

Student Evaluation of Teaching, Spring 2023
David Penn, PSYC 101-002 GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY
Mode: IP (In Person)

Raters	Students
Responded	84
Invited	111
Response Ratio	75.7%

	Mean	Median	SD	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. Overall, I learned a great deal from this course.	4.54	5.00	0.65	84	1.2%	0.0%	1.2%	39.3%	58.3%
2. The instructor treated all students with respect.	4.86	5.00	0.52	84	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	9.5%	89.3%
3. The instructor encouraged students to participate in this class.	4.80	5.00	0.58	84	1.2%	0.0%	1.2%	13.1%	84.5%
4. The instructor saw cultural and personal differences as assets.	4.79	5.00	0.58	84	1.2%	0.0%	1.2%	14.3%	83.3%
5. I could really be myself in this course.	4.48	5.00	0.72	83	1.2%	0.0%	6.0%	34.9%	57.8%
6. In this course I had multiple opportunities to express my viewpoints and questions.	4.51	5.00	0.75	84	1.2%	0.0%	8.3%	27.4%	63.1%
7. The course challenged me to think deeply about the subject matter.	4.52	5.00	0.75	83	1.2%	1.2%	4.8%	30.1%	62.7%
8. The design of this course (e.g., its format, selected materials, assignments, exercises, quizzes, etc.) helped me better understand the subject matter.	4.27	5.00	1.02	84	2.4%	7.1%	6.0%	29.8%	54.8%
9. Overall, this course was excellent.	4.43	5.00	0.75	83	1.2%	0.0%	8.4%	34.9%	55.4%

11. The instructor held class meetings consistent with the official schedule published for this course.		
N	Yes	No
84	100.0%	0.0%

Department Specific

Psychology

	Mean	Median	SD	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree/Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
Overall, this instructor was an effective instructor.	4.64	5.00	0.74	84	2.4%	0.0%	1.2%	23.8%	72.6%

Open-Ended Responses

1. In what ways did your instructor make learning possible for you during the Spring 2023 semester?

Comments
by offering writing assignments to make us think deeper about different topics, by not assigning daily homework and instead encouraging us to read the textbook, helping me understand the material better
He provided in depth lectures and lectured at a good pace
he held normal class times and offered office ours
Asking questions and encouraging students to share examples, thoughts, and otherwise add information to the lecture helped me learn more
he always set us his powerpoints ahead of time. and was good with announcements and communication
He was always willing to answer questions during lecture and teach at a pace that seemed appropriate based on the students' understanding.
The teacher was engaging and the content was interesting
David Penn was super nice and enthusiastic about what he was teaching. His excitement about what he was teaching made it a much more enjoyable time in class.
He seemed like a nice guy, but didn't really do anything
He encouraged responses and also really respected various opinions and cultures really well, which is imperative in understanding psychology and its impacts.
David Penn was a good lecturer and very approachable. I felt like he was good at answering my questions and was always very encouraging.
Dr. Penn was one of the best professors I have ever had. His teaching style really worked for me, he is clearly an expert in the material and did an amazing job giving us an overview of the general concepts of psychology. His tests and papers were always very straightforward. If you attended class, listened and took good notes, and then studied for the exams, you will score well. His expectations for us were very clear and I enjoy that. Even in a big lecture hall he manages to make everyone feel welcome and encouraged to participate. He even managed to know most of our names within the first few weeks. He is a very kind person and is fun to listen to. I could tell he really cares about his students. UNC is lucky to have Dr. Penn as a member of the staff.
It's great that Dr. Penn uses lots of examples and polls to help me understand the subjects he teaches in class.
David Penn was an great professor and I am glad I had him for this course. As a Psychology BA major, he made me more interested to earn my degree in this field. Class was often lecture heavy but we did have moments where he would show us funny videos. There were also participation credit and essay that were given throughout the semester.
he let us express our viewpoints and ask questions
He made jokes and kept the conversation engaging.
He was very engaging with students and made everyone feel welcomed and valued.
DP would always post modules at the begging of every week. These modules would outline what points we would go over in class and give us the powerpoint so that we could start taking notes. DP's lectures went with the book so even if we missed class we could catch up with the book.
Dr. Penn made learning possible by posting the PowerPoints from class, being very sympathetic, and really making an effort and succeeding in remembering students' names. He is very caring and truly cares about his students.
Lectures and tests were representative of material covered.
Please record lectures since they are essential. A lot of the work did not help my understanding and only increased the amount of mindless work required.
Dr. Penn is a very knowledgeable professor; his lectures are engaging and interesting.
Professor Penn is an excellent lecturer. I really enjoyed listening to his lectures!
answered thoughtfully to every question being asked in classed.

Comments
Thank you so much Dr. Penn for all of your hard work this semester. I really enjoyed this course, I felt that the professor made the lectures interesting and easy to listen to, and he kept us engaged at all times. That was needed since it was an 8am, and he did a very good job at it. I really do not think he could have done anything better, my grade could have been a lot better had I attended class more, but that is in no way reflecting on Dr. Penn.
he posted all the powerpoints prior to class
The content was available and interesting. The videos and real life examples are great.
He is a very smart teacher and has an understanding for how to get information across in an effective manner during lecture
Dr. Penn was always flexible with the schedule and exam material to better fit what we learned in class and benefit students. He teaches in a clear, concise way that is easy to follow along with and understand.
Dr. Penn provided us with many resources and made learning fun.
Professor Penn is one of if not the best professors I have ever had, especially at lecturing. He made this information easy to understand and relatable so it is easier to memorize.
Professor Penn made learning possible by coming to class well prepared and explaining topics in a very digestible manner.
He was the best professor I had my freshman year. He made class so engaging and the way he related topics together made everything make sense.
Very accessible office hours.
He was a knowledgeable and enthusiastic lecturer who enjoyed hearing from his students.
really helpful study guide always took time to answer people's questions included videos and examples to help us understand material
The lectures were in depth and thorough, and he encouraged questions. He is so knowledgeable about the subject matter and truly wants his students to learn.
David Penn did a great job at keep the class engaged. He was funny and always outgoing which made learning fun and easy.
Dr. Penn gave great lectures that were engaging for an 8am course. I found his exams to be challenging with trick questions that didn't align well with the lecture format.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- explained concepts really well- answered questions well- knowledgeable on material
The videos that Prof. Penn uses during lecture are very helpful to solidify the material with concrete examples. His lectures are great, he is very funny and engaging and even if I didn't study well for exams, I did pretty well because his lectures are so memorable.
Dr. Penn did an outstanding job explaining concepts during class, and always provided thoughtful responses to questions asked. He also made it very clear what would be on the exam and what would not be. Even though this class was at 8am, I did not find myself dreading going to class because I enjoyed Dr. Penn's lectures.
He made the requirements clear and offered strategies for me to succeed such as getting notes from other students for missed classes.
He always had very engaging lectures and did a great job explaining the topics in class.
Gave very clear examples and answered questions thoroughly
Dr. Penn was a great instructor and gave many examples and personal stories in class that made the material easy to understand and remember!!!
He opened the floor to questions, answers, and comments
held lecture
He was very engaging and very kind to other students ideas and opinions.
David provided us with an opportunity to ask questions in class and I really appreciated how encouraging he was even when students' answers/contributions were not right. He would still encourage us and tell us that it was a good point. Also David provides really great additional resources for students that want to learn more about a material.
Allow everyone to participate and truly take the time to answer questions

Comments
Asked a lot of probing questions that made students think deeply, allowed students to express their questions and viewpoints.
My instructor made learning possible for me because by leaving gaps in the PowerPoints I felt really pushed to attend every class and overall coming to class every day showed to be very helpful in my grades in the course, and I was able to do really well, and I felt that I had all the information I needed.
He gave us access to good PowerPoints that I could study after class
I think that Professor Penn did a wonderful job teaching Psych 101 this semester. I have recommended his class to people multiple times. I appreciate how he broke the content up into 3 different exam sections and how we had supplemental essays to further our understanding of the material. I wish that it felt like he was more available, I always felt like what I had to say would have been an intrusion, so I generally didn't go out and contact him and I would reach out to the TAs or just not at all. It was unclear to me what kinds of things I should approach him about vs. the TAs.
The professor did a great job at making learning and opportunities in class and out of class available and was very welcoming for students.
It was possible through in-class lectures that explained concepts in an explicit manner with clear video examples.
Fun and engaging lectures.
I thought Professor Penn was amazing. In large lectures, especially at 8 am, Professor Penn kept everyone engaged and involved.
I loved how much Dr. Penn encouraged participation. I loved getting to hear about my classmates thoughts. I also loved that he made the tests based off the lectures rather than the textbooks.
Dr. Penn has been one of the kindest, approachable, and respectful professors I have had the pleasure of having at UNC. He was able to hold the attention of students in a 8 am class with interesting and relevant examples. I wish him well in his retirement!
He maintained a consistent class schedule and described the given material in an understandable manner.
He was a fabulous professor who had in class activities and videos and a great outlook on everything. He always was socially aware and caring, while being a humorous and helpful professor, using active learning and lecture in synchrony.
I like that he applies the concepts to real life things and the videos really help me to understand the concepts.
Giving examples
consistent times, many TAs, lots of updates via Canvas
Professor Penn encouraged student questions and organized the course in an accessible format.

2. Which aspects of this course should be kept for future times this course is taught?

Comments
Written Assignments although I'd make them worth more than five points As for exams, i'd make a few of them open note
poll everywhere, reading the book, writing assignments
The powerpoints
I thought this course was great. I loved how one exam and one writing gets dropped its helps focus on the material instead of the stress of the exams.
The essays were interesting to me, provided a way to learn more about Psychology's application in the real world and weren't very difficult.
The material
The lectures are very informative.
I think the short essays that we worked on outside of class and the format of the exams. However, I wish there were more opportunities to practice test style questions because they only time we were ever exposed to them were on the tests. I think more class time could be devoted to practice problems or more resources could be devoted for students to use on their own time.

Comments
Don't offer the class at 8am
I really enjoyed that some of the test content was specific to in-class discussions. It rewards those who go to class, and I appreciate that. The real-world examples are extremely helpful for aiding in my learning.
Getting students to respond to questions and also starting classes on more light-hearted notes like watching a video.
The best aspects of this course are the group demonstrations with students, as well as the videos we watch. Those helped me remember the concepts we covered in class for the exams.
I think that Dr. Penn should continue to teach this class exactly the way he is now. He is very clear with what he expects from students, and I think that the content is interesting, and he always finds a way to make class engaging through lots of examples.
I feel like everything should be kept in the course. Overall Great!
where we got to express our viewpoints and watch videos to help us understand concepts
The structure and the videos he showed to explain the concepts more efficiently.
Dr. Penn was great. He holds interesting lectures and encourages students to engage.
Keep posting the modules and have time slots for office hours!
The aspects of the course that should be kept are the PowerPoints and writing assignments.
Lectures and tests that cover the lectures.
The writing assignments were engaging and a good way to think about certain topics.
Definitely keep those writing assignments, as they are a good counter to those heavy examination grades.
the structure of it was great
The lectures!
only 3 chapters per test
The papers are helpful to learn real life application and the material is interesting.
Every part of it except the lecture structure
Nothing!
The lecture aspects but not the assigned textbook readings.
How lecture is done, how he used poll everywhere, and writing assignments to supplement learning
The presentations, writing assignments, and exam format.
The way he encouraged students to attend class was by having minimal things on his slides and most of his definitions were verbally said in class. This made skipping class a negative thing since you would risk not knowing certain things on the midterms.
All aspects of the course were excellent.
All of it. I liked the simple, straightforward, and clear aspect of this course. No unnecessary assignments and the exams reflected the class.
Videos of that reinforce topics learned in class
all of it
The amazing study guides!
I think the material we covered should be kept in this course because I feel like I have learned a lot from this class.
The lecture format and videos shared.

Comments
– study guides are really helpful
I appreciated the study guide that was given to us before exams
I think the writing assignments are useful for helping synthesize the information learned in class and to use it in applying/understanding real world phenomena or problems. I do think it could have been a little bit more interesting if we explored more deeply real-world psychological research and experimentation through reading research papers.
I enjoyed the essays.
All aspects.
I loved Dr. Penn's lecture style and the way he conducted class
everything
lecture
I think some aspects of the course that should be kept would be the writing assignments because they were really helpful in understanding the material better.
I really enjoyed the videos at the beginning that are funny/entertaining. I think it really reduces the amount of stress I feel at the start of an 8am clas.
The tests were fair and actually tested the main concepts learned which was great Sad to see Dr Penn go!
The lectures are great, in-depth and informational. Writing assignments are also good.
I think that I really enjoyed the essays throughout the course because it gave me an opportunity to look at real world studies and think freely about them. They also would always lead me back to course content, which furthered my understanding for exams.
I liked the fact that there wasn't too many assignments, so we could really focus on learning
I think that the exams and the writing assignments should be kept for class. I appreciate that we are encouraged to come to class because it feels like we can only do excellent on the exam if we came to class. One thing I wish was different was that the slides on the canvas page usually had some slides ommited. I wish that we had access to the entire slideshow following the class about it.
The notes and difficulty of the exams should be kept as well as the videos.
I liked his warmth when explaining concept, the patience he has when explaining and I think the sequence of the topics we see in class should stay the same because it makes logical sense.
The opportunities to dive deeper into topics in the out of class essays.
I like the structure of the course where it is not homework intensive and based off of the writing assignments and exams.
I think he should continue to make his tests based on lectures rather than the textbook!
Everything! The structure is great.
All of it.
I am so sad to have heard he will be retiring soon, as student will truly be missing out!
I like that the exams are multiple choice which feels appropriate for a 101 level course that many people are taking for a gen ed.
Videos shown in class
the grading system, i found the grading calculations were very fair and allow a more accurate representation of my preformance
The slides were very helpful.