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Student IA Evaluation for Jacob Saret Department of Physics

PHYS 120 - Circuits and Electronics (Arnold, Kam S) Winter 2019

Number of Evaluations Submitted: 17 Number of Students Enrolled: 45

- 1. The Instructional Assistant was well organized and prepared for class.
- 10 (58.8%): Strongly Agree
- 7 (41.2%): Agree
- 0 (0.0%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

2. The Instructional Assistant consistently arrived at lecture, section/lab, office hours and exams on time.

- 14 (82.4%): Strongly Agree
- 3 (17.6%): Agree
- 0 (0.0%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

3. The Instructional Assistant presented course material clearly and answered questions accurately in class.

- 12 (70.6%): Strongly Agree
- 4 (23.5%): Agree
- 1 (5.9%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

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4. The Instructional Assistant helped develop my thinking skills on the subject.

- 13 (76.5%):
 Strongly Agree

 2 (11.8%):
 Agree

 1 (5.9%):
 Neither Agree Nor Disagree

 0 (0.0%):
 Disagree

 0 (0.0%):
 Strongly Disagree
- 1 (5.9%): Not Applicable

5. Feedback from the Instructional Assistant on assignments, exams and/or papers was helpful and constructive.

 10 (58.8%):
 Strongly Agree

 6 (35.3%):
 Agree

 0 (0.0%):
 Neither Agree Nor Disagree

 0 (0.0%):
 Disagree

 0 (0.0%):
 Strongly Disagree

 1 (5.9%):
 Not Applicable

6. The Instructional Assistant's explanations were appropriate, being neither too complicated nor too simple.

- 9 (52.9%): Strongly Agree
- 5 (29.4%): Agree
- 3 (17.6%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

7. The Instructional Assistant answered questions clearly and effectively, helping students to make connections among the course readings, assignments, and lectures.

- 12 (70.6%):
 Strongly Agree

 5 (29.4%):
 Agree

 0 (0.0%):
 Neither Agree Nor Disagree

 0 (0.0%):
 Disagree

 0 (0.0%):
 Strongly Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

8. The Instructional Assistant was genuinely interested in and enthusiastic about teaching.

- 14 (82.4%): Strongly Agree
- 3 (17.6%): Agree
- 0 (0.0%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

9. The Instructional Assistant was accessible to students outside of class (office hours, e-mail, etc.).

 15 (88.2%):
 Strongly Agree

 1 (5.9%):
 Agree

 0 (0.0%):
 Neither Agree Nor Disagree

 0 (0.0%):
 Disagree

 0 (0.0%):
 Strongly Disagree

 1 (5.9%):
 Not Applicable

10. The Instructional Assistant effectively connected the section/lab exercises with the material covered in lecture.

- 10 (58.8%):
 Strongly Agree

 4 (23.5%):
 Agree

 2 (11.8%):
 Neither Agree Nor Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
- 1 (5.9%): Not Applicable

11. In terms of communication skills, did the Instructional Assistant demonstrate any of the following? (check all that apply)

- 12 (85.7%): No issues
- 0 (0.0%): Too quiet
- 0 (0.0%): Too loud
- 1 (7.1%): Too fast
- 0 (0.0%): Too slow
- 0 (0.0%): Poor grammar and/or English language skills
- 0 (0.0%): Used filler words such as "um"
- 1 (7.1%): Other (please describe)
 - I did not interact much with Caleb, but when I did he was generally helpful. He is somewhat distant as far as approach-ability and in the help he provides, which led me to interact with the other TA much more.
- 12. I would recommend this Instructional Assistant to other students.
- 13 (76.5%): Strongly Agree
- 3 (17.6%): Agree
- 1 (5.9%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Disagree
- 0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree

13. Please describe this person's greatest strengths as a Instructional Assistant. *Please keep your comments constructive and professional, abiding by the Principles of Community*

- Enthusiastic and always available
- Enthusiastic, passionate, easy going and approachable. Jacob often makes you think more and will lead you in the right direction when you ask him a question.
- Facilitating conversation among students
- Genuinely enjoys teaching, promotes growth, very approachable and humorous, encourages deeper questioning.
- He used the Socratic method with his students so that instead of directly learning the material, we would develop a strong general skill set for approaching problems in lab and in real life. He could immediately sense if a student was doing work in order to get credit rather than to be able to apply and really grasp the subject material. In this case, he would make sure (and even follow up with the students) that they could apply the material in unfamiliar ways. Finally, for the students who showed special interest in the subject, he did them the greatest favor by challenging them to go further in their understanding and giving them problems and situations to think about on their own.
- He's caring !
- Jacob always answered my questions not by telling me the answer but by asking me questions that helped me to find the answer and learn. I really appreciated this style as it helped me to learn the material more so than just answering the question directly.
- Jacob encourages students to think for themselves and come to conclusions through guided instruction. He is well-informed and knows the course material well, and uses this knowledge to point students in the right direction when it comes to understanding how circuits work and demonstrate the formulas presented in the class.
- Jacob knows the subject very well and he is very enthusiastic about it. The labs would have been like torture without him.
- Jacob made an effort to get to know everyone in the lab curse individually and was very friendly and accessible. He was happy to spend his extra time being available to give more support which was greatly appreciated.
- Jacob uses the Socratic method to teach his students so that we actually think through things and try to arrive at an answer by ourselves rather than giving us the answer. He is also accessible outside of lab sections so its easy to get help from him.
- The enthusiasm from the TA regarding the subject shows when he explains the material. The TA promotes independent thinking in the way he answers question while also offering further solutions when it is clear a student is lost.
 He is very available outside the class and easily approachable.
- willingness to help students out after hours/outside scheduled lab time

14. Please describe this person's greatest weaknesses as a Instructional Assistant. *Please keep your comments constructive and professional, abiding by the Principles of Community*

- He often responded to questions by simply encouraging students to think about it and giving small hints. In hindsight this helped me learn some things, but in the moment when trying to finish a lab this can be frustrating.
- If I didn't understand the questions he asked it was difficult to find the answers I needed.
- is slightly pedantic when it comes to explanations and grading. Especially with simplification of expressions or simple arithmetic errors
- Jacob is very passionate about the subject, and as such can go on tangents that, while interesting, are worth investigating more outside of class time.
- Keep doing what you're doing.
- Sometimes he couldn't conjure the simplest explanation for a phenomenon or a question. This
 became frustrating when we had questions about material that we weren't taught in lecture and
 have never seen before (the Socratic method didn't work here because we had no background
 information). Towards the end of the quarter, he couldn't help much with the complicated
 mathematics involved in the course.
- Sometimes, Jacob's methods can be inhibitive for simpler questions, but overall is very helpful.
- The answers of the TA may sometimes be full of so much information that it can take some time to dissect. It would be beneficial to stop at some points to make sure a student is still following the explanation.

15. Do you have any other comments to add to your evaluation? *Please keep your comments constructive and professional, abiding by the Principles of Community*

- Going to miss Jacob as my TA :'(
- His was overall a very involved, friendly, and enlightening TA.
- Jacob certainly wants everyone to learn and grow their knowledge of circuitry, and sometimes will (somewhat) annoyingly not directly answer questions, but provide food for thought. Overall this is very thought-provoking and leads to a better understanding. Jacob is an awesome TA!
- Jacob consistently showed up to the lab outside of his scheduled time to help students, often coming in on weekend and staying late which is, of course, extremely appreciated.
- Jacob is one of the most helpful and enjoyable instructional assistants I've had in a while. He is
 a great presence to be around and is able to explain elaborate circuitry into more
 understandable concepts. I found that his approach to encourage students to reach out to peers
 and learn through experimentation, rather than just giving students answers, is very conducive
 to student learning.
- Jacob's likely my favorite TA I've had at UCSD so far. I've learned so much more than I expected, and enjoyed every step of the way. Thank you! I'll cherish the elephant :)

- The class's rubiruc confuses both TAs and the professor but that's a course issue. Jacob's awesome.
- The course would really have been much harder if it weren't for their constant availability and readiness to help students with their lab and lab reports. Information conveyed was helpful and insightful however would have been more beneficial if it was better explained in tandem with what we did in lecture. Also just trying to be more available during the lab hours itself would be (slightly) more efficient
- The TA made this class very enjoyable and pleasure to look forward to every week.

Please note that any responses or comments submitted by evaluators do not necessarily reflect the opinions of instructors, Physics, Academic Affairs, or UC San Diego. Responses and comments are made available without auditing or editing, and they may not be modified or deleted, to ensure that each evaluator has an opportunity to express his or her opinion.