IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

To: Alexander Stoytchev
Personal and Confidential

CPR E Survey Evaluation Results for 2016 Fall

Alexander Stoytchev,

In the attachment you will find the evaluation results of the survey CPR_E-GroupingXX-281-ALL-Stoytchev.

If you have questions or comments contact your Class Climate CPR E Administrator or email course-evaluation@iastate.edu

- ISU CPR E Online Course Evaluation Administrator

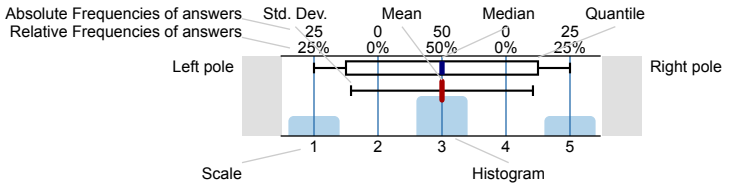
Alexander Stoytchev

CPR_E-GroupingXX-281-ALL-Stoytchev (CPR_E-GroupingXX-281-ALL-Stoytchev) LEC LEC-Survey
No. of course participants = 260
No. of responses = 109
Response Rate: 41.92%

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Legend

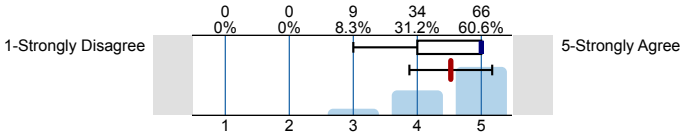
Question text



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

Teaching Methods / Strategies / Practices

1. The instructor expresses clear expectations for my learning in this class:



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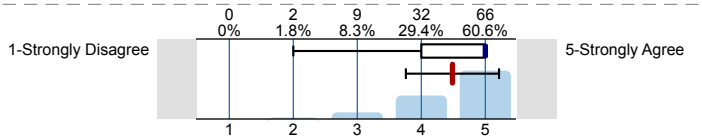
2. The instructor uses effective teaching methods:



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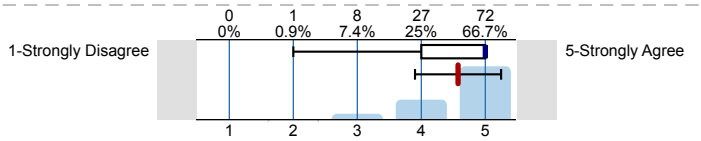
3. The instructor has created a positive, respectful, and inclusive learning environment:



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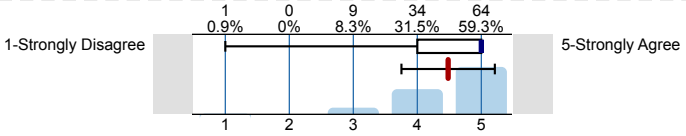
4. The instructor is available to answer questions:



n=108
av.=4.48
md=5
dev.=0.73

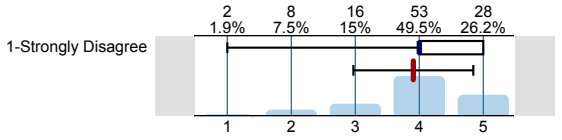
5. Additional comments:

- Alex has a great personality. He's very funny and likable.
- As far as Stoytchev's lectures go he is definitely the best teacher, and most interesting professors I have had yet. I came into 281 thinking that it was going to be a boring circuitry class and now i'm leaving it really actually interested in computer hardware and more low level architecture. There was almost always a quick review at the beginning of each lecture that helped break down the material we were covering so as long as I attended lecture I could understand what was happening in the class.
- Dr. Stoytchev is so funny. He does a great job of making the class laugh while still making time to cover the material.
- Excellent lecture slides and methods in lecture such as reviewing to make sure everybody understands.
- Great Professor
- I feel like a lot of the times the lecture can be a bit slow.
- I greatly appreciate how clear the instructor has been on what content will be on exams, how grading will be done, and that the grading of the class is very transparent. I also like that there is an anonymous forum. It's very valuable, in my opinion, that the instructor has created such an open form of communication. Some people, myself included, have a hard time feeling comfortable to ask questions that they feel are too stupid to ask from a means that the instructor could use to identify them even if they are relevant to course content. The anonymous feedback on BlackBoard really helped.
- I like the anymous discusion board
- I loved the animation of the slides that showed how the logic circuits worked.

- I understand that professors are really busy, but I think that different/more office hours should be held for this class. If a student has a lab or class right after the lecture, it makes it more difficult to be able to ask questions.
- I was unable to attend his office hours due to being in the marching band.
- Instructor is funny and engaging. I moved around my entire schedule to be in his class and I don't regret it at all.
- Made the material interesting and fun to learn.
- More projects leading up to the final project would make this class more effective.
- NA
- None
- Nothing
- One of the best professors I've had.
- Pretty good professor. Keep him around
- The slides he uses are well layed out
- Very clear and effective with his teaching methods. I wish my other classes would take notes on what Stoytchev is doing with his lectures.
- asd
- does a good job making sure no student is left behind
- none (2 Counts)
- the best at it.

Student Involvement / Engagement

6. I am prepared and I actively participate in this class:



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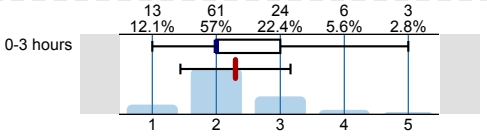
7. On average, I have spent _____ hours per week doing work **outside of class** for this course:



n=107
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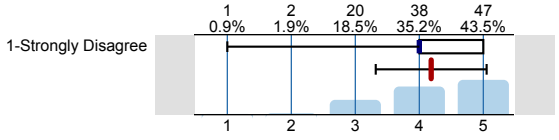
8. Additional comments:

- I spent a good amount of time on this class and I believe I will get the grade I deserve because of it. Very fair.
- I spent far more time on the final project than anything else in this class combined.
- Insane workload for final project.
- It's all fun and games till the final project and you spend over 20 hours/week.
- Labs are enjoyable and align with lectures.
- Last 2-3 weeks of this class are tough. The examples provided in the classroom only cover the basics and much of the final project I felt like we were alone with no guidance.
- Most of the long hours are spent on homework and labs that are way too long that it is suppose to be for us to be learning.
- Most of the time the workload in this course is very manageable. The homework given is of a decent length. The only complaint I have would be that the final quarter of the semester gets crazy with the addition of the final project.
- Most the work I do for this class is all done on Sunday, the day before the homework in due. The prelabs don't take long
- N/A (2 Counts)

- NA
- No
- Nothing
- Outside of homework taking a couple of hours a week the final project was what really killed me. Maybe I am an outlier but I easily spent 36 hours working on the final project and I still didn't even end up getting that good of a grade on it. That being said it was still fun and a good way to combine all the things I had learned in the class.
- The amount of homework for this class fits what it should be for a 4 credit class. The lectures cover materiel well so not much studying is required except before exams.
- The final project for this course demands too many hours outside of class to complete to a satisfactory degree. Because of this along with projects in other classes, I found it very difficult to find time to study for the final outside of completing this project. I suggest either assigning the project a bit sooner so that students aren't as busy during dead week, or perhaps assigning more, smaller projects over the course of the semester.
- The homework was very helpful and made me think.
- The labs are really cool and it's is neat to see how older labs can be used in newer ones.
- This last two weeks for the final project I've really put in over 30 hours
- Usually homework is easy and takes only about 2-3 hours. Recently I have spent somewhere around 10-16 hours on final project
- Weeks after thanksgiving 15- 30 hours a week . :'(
- asdas
- none

Evaluation of Course Materials (Resources, Assignments, Assessments)

9. My instructor emphasizes the importance and relevance of this material to my professional development:



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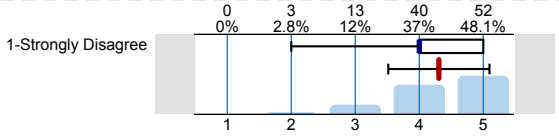
10. The assignments and activities in this course are useful:



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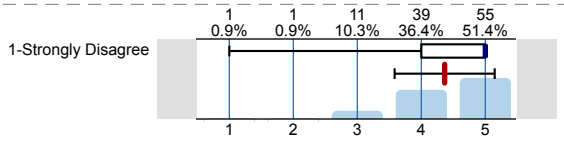
11. The instructor uses clear evaluation criteria:



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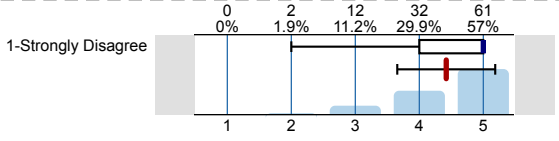
12. The feedback on my work is timely and informative:



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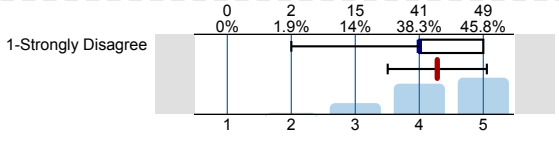
13. If there are tests, they accurately assess what I have learned in this course:



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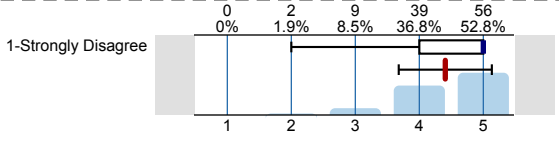
14. If there is a lab, it is coordinated with the lectures:



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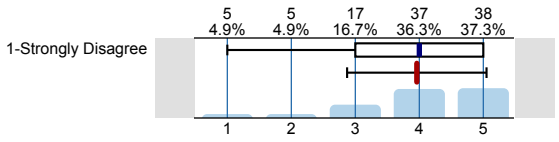
15. The required text materials (e.g. textbook, lecture notes, course packet) for this course are useful



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16. Additional comments:

- A lot of the labs seemed to be weeks behind what we've been discussing in lecture, meaning that I wouldn't be able to apply what I have been learning in lecture until a few weeks later.
- All of the assignments and labs were fine, with the exception of the final project. I got over 100 on each of the tests and As on all the homework assignments and labs, but I was horribly unprepared for the final project. The leap from the material we were dealing with in class and in lab to the design of the final project was enormous. Again, I was perfectly fine in the rest of the class (was always just under the top 10), but I was completely lost when designing my final project and bombed it.

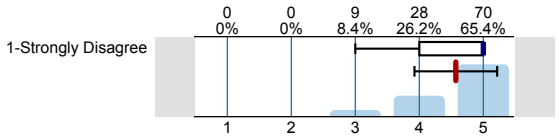
  TL;DR the course material, which I grasped easily, was not anywhere near sufficient preparation for the final project

  Note: my final project was the circular queue, in case that matters
- All of the homework problems assigned are very relevant and helpful for this course. The exams are very straightforward and I feel like they represent the content well. The chosen textbook was very clear and helpful and I appreciate the warning about the bookstore overcharging for it. This textbook has probably been one of the best textbooks I've had required by a professor. I can tell the instructor really took the time to research which materials would be beneficial. My only complaint is the final project. While I do like that it helps to give a cohesive understanding of how the learned content applies to computers when put together, the final project was an enormous burden. Each of the project options were extremely hard to do and time consuming to complete. The jump in difficulty from the last lab to the final project is insane. From what I have heard from past students and TAs, this year had an unprecedented level of difficulty for the projects presented as options to students. Past projects, like the vending machine or random number generator, would have been much more manageable while still proving challenging to students. The ones we were offered this year weren't cool especially given that those past projects were only a year or two ago. I also strongly dislike how the the turn-in process operated. While I understand that you can't have all the TAs on call for whenever the students want to demo, especially during dead week, it is extremely unfair that some students were forced to demo on Monday while others had until Friday to work on their projects. Don't get me wrong, I feel like a final project is a good idea for this class. I just think the scaling of the project should be tweaked and it should be introduced earlier, along with it's pertinent content, in order to be made more fair for students and more reasonable to complete.
- Book is really nice and informative
- Dr. Stoytchev gave all the material we needed in his lectures, so I really didn't see the point in me buying the textbook.
- Final project was tough, yet fair for what we have learned. Only complaint is that I feel we should have spent more time on the things that were required for the project (how to manipulate register files, more detail on verilog, etc.).
- Honestly, Alex's lectures have great notes, and usually I didn't have to use my book unless i REALLY didn't understand a concept, then it was there to offer new perspective.
- I didn't use the text book that much during this class
- I never opened the book, and a TA told me he never did either
- I never really felt the need to use the textbook
- I payed $50 for a textbook that I have looked in twice. I would rather have $50 back and just miss those few points on the homework. The lecture notes are more than enough.
- I think the tests assess what is learned well. They are just far too long and too great in difficulty at least for me.
- I used all of the learning materials provided and they were all very useful.
- I would spend more time teaching Verilog in the future. It could have been very helpful on some labs and especially the final project had I known more about it and didn't need to teach myself so much
- Labs, homeworks, and the book were all beneficial to learning course material.
- N/A
- NA
- Overall a really well organized professor. He teaches the class really well.
- Sometimes the homework felt like it was over things that weren't covered enough in class.
- Sometimes the textbook can be a bit excessive in the amount of info, and other times it can be to vague about how something was implemented, but in general it does a good job covering the topic. I found it interesting that the "limiting factor" on the midterms exams is time, and not knowing the concepts. I don't know if I liked it or disliked it, but it was unique.

- Tests are not testing what you know, but how fast you can write.
- The book is useless in this class except for a couple of charts or figures to aid in problem solving. As an EE, the activities (labs) do not mean much to me. I undertand the end goal but that is my ignorant opinion.
- The notes are helpful, the textbook is not too much
- The tests were hard, but also were a fair representation of what I was told that I was expected to learn. The labs were well planned to always give us a chance to do some hands on work with whatever topic we were covering in class. I didn't buy the textbook, as I personally hate textbooks but I at least appreciate Stoychev doing what he can to make them affordable.
- The tests were too short for me to complete with certainty, but if I rush through I can get more done. I would prefer to have been able to spend the extra time and get the test done, however how he compensated for being only given an hour for the test did help keep my grade up.
- There are no comments on the homework for what I did wrong, just a mark saying there were points taken off
- asdasd
- jdjsd
- none
- nothing

General Summative

17. Overall, the instructor has been an effective teacher:



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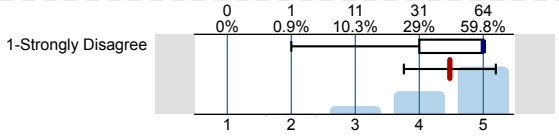
18. Overall, this course has been effective in advancing my learning:



n=107
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19. Final comments:

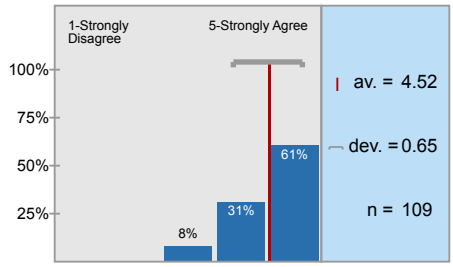
- Alex is one of the best lecturers I've had so far in my program. Granted, I am only in my third semester at Iowa State, but it's clear that Alex really knows what he's doing, and has laid out his notes so that if things get too difficult to follow in class, you can easily go back and see his flow of logic. Everything is comprehensible given enough time put in.
- Amazing class, keep on doing what you are doing, and thank you for making it so enjoyable!
- Amazing professor, tests can be a bit shorter and lab TA's need scheduled office hours! Especially during the last couple weeks of the semester.
- Can't stress enough how great Stoytchev is. Seriously this guy needs a medal or something.
- Dr. Stoytchev did a great job teaching this course, and really seemed to care about his students. The only complaint I have is that sometimes the review of the previous lecture he gave at the start of each lecture was tedious and unnecessary.
- Dr. Stoytchev is a great professor. I felt that I learned a lot and that this class will help me in the future. Even though he has a bit of an accent, he makes good use of the mic in class and I never felt like I couldn't understand what he was saying.
- Exam questions should be clearer. If the question does not specify the "right" way of doing something, then the students that did the problem a different (also correct) way should not get punished.
- Fantastic professor. Best I've had at Iowa state.
- Final Project was unfair and poorly instructed.
- Get actual office hours
- Great Instructor - Being a software engineer I tend to lack interest in anything related to hardware, but I really enjoyed the final project portion of the class. I tend to prefer "hands on" material as opposed to exams or reading textbooks/memorization so this was a fun thing to do. I did not really like the course textbook as it was not very readable in my opinion.
- Great professor. Loved the class.

- He did a good job
- His teaching was very helpful in my learning.
- I completely remade my entire schedule just to get into Dr. Stoytchev's lecture and away from Ponpandi's lecture. Dr. Stoytchev clearly cares about all of his students and I really enjoyed his class even though Digital Logic can be a really dry subject at times.
- I don't like the Star Wars / Matrix questions on the test. I get them right, but i feel like I shouldn't need to know about that kind of material.
- I feel like it would benefit students if the class picked up pace on the content sooner. A lot of time is spent on the basics of the content. While I understand that they are very important, they aren't particularly hard for most students to grasp. It gets a little rough at the end of the semester because I feel like the level of the content in this course is an exponential curve. All of the hard stuff hits hard and fast at the very end of the course, and when combined with the workload given by homework, the final project, and from other courses, it's almost unmanageable. If this class was the only one I had to take this semester, it would be fine. It's just unreasonable to balance with other courses that most students have to take in tandem with this class in those final weeks.
- I learned a great amount of material from this class, but as an EE it won't be my area of focus.
- I really enjoyed this class.
- I took this class from 4-5pm. Maybe it's just me but teaching this kind of content that late in the day is not the best. There was another section at 2 but I have a 101 reasons for not taking it.
- I would take this class 5 times over and enjoy it every time! I personally already knew a good deal of digital logic coming into the class so it was very helpful in advancing my knowledge base.
- In the future, I think it could be beneficial to place more emphasis on verilog. Whether this includes implementing verilog in the homework or in lecture, how it was presented to us this semester made it feel like an afterthought, when in reality, it would have made the final project much more reasonable.
- Last three weeks the professor was lazy, only went over very simple examples in class that were identical to those in the textbook. With the final project, the examples were almost pointless because the logical leap from the examples to the project were absurd.
- My favorite class all around so far at ISU
- N/A
- NA
- One of my hardest classes this semesters but one that I always enjoyed going to.
- Possibly lower the final project overall difficultly a little, or give basic implementation details to the people that show up the last class before Thanksgiving break.
- Probably one of the best professors Ive had at ISU, the course book could be better and the labs could be coordinated a little bit better with the actual course material.
- Stoytchev is a fantastic professor! I really enjoyed going to lectures for this class! Although the material is difficult, he teaches it in an understandable way. The labs were very useful for learning the material. They only thing I would change about this class is the final project. There needs to be more detailed specifications and more guidance since the project is a lot bigger than the labs. Also having more scheduled lab time and more boards would be very beneficial.
- The first half of the course is very interesting and knowledgable. After that, everything went down hill as most of the content are just heavy and are combinations of contents before (way too much content)
- The homework sometimes was very difficult and the final project it was very hard
- The instructor was able to make the class very interesting, and by doing so, kept the class very engaged.
- This class could be fun, the labs get a little crazy near the end. I understand the importance of logic gates and boolean algebra but I do not think this course is too essential for EE students, again, my ignorant opinion.
- This is one of the best classes I have taken at ISU so far. Other classes should be taught more like this class.
- This was the best class of my semester. So grateful to find a rare engineering professor that is a gem. He was both clear and understanding if students had problems. Also a nice person, which is an added bonus. Thanks Stoytchev!
- Very fun couse
- WHY IS THERE NO FINAL EXAM PRACTICE REVIEW??????
- asdasd

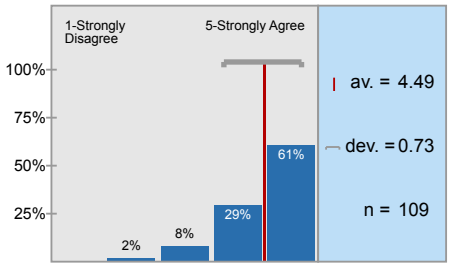
- best instructor i have ever had so far.
- computer science majors have to take this because...?
- dsds
- good teacher. good class for sophomores so you can figure out if you like your major or if you would like to focus coding or hardware side
- k
- loved the class, hope to take another with you as the instructor
- stoychev is an amazing proffessor

Histogram for scaled questions

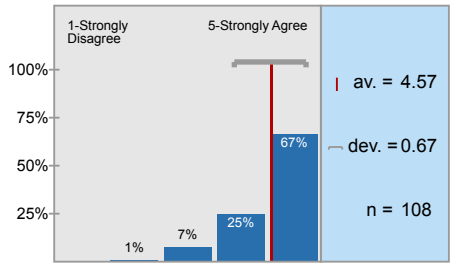
1. The instructor expresses clear expectations for my learning in this class:



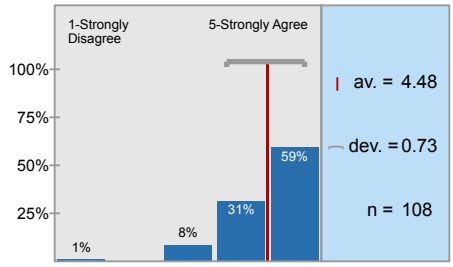
2. The instructor uses effective teaching methods:



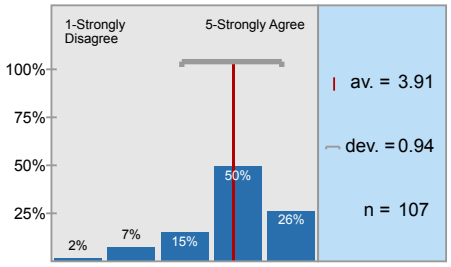
3. The instructor has created a positive, respectful, and inclusive learning environment:



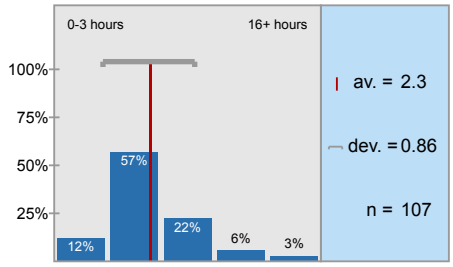
4. The instructor is available to answer questions:



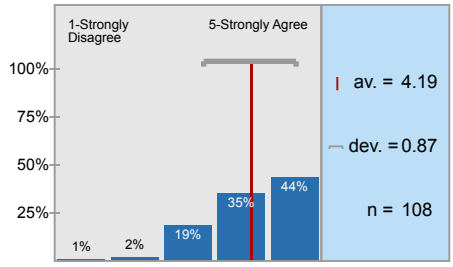
6. I am prepared and I actively participate in this class:



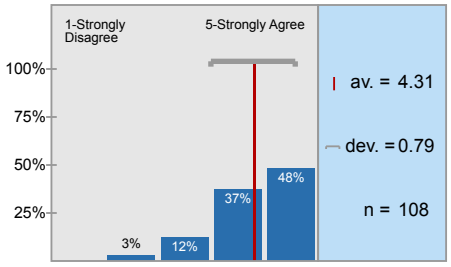
7. On average, I have spent _____ hours per week doing work **outside of class** for this course:



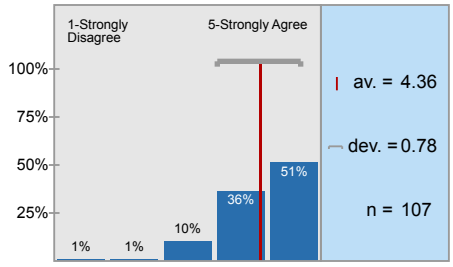
9. My instructor emphasizes the importance and relevance of this material to my professional



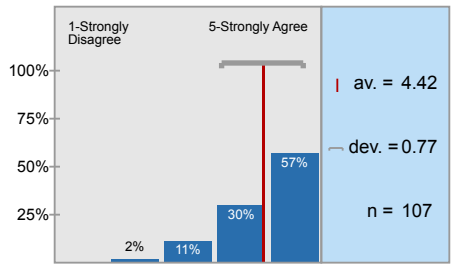
10. The assignments and activities in this course are useful:



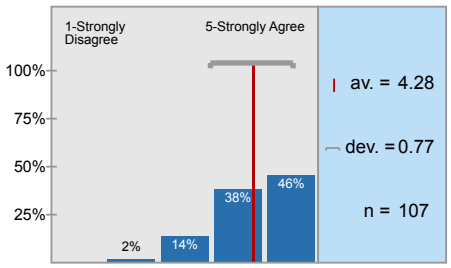
11. The instructor uses clear evaluation criteria:



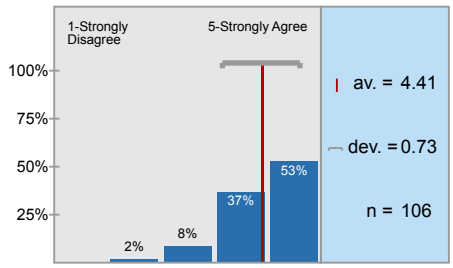
12. The feedback on my work is timely and informative:



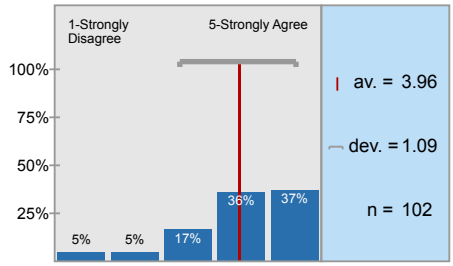
13. If there are tests, they accurately assess what I have learned in this course:



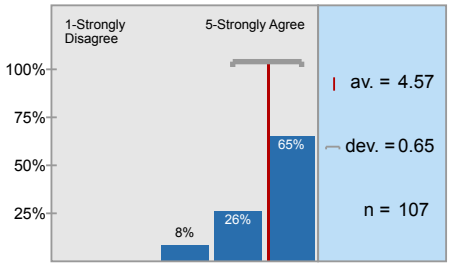
14. If there is a lab, it is coordinated with the lectures:



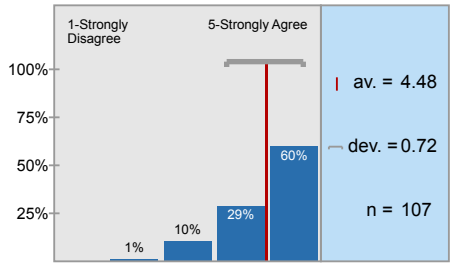
15. The required text materials (e.g. textbook, lecture notes, course packet) for this course are useful



17. Overall, the instructor has been an effective teacher:



18. Overall, this course has been effective in advancing my learning:



Profile

Subunit: CPR E
Name of the instructor: Alexander Stoytchev
Name of the course: (Name of the survey) CPR_E-GroupingXX-281-ALL-Stoytchev

Values used in the profile line: Mean

Teaching Methods / Strategies / Practices

1. The instructor expresses clear expectations for my learning in this class:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=109	av.=4.52 md=5.00 dev.=0.65
2. The instructor uses effective teaching methods:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=109	av.=4.49 md=5.00 dev.=0.73
3. The instructor has created a positive, respectful, and inclusive learning environment:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=108	av.=4.57 md=5.00 dev.=0.67
4. The instructor is available to answer questions:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=108	av.=4.48 md=5.00 dev.=0.73

Student Involvement / Engagement

6. I am prepared and I actively participate in this class:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=107	av.=3.91 md=4.00 dev.=0.94
7. On average, I have spent _____ hours per week doing work **outside of class** for this course:	0-3 hours	16+ hours	n=107	av.=2.30 md=2.00 dev.=0.86

Evaluation of Course Materials (Resources, Assignments, Assessments)

9. My instructor emphasizes the importance and relevance of this material to my professional development:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=108	av.=4.19 md=4.00 dev.=0.87
10. The assignments and activities in this course are useful:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=108	av.=4.31 md=4.00 dev.=0.79
11. The instructor uses clear evaluation criteria:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=107	av.=4.36 md=5.00 dev.=0.78
12. The feedback on my work is timely and informative:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=107	av.=4.42 md=5.00 dev.=0.77
13. If there are tests, they accurately assess what I have learned in this course:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=107	av.=4.28 md=4.00 dev.=0.77
14. If there is a lab, it is coordinated with the lectures:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=106	av.=4.41 md=5.00 dev.=0.73
15. The required text materials (e.g. textbook, lecture notes, course packet) for this course are useful	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=102	av.=3.96 md=4.00 dev.=1.09

General Summative

17. Overall, the instructor has been an effective teacher:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=107	av.=4.57 md=5.00 dev.=0.65
18. Overall, this course has been effective in advancing my learning:	1-Strongly Disagree	5-Strongly Agree	n=107	av.=4.48 md=5.00 dev.=0.72