

Biology Department/York Federation of Students
Course Evaluation Questionnaire

Course: BPHS 2090 2.0 (Current Topics in Biophysics) (fall, 2011)

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 (8)** **Elective (5)**

Rating of the Course:

	<i>least</i>			<i>most positive</i>	mean	
2. The course fulfilled the description given in the syllabus	1(1)	2(1)	3(2)	4(8)	5(4)	3.81
3. The required course note(s) were useful	1(2)	2()	3(2)	4(5)	5(7)	3.94
4. The required readings were useful	1(1)	2(4)	3(2)	4(5)	5(4)	3.44
5. The grading system was fair	1(1)	2(1)	3(1)	4(7)	5(6)	4.00
6. I feel I learned a great deal taking this course	1(1)	2(2)	3()	4(8)	5(5)	3.88
7. The course content was interesting	1(1)	2(1)	3(1)	4(4)	5(9)	4.19
8. Rate this course overall	1(1)	2()	3(1)	4(11)	5(3)	3.94

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

- *Most: Applications; Least: Math.*
- *Most: The topics were interesting, and lecture were presented in an interesting manner; Least: No complaints of the course itself (or its content). Although there was a little more 'thinking outside the box' involved than what I am used to.*
- *Most: Interesting material; Least: Topics are too spread out and unrelated to one another. Difficult to study for tests.*
- *Most: It is new and interesting; Least: It does not have definite topics.*
- *Most: Interesting material; Least: Grading was arbitrary. NO IDEA what was expected on assignments or tests. VERY UNCLEAR expectations.*
- *Most: The intuitive thinking about problems involving biophysics; Least: The open-ended possible answers.*
- *Most: Mathematical analysis; Least: Difficulty of open-ended questions.*
- *Most: Topics were interesting. First biology class that is actually useful; Least: Sort of abstract on test and assignment questions. Felt that physics and math pre-reqs should be highly stressed in course outline, more so than currently.*
- *Most: The diversity of the topics covered, very wide amount, and very interesting; Least: It was difficult to gauge the expected knowledge for tests.*
- *Most: Challenging new concepts; Least:*
- *Most: The professor; Least: That there was no book for the course. Usually books have a better explanation than notes and more practice questions.*
- *Most: Material was overall very interesting; Least:*
- *Most: Looking at the biological problems from a physics perspective; Least: The amount of math and equations involved*
- *Most: Very interesting course; Least: A little too mathy, good idea to include math as a pre-req, not just physics/biology.*
- *Most: Lectures; Least: Course material*

Rating of the Instructor:

9. The instructor's command of the course material was extensive	1()	2(2)	3(1)	4(7)	5(6)	4.06
10. The instructor's presentations were well organized	1()	2(3)	3(1)	4(5)	5(7)	4.00
11. The instructor explained difficult or abstract concepts well	1(1)	2(1)	3(3)	4(8)	5(3)	3.69
12. Graded material was returned promptly	1()	2()	3()	4(3)	5(13)	4.81
13. The instructor was available and willing to answer questions	1()	2()	3(1)	4(2)	5(12)	4.73
14. The instructor was able to stimulate interest in the course	1(1)	2(1)	3(2)	4(8)	5(4)	3.81
15. Considering all factors, rate the instructor	1(1)	2(1)	3(1)	4(6)	5(7)	4.06

Comment on the abilities of the instructor:

- *Good speaker. Makes subject interesting.*
- *Very interesting lectures, no desire to fall asleep was developed. Thank you.*
- *Good effort and enthusiasm toward teaching the course.*
- *He's good, very helpful.*
- *MUST MUST MUST explain what the instructor wants from the students. STANDARDIZE GRADING*
- *Not very interesting, but knowledgeable in terms of the "biology side" of biophysics.*
- *His teaching was good, but tests were tough. Very approachable. If tests were a touch easier, it would be a lot easier.*
- *Knowledgeable instructor. Expects a lot from students ... not necessarily a bad thing. Super generous with marks!*
- *Enthusiastic!!!*
- *I really enjoyed class with Professor Lew!*
- *Made the class very interesting, and enjoyable.*
- *Great*
- *Dr. Lew sometimes shifts topics awkwardly, but it's made up for by very clear lecture notes.*
- *Very helpful. Answer all questions. Guides students to studying strategy. Very direct. Interesting. Friendly. I really enjoyed the course with him.*

Retake:

16. Ignoring any degree or professional requirements, would you have enrolled in this course knowing what you now know? **YES (14)** **NO (1)**

Advice to Prospective Students Thinking About Taking the Course?

- *Learn to think outside the box / abstract thinking*
- *I would say to take it, but be sure you have the time to dedicate to the course. Overall great, but it could eat some of your time.*
- *Know your math (i.e. best to take class after 1st year). Don't memorize minute details.*
- *When in course, look at how all the material ties together.*
- *Take some math courses before Dr. Lew's part of the lectures. Take chemistry too, it's a good help on some aspects.*
- *Very helpful professor.*