intended to improve my course performance.

19 answers, mean = 5.37



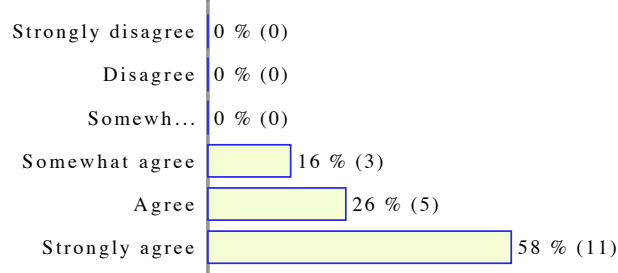
4. The instructor fostered an atmosphere of mutual respect.

19 answers, mean = 5.53



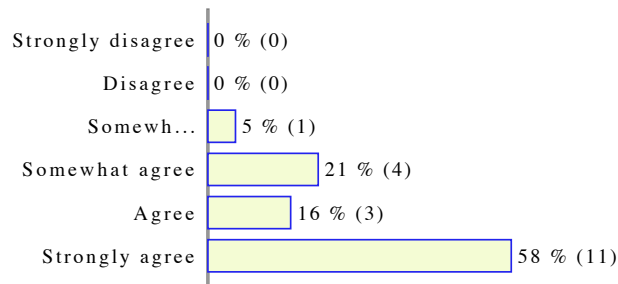
5. I have a deeper understanding of the subject matter as a result of this course.

19 answers, mean = 5.42



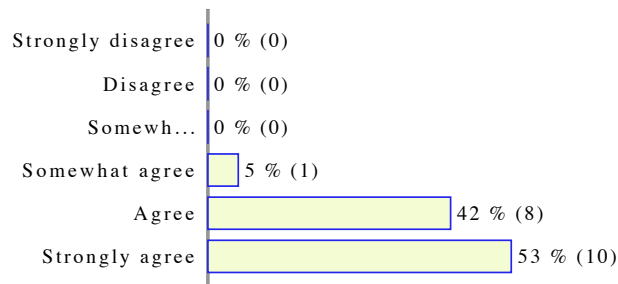
6. My interest in the subject matter was stimulated by this course.

19 answers, mean = 5.26



7. Overall, the instructor's teaching was effective.

19 answers, mean = 5.47



8. What did the instructor do that most helped in your learning?

- The instructor provided one on one help during lab.
- Very personal in responding to questions and help.
- He was always there to answer questions, no matter what
- Michael did a good job attempting to make up for what Dr. Perez couldn't do. He was always very helpful, and often stayed beyond his office hours to help all of the people that would be there trying to get help for our homeworks and projects.
- He realized my struggles as a student.

- He was very helpful in his office hours by making sure I understood the concept, not just turning in the right answer.
- Really answered our questions
- Led hands-on lab activities and provided out-of-class help when requested.
- Answered questions and emails
- Always willing to help you out if you have a problem. Takes a great interest in making sure you understand material.
- Especially in the labs, Michael was incredibly helpful. Even if it was past our scheduled lab time, he stayed to make sure we had everything done and completed. Michael definitely will make a good instructor of this course in the future.
- Help each student individually when a problem arose.
- Elaborated on discussions in lecture.
- eh

9. What could you have done to be a better learner?

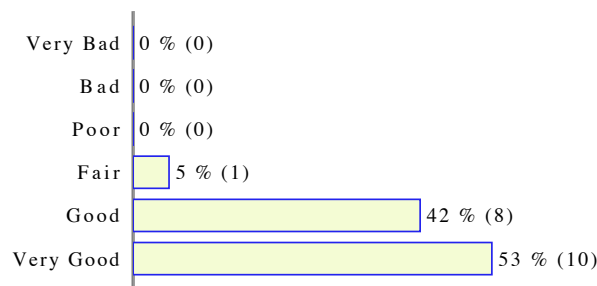
- I don't know that I could have done much more to have been a better learner.
- Could have gone to more of his office hours
- Completed the task in a more efficient manner
- Gone to more office hours
- Nothing
- Tried to apply the hands-on activities in more personal out-of-class applications on my own. Practiced more coding.
- more practice problems
- The course was good, but it felt as if there was growing or learning pains. There were definitely some awkward points and times where I was incredibly confused about what he wanted us to be submitting.
- Taken the criticism and turned it into a positive change.
- eh

10. Please add any additional comments regarding the course here:

- N/A
- N/A
- learned a lot
- eh

11. How would you rate the physical environment in which you took this class based upon your ability to see, hear, concentrate, and participate?

19 answers, mean = 5.47



12. Please add any comments about the physical environment here:

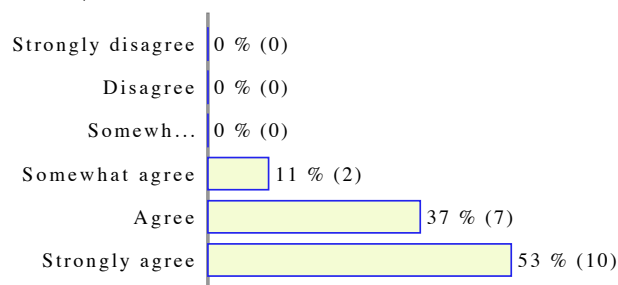
- N/A
- N/A
- eh

Engineering

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:

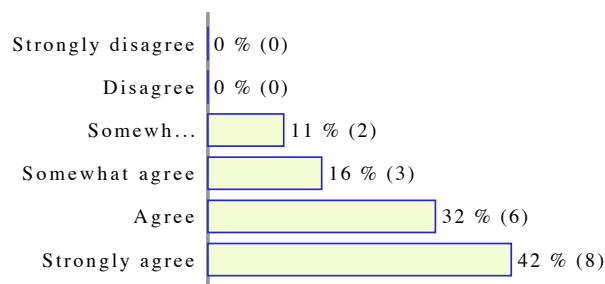
13. I improved my ability to problem solve.

19 answers, mean = 5.42



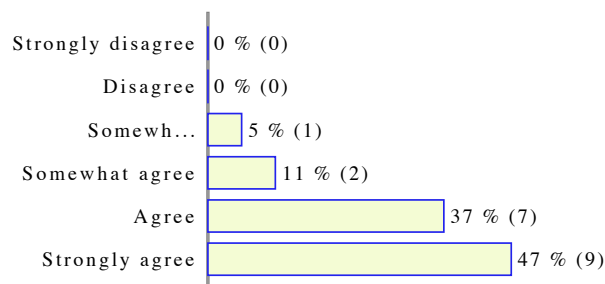
14. The textbook or course readings made a valuable contribution to my learning.

19 answers, mean = 5.05



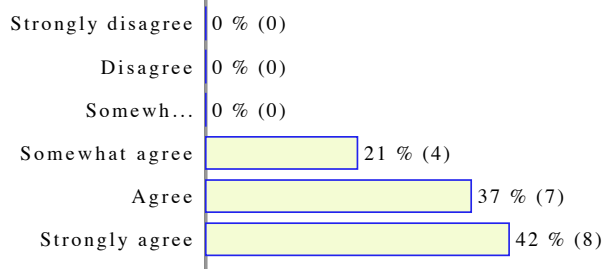
15. The objectives of the course were clearly explained.

19 answers, mean = 5.26



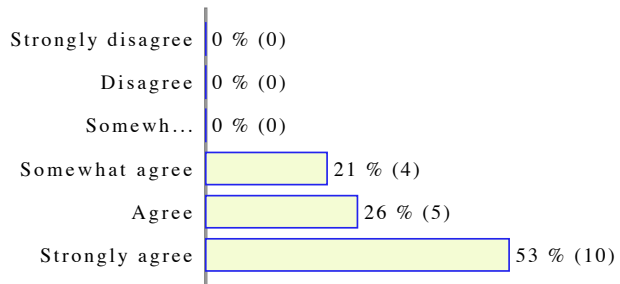
16. The out-of-class assignments were educationally valuable.

19 answers, mean = 5.21



17. The instructor related theories and concepts to practical issues.

19 answers, mean = 5.32



Fall 2011 Virginia Tech Student Perception of Teaching (SPOT) Survey

CS_1124_91893_201109

Results of survey

Started: November 26, 2011

Ended: December 8, 2011

Reply rate: 57% (16 / 28)

Fall 2011 Virginia Tech Student Perception of Teaching (SPOT) Survey

If a course was taught by multiple instructors, you will be asked to respond to the same items for each instructor. For course-related items, please consider the nature of the course as it was taught by each named instructor.

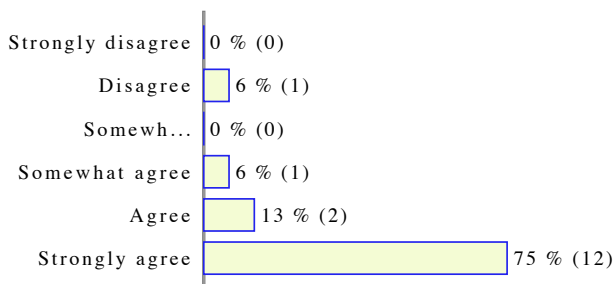
Thank you for contributing to the goal of continuously improving teaching and learning at Virginia Tech!

Instructor/Evaluatee: Michael Stewart

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:

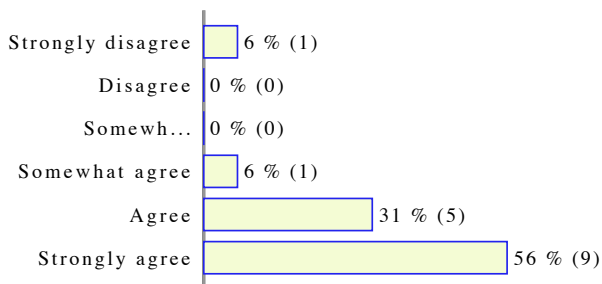
1. The instructor was well prepared.

16 answers, mean = 5.50



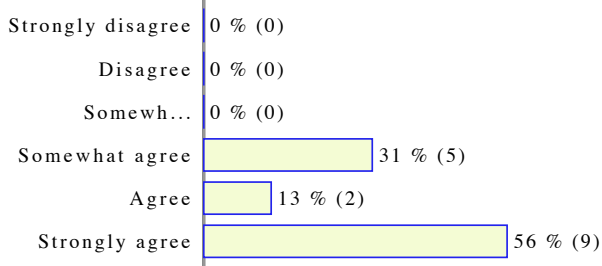
2. The instructor presented the subject matter clearly.

16 answers, mean = 5.25



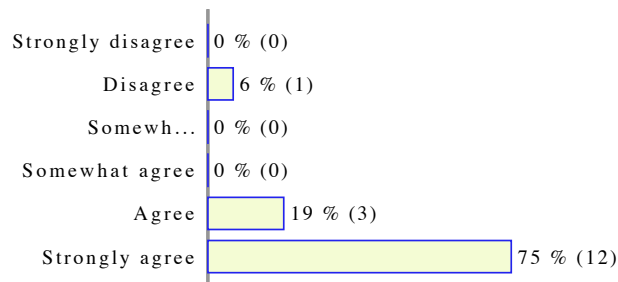
3. The instructor provided feedback intended to improve my course performance.

16 answers, mean = 5.25



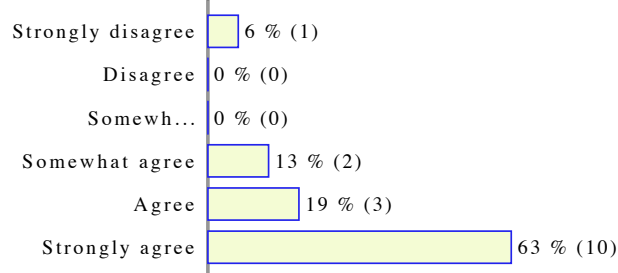
4. The instructor fostered an atmosphere of mutual respect.

16 answers, mean = 5.56



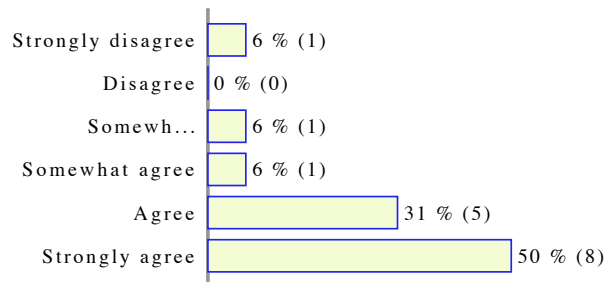
5. I have a deeper understanding of the subject matter as a result of this course.

16 answers, mean = 5.25



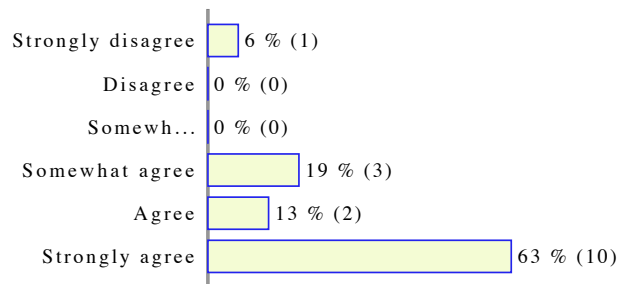
6. My interest in the subject matter was stimulated by this course.

16 answers, mean = 5.06



7. Overall, the instructor's teaching was effective.

16 answers, mean = 5.19



8. What did the instructor do that most helped in your learning?

- He had a good way of explaining things.
- Provided very helpful examples of problems came across during the labs.
- Walked us through programs if we needed help in labs.
- went step by step to explain things.
- He was a great helper in that he could teach and push us in the right direction on assignments and somehow not give us the answers. Great TA.

- He was very helpful in the labs.
- He was always willing to meet with me when I needed help.
- Responded to questions perfectly.
- His methods of explaining things in detail helped tremendously.
- The labs.
- During the labs, Michael did his best to help everybody. Even though at times it felt like he was stuck with one person, his advice was clearly tailored towards the issue at hand.
- Was always available for help if he could be. Was very knowledgeable overall.

9. What could you have done to be a better learner?

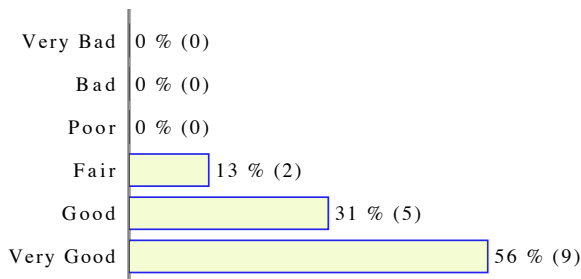
- I could have learned more on my own.
- Put more time into the class outside of it.
- Work harder.
- Asked more questions.
- Asked more questions
- I could have paid more attention.
- Bring my textbook to class and use it as a guide for some of the labs. Additionally, I shouldn't have been afraid to experiment with the programs available to us.
- I learned well.

10. Please add any additional comments regarding the course here:

- You are exceptionally good at explaining things. I would basically just encourage you to be as available to students as possible with more hours because I've how well I understand the material after you explain it.

11. How would you rate the physical environment in which you took this class based upon your ability to see, hear, concentrate, and participate?

16 answers, mean = 5.44



12. Please add any comments about the physical environment here:

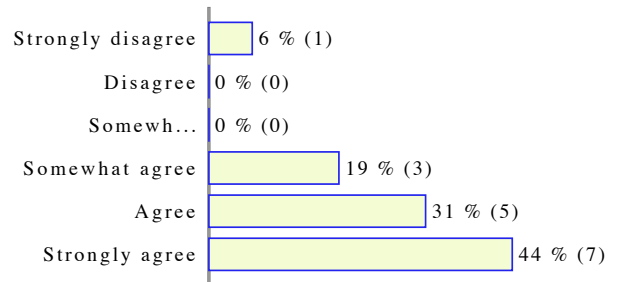
- I sat up front, so it was good.

Engineering

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:

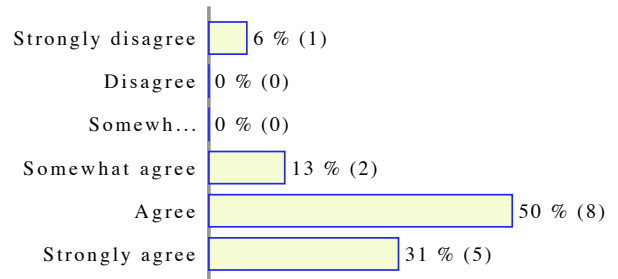
13. I improved my ability to problem solve.

16 answers, mean = 5.00



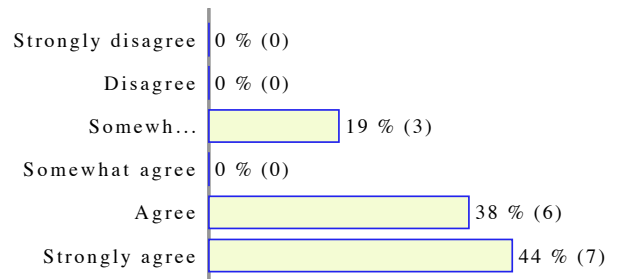
14. The textbook or course readings made a valuable contribution to my learning.

16 answers, mean = 4.94



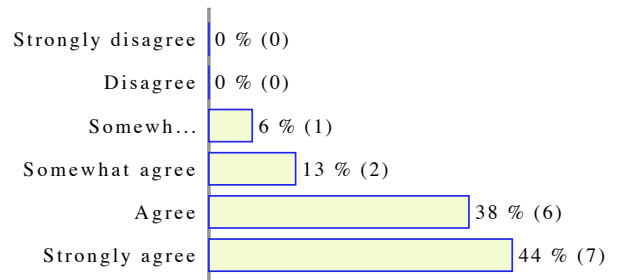
15. The objectives of the course were clearly explained.

16 answers, mean = 5.06



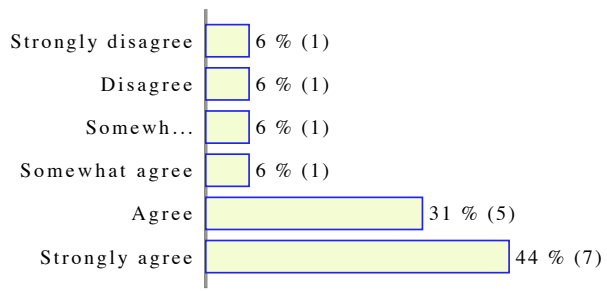
16. The out-of-class assignments were educationally valuable.

16 answers, mean = 5.19



17. The instructor related theories and concepts to practical issues.

16 answers, mean = 4.81



Spring 2012 Virginia Tech Student Perception of Teaching (SPOT) Survey

CS_1124_12042_201201

Results of survey

Started: April 18, 2012

Ended: May 3, 2012

Reply rate: 52% (13 / 25)

Spring 2012 Virginia Tech Student Perception of Teaching (SPOT) Survey

If a course was taught by multiple instructors, you will be asked to respond to the same items for each instructor. For course-related items, please consider the nature of the course as it was taught by each named instructor.

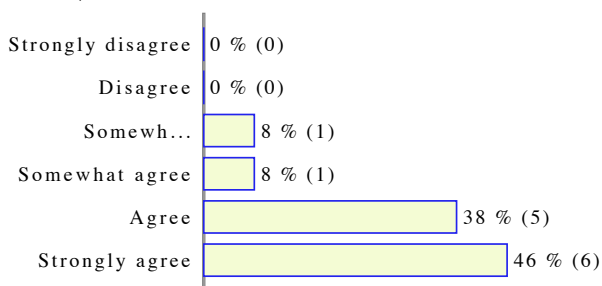
Thank you for contributing to the goal of continuously improving teaching and learning at Virginia Tech.

Instructor/Evaluated: Michael Stewart

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:

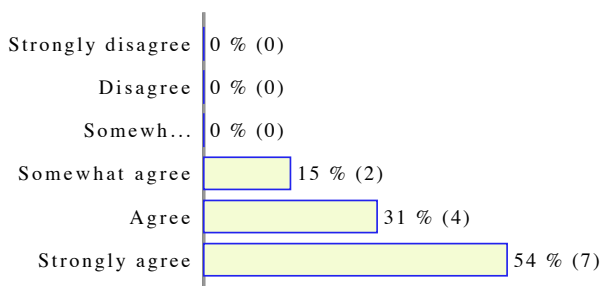
1. The instructor was well prepared.

13 answers, mean = 5.23



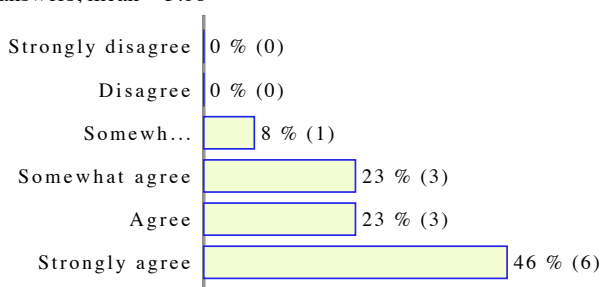
2. The instructor presented the subject matter clearly.

13 answers, mean = 5.38



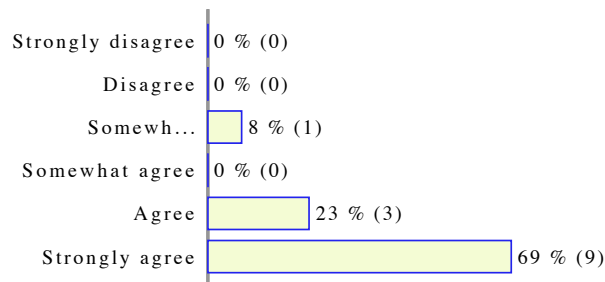
3. The instructor provided feedback intended to improve my course performance.

13 answers, mean = 5.08



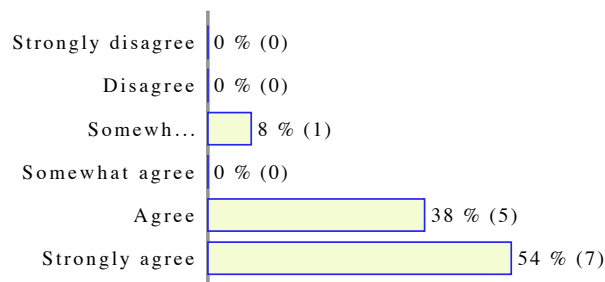
4. The instructor fostered an atmosphere of mutual respect.

13 answers, mean = 5.54



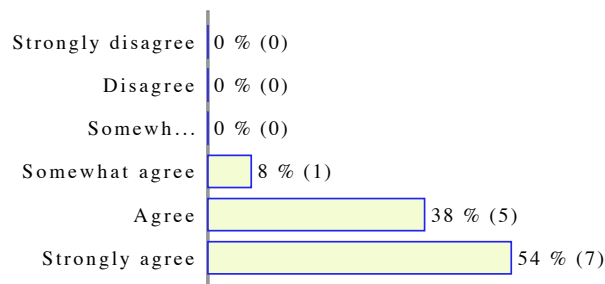
5. I have a deeper understanding of the subject matter as a result of this course.

13 answers, mean = 5.38



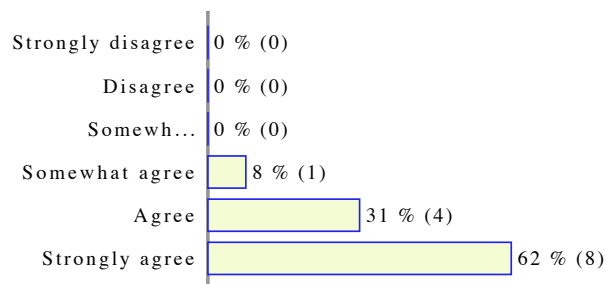
6. My interest in the subject matter was stimulated by this course.

13 answers, mean = 5.46



7. Overall, the instructor's teaching was effective.

13 answers, mean = 5.54



8. What did the instructor do that most helped in your learning?

- used projects as a means to teach the class more on a selected subject
- Posted lectures online. Very active on Piazza. Always willing to help.
- Explained everything well, kept the class active.
- Explained code.
- Slow, detailed, and interesting explanations of concepts were extremely helpful.

- He talked about certain topics in a basic form of language
- He provided all lectures and code online, as well as being available on Piazza.com and during office hours.
- Explained everything thoroughly.
- Explained the concepts very well
- He was very prompt at answering questions, in person or through emails, or piazza.

9. What could you have done to be a better learner?

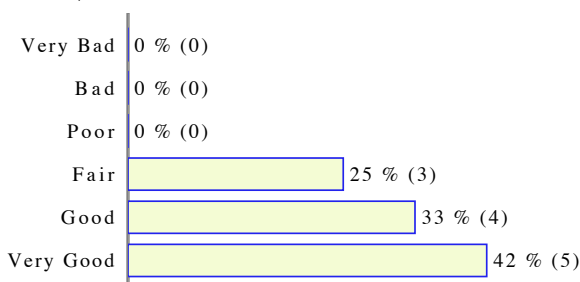
- woken up and went to class
- Keeping the grade book up to date
- study more
- Read the book every time before class/go to all the classes.
- Studied and practiced more.
- I could have practice with JES more
- Not much.
- attended more lecture

10. Please add any additional comments regarding the course and/or instructor here:

- Overall the class is taught well, but projects and exams can take them multiple weeks and sometimes more than a month for grades to be posted.
- Had a lot of resources and office hours that were very helpful.
- Very clear and easy to understand teaching method.
- Surprising on how well prepared he was with the class.
- At times the language in the course was a little too "layman". I would've liked to have learned how to speak about the subject matter with a more technical terminology.
- =]

11. How would you rate the physical environment in which you took this class based upon your ability to see, hear, concentrate, and participate?

12 answers, mean = 5.17



12. Please add any comments about the physical environment here:

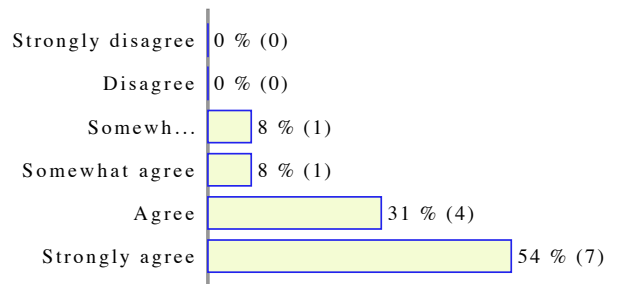
- Surge Building
- Because it is a computer programming course, we need our computers in class. People would be looking at other things that got very distracting if they were sitting right in front

Engineering

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements (if an item is not applicable, leave it blank):

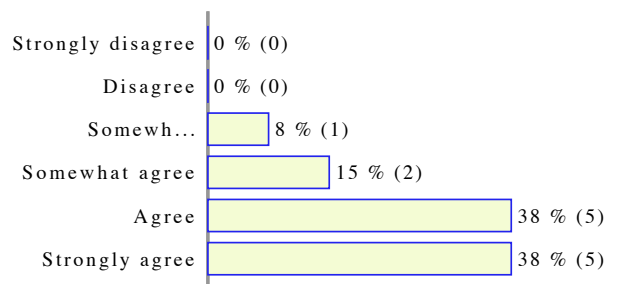
13. I improved my ability to problem solve.

13 answers, mean = 5.31



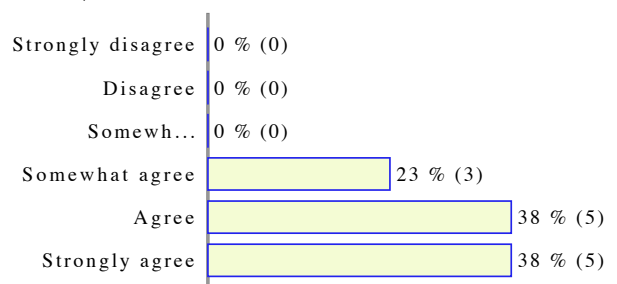
14. The textbook or course readings made a valuable contribution to my learning.

13 answers, mean = 5.08



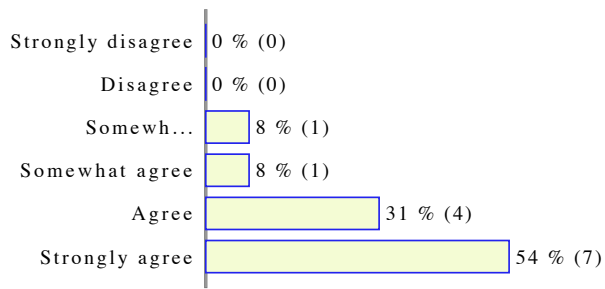
15. The objectives of the course were clearly explained.

13 answers, mean = 5.15



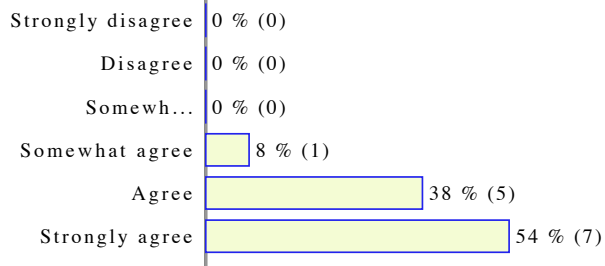
16. The out-of-class assignments were educationally valuable.

13 answers, mean = 5.31



17. The instructor related theories and concepts to practical issues.

13 answers, mean = 5.46



Spring 2012 Virginia Tech Student Perception of Teaching (SPOT) Survey

CS_1124_18792_201201

Results of survey

Started: April 18, 2012

Ended: May 3, 2012

Reply rate: 62% (18 / 29)

Spring 2012 Virginia Tech Student Perception of Teaching (SPOT) Survey

If a course was taught by multiple instructors, you will be asked to respond to the same items for each instructor. For course-related items, please consider the nature of the course as it was taught by each named instructor.

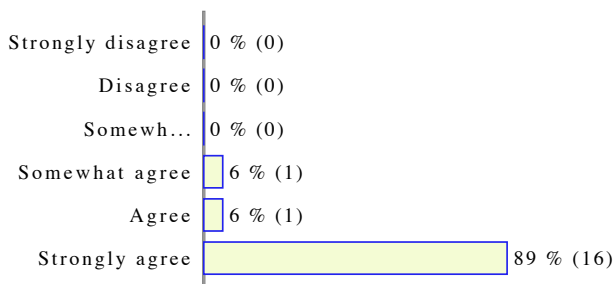
Thank you for contributing to the goal of continuously improving teaching and learning at Virginia Tech.

Instructor/Evaluatee: Michael Stewart

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:

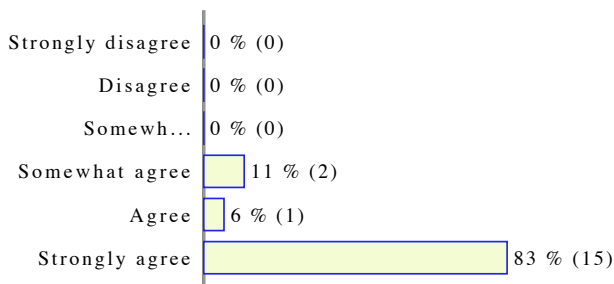
1. The instructor was well prepared.

18 answers, mean = 5.83



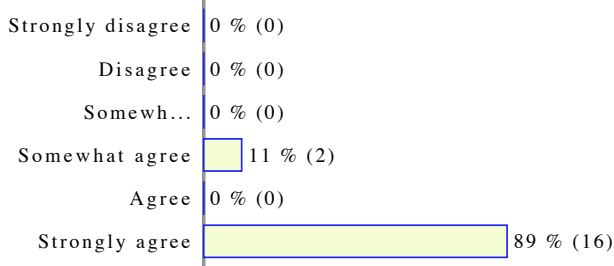
2. The instructor presented the subject matter clearly.

18 answers, mean = 5.72



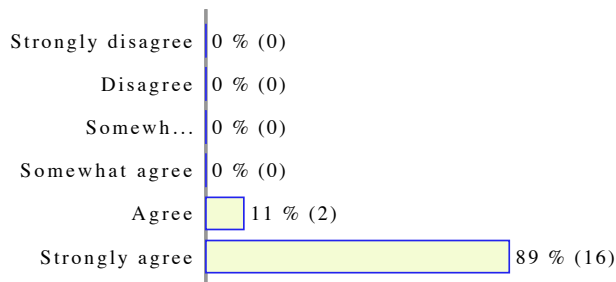
3. The instructor provided feedback intended to improve my course performance.

18 answers, mean = 5.78



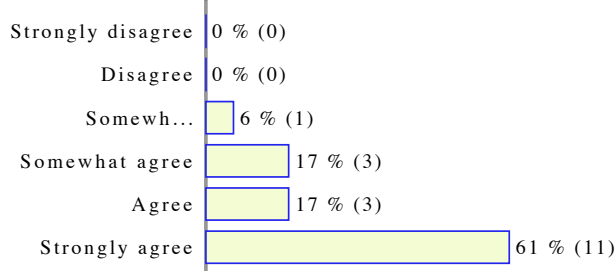
4. The instructor fostered an atmosphere of mutual respect.

18 answers, mean = 5.89



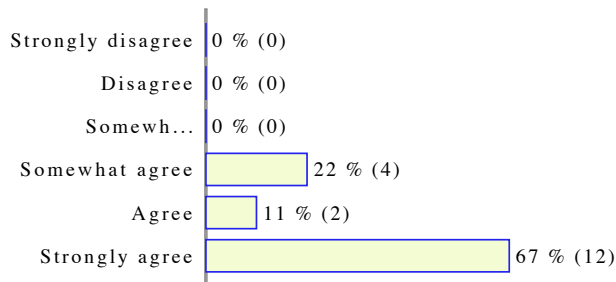
5. I have a deeper understanding of the subject matter as a result of this course.

18 answers, mean = 5.33



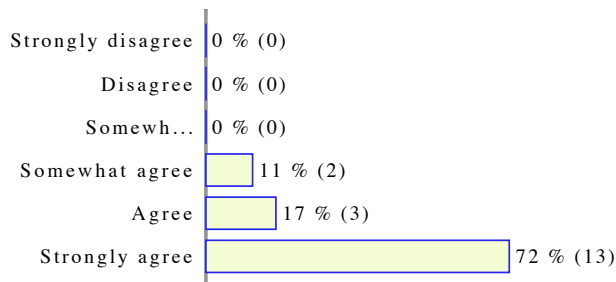
6. My interest in the subject matter was stimulated by this course.

18 answers, mean = 5.44



7. Overall, the instructor's teaching was effective.

18 answers, mean = 5.61



8. What did the instructor do that most helped in your learning?

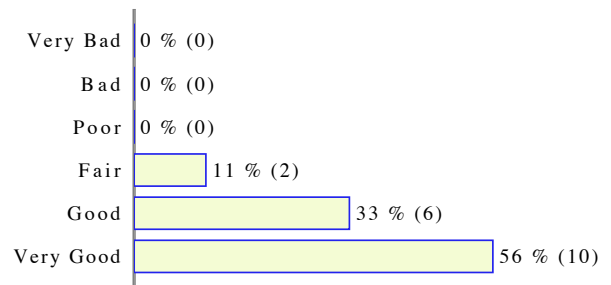
- He's pretty good at breaking down (often abstract) computer science concepts and putting them in simple language. For example, he'll use metaphors.
- Although i was too bad understanding the subjects the instructors helped me a lot
- Drew demonstrations of the subject on the board.
- He explained everything very clearly .
- very respectful and friendly. excellent use of Piazza.

- Explained programming concepts in non-programming ways. Since I have never programmed before, this was especially valuable to me.
- Feedback was incredibly helpful(piazza)
- He was posting the lectures online and was always available to answer any questions we might have concerning the class.
- Web cat graded our assignments and when I got an error that wasn't fully explain the professor and TA's were very helpful
- We did plenty of programming examples in class which helped when I actually had to do the assignments on my own.
- He is always very understanding and a very good teacher
- provide great examples and spoke very clearly
- Provided in-class examples of coding that we would use in the labs.

- Michael Stewart really cared for each student's understanding of what was being taught.
- very good course
- Occasionally, the problem wasn't explained as thoroughly as it could have been.

11. How would you rate the physical environment in which you took this class based upon your ability to see, hear, concentrate, and participate?

18 answers, mean = 5.44



9. What could you have done to be a better learner?

- Gone to class more frequently.
- Practice
- Attend class.
- Taken better notes in class
- Come better prepared before class.
- I could have done more exercises on my own and familiarized myself with some of the syntax of Java and Python.
- Gone to class everyday
- In labs sometimes the instructions were not very clear but they werent horrible
- I could have read more and gone to office hours more often.
- Consistently upload the lectures online
- n/a
- I could have gone to the office hours offered when I needed individualized help.
- Office hours.

12. Please add any comments about the physical environment here:

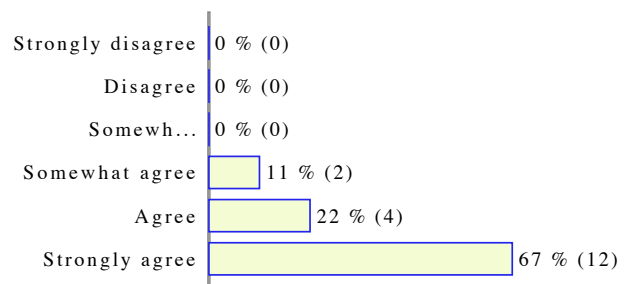
- Had a harder time seeing code in the back of the class, but the codes were put up online eventually so that wasn't such a big issue
- Being in partners in class was a great idea
- n/a

Engineering

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements (if an item is not applicable, leave it blank):

13. I improved my ability to problem solve.

18 answers, mean = 5.56



10. Please add any additional comments regarding the course and/or instructor here:

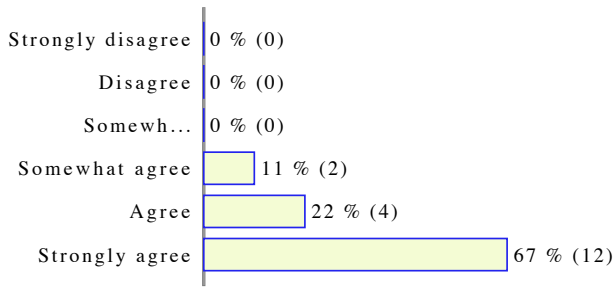
- Seems very slow and easy for first half of class, then more effort and work required in 2nd half. Maybe try to even it out a bit more.

Overall, one of the best structured classes I've taken. Everything seemed very well planned out to meet certain learning objectives.

- Thank you for everything

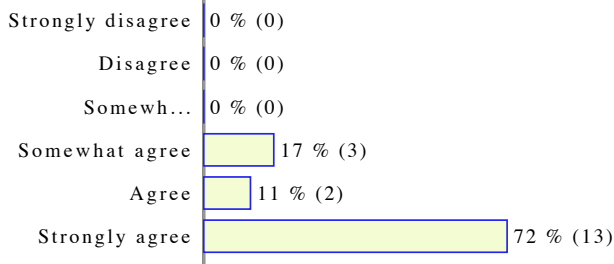
14. The textbook or course readings made a valuable contribution to my learning.

18 answers, mean = 5.56



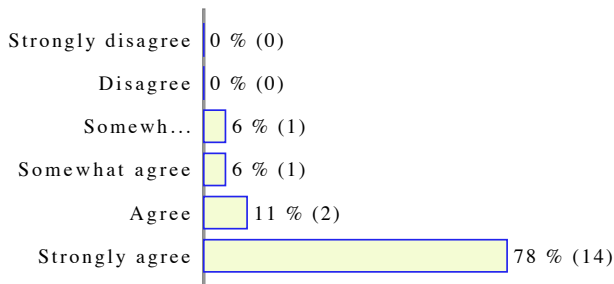
15. The objectives of the course were clearly explained.

18 answers, mean = 5.56



16. The out-of-class assignments were educationally valuable.

18 answers, mean = 5.61



17. The instructor related theories and concepts to practical issues.

18 answers, mean = 5.61

