Natasha Devroye
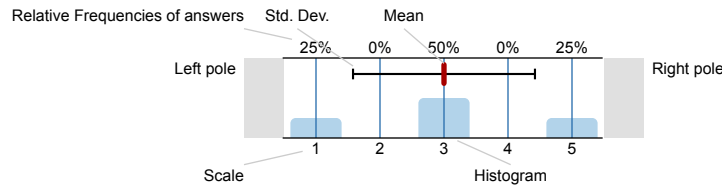
Communication Engineering
Semester = Fall 2024
ECE-311
11037-220248

No. of responses = 23
No. of students enrolled = 38

Legend

Relative Frequencies of answers   Std. Dev.   Mean

Question text

Left pole   25%   0%   50%   0%   25%   Right pole

n=No. of responses
av.=Mean
dev.=Std. Dev.
ab.=Abstention

Scale   1   2   3   4   5   Histogram

1. Instructor - Faculty Evaluation Questions

1.1) Rate the instructor's overall teaching effectiveness.

Poor — 4.3% / 8.7% / 4.3% / 34.8% / 47.8% — Excellent

n=23
av.=4.13
dev.=1.14

1.2) Rate the overall quality of the course.

Poor — 4.3% / 4.3% / 8.7% / 26.1% / 56.5% — Excellent

n=23
av.=4.26
dev.=1.1

1.3) How well did the course assignments/ quizzes/ examinations reflect content and emphasis of the course?

Not at all — 0% / 4.5% / 27.3% / 22.7% / 45.5% — To a Great Extent

n=22
av.=4.09
dev.=0.97

1.4) Was the instructor's use of technology (e.g., email, Blackboard, PowerPoint, other electronic and/ or web-based methods) effective?

Not at All — 0% / 4.3% / 0% / 30.4% / 65.2% — To a Great Extent

n=23
av.=4.57
dev.=0.73

1.5) The instructor was sensitive to the cultural/human diversity, diverse worldviews, learning disability, and / or physical disability of the students.

No Agreement — 0% / 4.5% / 4.5% / 31.8% / 59.1% — Strong Agreement

n=22
av.=4.45
dev.=0.8
ab.=1

1.6) How would you rate the physical environment in which you take **this class**, especially the classroom facilities, including your ability to see, hear, concentrate, and participate?

Poor — 13% / 4.3% / 21.7% / 21.7% / 39.1% — Excellent

n=23
av.=3.7
dev.=1.4

1.7) Course difficulty, relative to other courses was

Very easy — 4.3% / 13% / 34.8% / 30.4% / 17.4% — Very hard

n=23
av.=3.43
dev.=1.08

1.8) Course workload, relative to other courses was

Very easy — 4.3% / 8.7% / 43.5% / 17.4% / 26.1% — Very hard

n=23
av.=3.52
dev.=1.12

2. OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS

2.1) Please comment on specific characteristics of the course that were most beneficial to you:

- -Weekly homeworks were helpful, they're not too long and helped practice the concepts and to show where I was struggling.
  -The professor's teaching style is engaging, just the right pace, and notes were useful as well

- Appreciate the lectures, answering our questions thoroughly, homeworks are very helpful to study/practice.

- Communication cencepts are very relevent to my focus

- I really enjoyed the lectures, how they were recorded and how the notes were uploaded. Even if classed was missed, one could still look at the Echo 360 recording.

- It was beneficial when you posted the notes you did in class and gave example exams when we had midterms come up.

- Labs were very helpful.

- Learning about signals and such

- Lectures were engaging and effective, really helped that homework and quizzes closely matched each other and studied material.

- Makes the topic easy to understand, not only that will do multiple problems based on the topics so we can understand it more. Also cares deeply about student success.

- The homework and the weekly quizzes were the most beneficial to me. Solutions were posted after each homework and each quiz, this allowed me to gauge what I knew and what I needed to work on. This in turn made the exams feel more relaxed for me.

- The notes and instruction were very informative and the professor was very inclined to help students even during lecture.

- The professor was always happy to go over questions. Her teaching style is very clear. She made the class feel very intuitive to me. She helped with questions about research.

- The structure of the course was very well thought out, every topic led into the next. It makes sense conceptually.

- This was the first class in my four years at UIC ECE in which I had Prof.Devroye as my teacher. I can say without a doubt that she is definitely one of the best professors in the department. She is very knowledgeable about the subject, and works through the theoretical, then for the students understanding takes that new knowledge and works through a problem during lecture. I will say his,quizes,and exams are definitely fair. There are no surprises, to do the hw, you can look at the lecture slides. To do the quizzes you look at the corresponding hw. To best study for the exam you look at the hw's and quizzes prior. Prof.Devroye is also very understanding of student situations, and grades throughout the semester. For example, there was only expose to be one midterm for the course, and I scored almost a whole standard deviation below the average on that exam (That's on me, questions were definitely fair, should have managed my time better during the exam).....I think she had some of the other students pleaded to her for a second chance or something like that, and out of kindness she gave a second optional midterm to students in which would replace your first midterms score if you do better. If she didn't give this second option midterm, for the first time in my ECE career I would have possibly had my first C. Overall great professor, and really does teach very well.

- lots of examples and explanations helped in trying to understand the material. if students were confused about different aspects of the material then the professor would go back and help explain the material that is confusing with more detail

- please use a different classroom. it's too small for the number of students.

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2.2) Please comment on specific aspects of the course that need improvement:

- -Lab handouts were often confusing

- I felt that we had too many weekly assignments which forced me to spend more time on this class than others. Would appreciate either dropping prelabs or switching weekly quizzes and homework to biweekly.

- I have never struggled this much in a class than this one. I want to begin with the professor's teaching first. She goes way too fast on the slides and has horrific handwriting, making it very difficult to understand what she is doing. She does a lot of theoretical and conceptual problems, which barely helps me to understand/finish the homework; moreover, I'd have to look up myself to understand the problem she was asking for. She does do some example problems based on the homework, but she does it when it hits the deadline, which makes no sense since it would be irrelevant—moving on to the quizzes. She mentioned that the quizzes are going to be based on the homework. If I could give a rough estimate, I would say 3/10 of quizzes were based on the homework. The rest, I would never see anywhere at all, making my quiz grade suffer a lot due to the random, unnecessary questions she would toss around. The labs weren't too bad. The only criticism I would give is they never taught us how to use LTspice. She seems to care a lot for this class and definitely knows what she's doing, but her approach was very terrible in my opinion.

- I think the coise went a bit fast and I would like to have a better book as the book assigned wasn't good.

- I would have appreciated having example quizzes to prepare for the upcoming ones. While the homework is helpful, there were sometimes

multiple topics covered, and I wasn't certain which topic would be included on the quiz.

- Make the lectures recorded for future study references.

- N/A

- Natashas lessons were not refined. She didnt use any matlab which would really help get points across. Her lectures were messy and hard to go over at home. She also seemed quite disconneted with the course. Like all she did was teach it and any responsibility outside of that was up to us and the TAs.

- Ooof some quizzes and exam questions are HARD.

- Please please please please fix the labs they are so incredibly poorly run. The TAs cant do anything to help because they don't know how to even do the labs. Its unclear what is expected in terms of data and the prelabs are just god awful. The labs are also just not helpful in anyway to work with what is taught in the course.

  Also, the desk/chairs in that room A6 are so unbelievably bad and unusable I would return and fire whoever chose those. Juggling chainsaws would be easier than trying to take an exam on those chair-desks, there's no way to even fit a single exam page on them let alone a calculator, pencil case, or the necessary equation sheets for an exam. It bewilders me who would ever buy a chair-desk that has a desk space smaller than an 8.5-11 sheet of paper. Please consider new chair-desks.

- She records lecture and posts lecture notes on blackboard. There are some days were I guess it wasn't recording the screen or something so, there are a few lecture recordings where it is hard to watch and understand since you don't see anything on the screen and just hear her talk. Maybe, if possible check beforehand that all tech being used is working properly before lecture.

- The lab needs work but the lectures were perfect.

- The labs

- The labs need work, I often felt confused by them. The wording of the procedure was at times inconsistent and left me unsure of what needed to be done.

- The professor's writing on slides is the worst thing I have seen, I wasn't able to understand anything she wrote on her slides, hw solutions and other course related material. Real world examples were not given much. Also the professor goes through topics super fast and does not often cover them in deeper details.

- i think there was a little to much workload for the course. in 1 week a student will have to do 1 quiz, 1 hw, 1 lab, 1 lab report which take a good amount of time to complete, ontop of work from other courses