

Wright State University
201580 Fall Traditional CBA survey

Course: 71250.20158: ME-1020-01 - Engg Prog with Matlab

Instructor: Scott Thomas *

1 - Describe the overall effectiveness of this instructor.

Return Rate	36/50 (72%)
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- very helpful and is able to answer any questions
- The instructor's effectiveness was overall pretty well in terms of teaching the course material.
- Great instructor, always will to help with anything I didn't understand.
- Scott is a great teacher
- He was pretty effective for this course. A few things I had to re ask him and ask if he could explain it in a different way, but overall good.
- The effectiveness was fairly good. Each class, we knew what we were going to learn and that we could come to him with any and all questions and he would gladly answer them. Definitely one of the nicest teachers on campus. The only thing that I would change with the way of teaching would be to do more in class examples. Instead of just going over the notes slides, during each class period he could pick a problem or two out of the book and work them out with the class. Having the problem on the board and having us tell him what code to put into matlab and if we are incorrect, correcting us and explaining the reasoning behind it. I believe this could make the class much easier, instead of being more independent having group practice like that stated above.
- it was very useful
- Normal
- Very helping
- great and handy.
- good
- great
- Instructor does alright. I understand that he hasn't been teaching the topic for very long, but the current method isn't very effective for me.
- About half the time it made since and the other half was difficult
- Very nice and always willing to help.
- good
- No
- He was very effective. Whenever he taught a new topic, he would do examples for us to follow along. He also helped us on our assignments.
- Great guy but I didn't really feel like he taught anything until the end we just worked on homework and asked questions at the beginning then at the end of the semester he started doing more teaching.
- good
- bad
- he is good
- Better as the semester continued, but still has found an effective way to teach this particular subject.
- Thomas is a good professor and a good person, but the class wasn't set up well to showcase his ability. He talked/lectured on topics in the first 10 to 20, sometimes 30 minutes of class then moved into open lab where students could get class work or homework done for practice. If you didn't know what you doing, much like myself many times, then you had to wait for one of 2 TAs to come and help you. so the classwork moved slow
- not bad
- N/A
- Very effective.
- good
- Okay!!
- The instructor is mostly effective in teaching the subject. However, I think that more guided examples in class would be very beneficial.
- Dr. Thomas has an effective teaching style. The fact that you are given examples to work during class and assistance from both him and teaching assistance while completing these exercises helps to understand the problem and the solution. My only suggestion would be to add Tegrity based recordings of examples so that students could review these outside of classroom for reference and when they miss lectures.
- He is always trying to explain the material, and make his students good at matlab
- Very effective
- Scott is good instructor but his plan about the grades not helping the students!
- it was so good
- i taught in a way that made me understand the concept at hand

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2 - Did the instructor evaluate your work based on the expectations described in the course syllabus?

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- yes
- The instructor graded work as described in the syllabus.
- Yes.
- Yes 100%
- Yes, he did. He graded kind of tough, but was fair about it.
- Yes, did a great job, was very fair with the grading.
- yes most times
- Yes
- Yes
- yes
- good
- yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes! He told us from the beginning that he was going to push us mentally.
- Not exactly
- Yes.
- Yes, I thought he made the test way harder than they needed to be compared to the homework though.
- yes
- yes
- yup he did
- yes
- yes he did
- no
- N/A
- Yes. The expectations were clear
- yes
- Yes.
- Yes. He explains how he grades on day 1 and follows that procedure for every exam.
- Most instructors adjust the syllabus throughout the semester in response to external variables. This is one the few courses that I have had that followed the syllabus and schedule. Our only adjustment was delay the due date of a few homework assignments due to the Thanksgiving holiday.
- Yes
- YES
- yes
- of course
- yes

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3 - Did the instructor routinely start class on time and use the full class period?

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- yes
- The instructor started class on time every class and ended at the appropriate time.
- Yes.
- Yes
- yes he was their 5 min before and would stay until the end of class time helping students.
- Always on class and was there to answer questions and help with our problems for the entire class period.
- yes
- Yes
- Yes and spend it very well
- yes
- good
- yea
- Yes
- yes
- Always on time. It would have been nice to have worked on things together as a class, rather than by ourselves with the answers in front of us.
- Yes
- Yes, in fact he was never late and made sure he started at the exact time. On most days, some or all of the class period was devoted to letting students work on their homework assignments and answering questions. They did have the option to leave early, if they wanted to.
- yes
- Definitely started class on time, though the majority of the class period was just working on homework or in-class assignments. By attending class, I got the benefit of extra credit and asking the teacher or the two TAs or my fellow classmates for help when needed.
- yes
- yes he did
- yes
- yes the full class was used, but more than half was open lab time on most days
- yes
- N/A
- Yes, though attendance was not strictly enforced.
- yes
- Yes.
- Class was always on time but I did not always find use of the class period helpful. I think more involved examples would be more beneficial than in class assignments with only three people you could ask for help in a room full of thirty people.
- Dr. Thomas was prompt, and ready to begin when the class was supposed to. Class time was well spent, as discussed in section 1.
- Yes , he always answer the questions if someone's has
- YES
- yes
- yeah
- yes

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4 - How did the instructor demonstrate interest in your learning?

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- yes
- The instructor demonstrated interest by using different techniques to solve problems illustrated
- By always offering to review old material whenever I needed help.
- This instructor is knowledgeable of the course material. And he explained how much Matlab can be a very powerful tool
- he always asked questions making sure everyone understood and would walk around asking if anyone had any questions.
- He would explain the real life applications of some of the stuff we learned, and stressed how valuable MATLAB is as a tool to engineers. Made our growth of knowledge feel extremely valuable.
- i feel like it will effect my future work
- By his attitude
- He made it like challenging
- very well, motivate me for a better work.
- good
- good
- Asked for input and helped often
- He did well with this
- He was always willing to answer questions, no matter how silly. He also had tons of office hour opportunities, which was very helpful.
- I didn't notice any demonstraion of interest
- He always answered my questions, and his methods of posting homework and past exam solutions online, allowing us to use our textbooks during the exams, and giving us the option to skip the exams and transfer their weights to the final were big helps to everyone.
- he gave useful examples and helped those struggling with their assignments
- bad
- he is really enjoying
- making sure we understood things especially when test scores showed that we might not
- he talked of projects he has participated in/supervised and about just how important matlab is in today's engineering world
- not enough
- N/A
- He walked around and made sure we were all doing okay. This was more than I expected, and I appreciated it.
- good
- He is nice.
- The instructor periodically came around during class time to ask questions.
- Dr. Thomas demonstrates this by lecturing for only a portion of the class and then assisting students the rest of the class.
- go in each student every class asking if there is any question...
- he gave us the full time to learn how to use the material and he comes to us if we have any questions
- he intend to help me very well
- he took time out to work with the class on how the can improve and what they did wrong

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5 - How effectively did the instructor communicate both in and out of the classroom?

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- very well he was clear and able to present the material in different ways to make sure i understood
- The instructor provided immaculate communication in and out of the classroom.
- Very well.
- If I had any questions he will fully explain it to me. And he will not leave me without answering my question
- he was pretty effective in communicating he would answer any questions you had and would come to you in the work time to answer your question until you got an answer. he was also very good at emailing you back within 24 hours of your email.
- Good
- very good. he was clear.
- In the class he goes between students if anyone has a question Out of the class there could be emails
- He is friendly and like to help
- 100%
- good
- very good
- Very well
- Never had problems getting a hold of him
- Very well. He notified us with homework changes promptly and was quick to respond to emails.
- Well enough
- He communicated very well.
- Great
- good
- he is very effective
- very well
- well. assignments and syllabus was clearly outlined on pilot and due dates were posted. he would email directly if he had an immediate issue needed adressing
- ...
- N/A
- Questions were answered readily and completely.
- nice
- Kinda the same.
- Emails were sent and replied to in a timely manner.
- We would routinely get updates as to the classes' status regarding the syllabus before lecture began, and received updates via email and Pilot on a normal basis.
- He is friendly
- very effectively
- he is friendly
- very intense and good
- some what effective

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6 - Were the course content and lectures well organized?

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- yes
- Lectures were well thought out, easy to follow, and easy to comprehend.
- Yes.
- No. Scott is a great instructor in all other class, except for Matlab. his lecture style is like self learning. It's almost the same as taking a class online, which but made this course challenging for me.
- yes, it was done by chapters which were clear cut
- Extremely
- yes
- Yes
- Yes, kind of
- yes
- good
- yes
- Well organized
- Somewhat
- Yes. It would have been nice to do more problems as a group. I feel like that would have helped make the information and codes make sense.
- No
- Yes, they were extremely well organized and we were always on schedule.
- The ones we went over were.
- yep
- yes
- yes
- yes
- yes
- NO
- N/A
- I would have liked some of the later lectures to go more in depth as to what the code was actually doing, instead of just saying: "This is the problem, this is the code." Some of the functions we used in the code I looked up in the help feature of matlab to learn how to use them. This may have been intentional, though.
- kindoff
- Yes.
- Yes
- Yes
- very well
- yes
- yes

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7 - Was the instructor reasonably available and responsive to your needs during office hours and appointments, or on line?

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- yes he was always in his office during office hours and was just as helpful as he was in class
- N/A
- Yes even answered questions on the weekend.
- Yes indeed. My only comment about his office is, i wish if he have a laptop or a computer in ordere if someone happen to have a question about Matlab.
- yes, he would answer any questions you had and would work with you if you couldn't see him during the office hours to meet with you when you could.
- Very.
- yes
- Yes
- Yes
- yes
- good
- yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes! Always responds to emails and he had tons of office hour opportunities.
- Yes
- Yes, he was available in class, at office hours, or by email.
- yes
- never went, but yeah
- yes
- yes he is
- yes
- yes
- NO
- N/A
- The instructor was always available to answer questions.
- yes
- Yes.
- The instructor was readily available during class and had many office hours.
- Yes
- Yes
- YES
- yes
- yes

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8 - Do you have any additional, relevant comments?

Return Rate	28/50 (56%)
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- Instead of having a full work day it would be more beneficial to the students to go over the in class assignment questions or do more sample questions in order to get a larger variety of the types of questions that will be asked and a overall better understanding of the material.
- The only improvement I feel that could be made would be to put more of an emphasis on the for and while loops section. This by far was the most difficult part of the class in my opinion. Also I really appreciated how the Dr. Thomas had the syllabus laid out with all of the material including the homework's. This gave me a complete heads up as to what had to be completed and when it had to be done by.
- This course supposed to teach me how to deal with Matlab and how to be able to solve complicated engineering application. One unreasonable chalange i incouteres is i had to solve applications from classes that we didn't take yet. For instance sometimes we want to solve problems from calculus III while i am unable to do them with a pincle and a paper Another thing, you are extremely fair. I really appreciate that and I know you are trying to be fair because you want to treet everyone equally. But that is not right because it's not justic to be fair with every one. Students who came to every single class and do bad on the test are not the same as students who don't come to one class and do bad on the test.
- overall a good professor
- None other than that stated in '1'.
- i wish exams content would be more clear
- Explain more in the lectures
- No, and keep it like this
- The professor gives the exact way to success the class.
- good
- no
- The structure of teaching the course could use some tweaking. Rather than expecting us to read and learn outside of class and do problems in class, it would be more beneficial to have a 50/50 of lecture and problem solving during class meetings. The way it is set up gives no motivation to attend class. Also, rather than having students solve problems themselves, it would be more helpful to go through the problems with the class to understand the thinking behind each step.
- I really appreciated just how caring of an instructor he is. He is also one of the most fair professors i have ever had. It was very appreciated!
- He's very enthusiastic about every subject he teaches.
- nope
- no
- the second midterm was little bit hard
- It might help for him to do more examples during class time, to make going to class a learning experience and less of a lab time.
- no
- NO
- N/A
- Nothing to add. Thank you.
- no
- The class went okay. The only thing I wish we did more of was guided examples.
- Given Dr. Thomas' format for teaching I would recommend him to any fellow students and consider taking other classes he teaches as technical electives, since they are not required for my major.
- No
- NO, everything was great to learn
- just to make more grades on homework and other staf to make the pass not tough