

**Biology Department/York Federation of Students**  
**Course Evaluation Questionnaire**

Course: BPHS\_2090 3.0 (Current Topics in Biophysics) (fall, 2012)  
 Instructor: Roger Lew

Please answer all questions as accurately and honestly as you can. Write your additional comments in the space(s) provided. Do not sign this form. The instructor will ask a student representative to collect the forms. Circle only one response per statement. A rating of 1 represents the *least* positive response and a rating of 5 represents the *most* positive response.

**Motivation:**

1. I took this course because it was:      **Required ( 7)**      **Elective ( 5)**

**Rating of the Course:**

	<i>least</i>			<i>most positive</i>		<b>mean</b>
2. The course fulfilled the description given in the syllabus	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> (1)	<b>4</b> (6)	<b>5</b> (5)	<b>4.33</b>
3. The required course note(s) were useful	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> ( )	<b>4</b> (8)	<b>5</b> (4)	<b>4.33</b>
4. The required readings were useful	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> (4)	<b>4</b> (7)	<b>5</b> (1)	<b>3.75</b>
5. The grading system was fair	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> (1)	<b>4</b> (5)	<b>5</b> (6)	<b>4.42</b>
6. I feel I learned a great deal taking this course	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> (2)	<b>4</b> (5)	<b>5</b> (5)	<b>4.25</b>
7. The course content was interesting	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> (2)	<b>4</b> (3)	<b>5</b> (7)	<b>4.42</b>
8. Rate this course overall	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> ( )	<b>4</b> (7)	<b>5</b> (5)	<b>4.42</b>

**Comments:** What did you like most/least about the course?

- *Most: Interesting topics, asking students to think in a number of different ways regarding physical and biological concepts. It improves your ability of scientific thinking; Least: Topics are not in continuity, which sometimes/rarely feels strange.*
- *Most: Very interesting subject matter. I want to know more! Least: Grading is a bit arbitrary and parameters of marking are not well defined.*
- *Most: How it combined both the wonders of biology and physics. Least: —.*
- *Most: Very interesting concepts and a good intro to how to view the world around us from another perspective. Least: The equations look to be all derivatives even though we rarely use them... which was good!*
- *Most: Did not know how people could apply physical approaches to Bio but now I do. I learned in the assignment that after you have done the physical analysis refer back to biological implications. Least: —.*
- *Most: I enjoyed the many interesting applications of physics to various organisms. Least: I found some of the formula to be too complex and there was not enough instruction on how to use them.*
- *Most: Interesting and new topics. Least: Had no previous knowledge of many things introduced.*
- *Most: Diversity of the application of different branches of science. Least: Specificity.*
- *Most: It's different, able to relate two completely different concepts. Least: —.*
- *Most: How applicable the material is to everyday situations. The sound effects. Least: Broad scope of material makes it confusing what to study for tests.*
- *Most: The professor kept the class very lively and interesting, and provided very helpful tips for the assignment. Least: I just wish it were more biology but I guess it's called "Biophysics" for a reason!*

**Rating of the Instructor:**

9. The instructor's command of the course material was extensive	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> (1)	<b>3</b> ( )	<b>4</b> (4)	<b>5</b> (6)	<b>4.36</b>
10. The instructor's presentations were well organized	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> (1)	<b>4</b> (1)	<b>5</b> (10)	<b>4.75</b>
11. The instructor explained difficult or abstract concepts well	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> ( )	<b>4</b> (6)	<b>5</b> (6)	<b>4.50</b>
12. Graded material was returned promptly	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> (1)	<b>4</b> (2)	<b>5</b> (9)	<b>4.67</b>
13. The instructor was available and willing to answer questions	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> ( )	<b>4</b> (2)	<b>5</b> (10)	<b>4.83</b>
14. The instructor was able to stimulate interest in the course	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> ( )	<b>4</b> (5)	<b>5</b> (6)	<b>4.55</b>
15. Considering all factors, rate the instructor	<b>1</b> ( )	<b>2</b> ( )	<b>3</b> ( )	<b>4</b> (3)	<b>5</b> (8)	<b>4.73</b>

**Comment on the abilities of the instructor:**

- *Instructor has a command over the subject as well as nice behaviour. Most importantly, he is very much cooperative.*
- *I like how he loves what he is doing and teaching. That motivates me to actually come to class and listen.*
- *Good use of simulations and videos and graphs. However, a bit tough to follow when taking notes at times. Overall, a pleasure. Also, extremely helpful and available for consultation.*
- *Liked how he used different organisms such as tree, or cicada and other insects, humans as well. By varying what you are studying you capture people's interest. For example, sometimes I wasn't interested/intrigued by class concept but as soon as reference to human implication, I was really interested!*
- *I found Dr. Lew to be a very good instructor, as he had tremendous knowledge of the material and managed to make it interesting.*
- *Knowledgeable, amusing, seems like a good guy!*
- *Extremely knowledgeable in biology area.*
- *Very good at presenting info —> very organized and informative.*
- *The material was clear and well structured which made it clear to learn.*
- *Displays vast knowledge of course material, able to kindle interest of students and make them use their grey matter and reasoning.*

**Retake:**

16. Ignoring any degree or professional requirements, would you have enrolled in this course knowing what you now know?      **YES** (11)      **NO** ( )

**Advice to Prospective Students Thinking About Taking the Course?**

- *Have a rudimentary understanding of physics and algebra (preferably calculus)*
- *Be ready for more physics than biology. There will be math!*
- *You need some background in basic biology (at least Grade 12 Biology)*
- *Make sure you ask the prof about any doubts/questions, as he provides lots of help and clues, as long as you show him some of the work you have already done.*