

Wright State University
201580 Fall Traditional CBA survey

Course: 71261.20158: ME-3310-01 - Thermodynamics I

Instructor: Scott Thomas *

1 - Describe the overall effectiveness of this instructor.

Return Rate	46/54 (85.19%)
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- good
- Extremely effective spent all of class covering relevant material while simultaneously working out problems.
- Effective. Very knowledgeable. Shows enthusiasm about the material. Did many example problems with class input and did in class problems where students could work together or alone to finish an example begun in class. Put forth every effort to make sure the material was presented in a way that everyone could understand. Answered all questions reasonably and never in a condescending way.
- Excellent!
- Dr Thomas was very effective in his teaching method.
- Explains a lot and treats everyone fairly. Material is extremely difficult and I am not sure if Scott explains things in the most optimal way.
- Dr. Thomas is a very effective instructor. I appreciate how organized and structured his lectures are.
- Not very good
- Very effective
- Very effective, great examples and very motivated to help students learn and understand the material. If there was one thing that I didn't entirely like it is the difficulty of the tests. However, this is a challenging class so in this case I don't think the tests could have really been any easier.
- Dr. Thomas is a great teacher he will go the extra mile to help you understand.
- Very good.
- very good at teaching the content in class. gives homework and gives homework solutions in case you get stuck. in class I understood material and was able to actually see what was going on but both of the exams were curved by 20 percent due to them being so hard. this is not effective for seeing what people actually know, I studied very hard and was unable to do the exams well.
- Dr. Thomas was overall a very effective instructor who presented the material well and gave us plenty of resources for anyone who needed extra help.
- Great!
- Very effective teacher. He knows the subject well and knows how to teach it to the class. Lecture are very well organized and the time is used wisely in class.
- The instructor is very effective. He gives very good notes and can always relate them to understandable material. He knows how to present the material in a logical and understandable way while still staying on topic.
- Strong, Hard to keep up with assumptions and why he was able to make the.
- Very good teacher. Very engaging and respectful.
- The professor is very good. He answers all of our questions.
- He's a very effective instructor. He really takes his time to teach the concepts and make sure that everyone is on the same page.
- Dr. Thomas does a really great job of teaching the material. Sometimes he does go a little fast but if you ask him to explain what just happened he will go back into further detail on what he was just speaking about.
- Great professor, pretty fair, great class.
- Instructor is a very good teacher when it comes to lecture.
- Great lecturer, makes the concepts understandable in a way that the book cannot. His method to homework is very helpful as well. The prof can get down a rabbit trail every now and then, but that is the only thing I can nitpick about the lecturing.
- He is an informative instructor and gives all the tools required to pass.
- Awesome professor, very helpful outside of class. Willing to spend his time to help students.
- Good, really enjoy the enthusiasm
- Very effective. I love his teaching methods. He gives you all the right tools to succeed.
- He explained the topics in great detail and spent plenty of time on practice problems to help us better understand the concepts.
- Dr. Thomas is an extremely effective teacher. He's difficult but not overwhelming, and very open to his students. I have no complaints whatsoever.
- Great instructor
- Very effective at teaching.
- He did a great job
- He is good at all the things, teaches us without feeling bored, solves us any doubts with patience.
- Professor Thomas is a good teacher. He makes the test very challenging so we can learn from our mistakes.
- Dr. Thomas did an excellent job at teaching this course.
- Very good in lecture, always able to contact through email and in office hours
- Good use of examples to teach, tests were a bit rough, good effectiveness overall.
- Not much lecture but instead a lot of examples. It seems to work better in most cases.
- He was a very good professor I learned a lot in his course. The exams were pretty difficult but they kind of pushed you to put in more effort which helps you learn more.
- very effective
- Scott Thomas was very effective in his teaching methods. He did multiple, clear examples for every subject and chapter. He often paused what he was doing in order to ensure that other students were grasping the content.
- very effective
- I didn't get as much of a foundational understanding as I would have liked, and it ended up hurting me in the end. Dr. Thomas went very quickly and went for solving very difficult problems very early. I would have rather had some easier examples that help us to properly understand the process of solving these problems.
- This instructor is very effective.

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

Return Rate 46/54 (85.19%)

- yes
- Yes.
- Yes.
- Yes.
- Yes
- Yes, Expectations were made clear from the beginning.
- Yes, Dr. Thomas described in detail how he would evaluate our work and then followed his description.
- yes but was to hard
- yes
- He did.
- Yes, he is always a fair grader.
- Yes he hit every major point.
- yes.
- yes
- Yes
- Yes he is very fair in his grading and evaluation of the homework and testing material.
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes, he did.
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes, he grades according to applying the correct method
- Yes.
- Very effectively
- yes, the syllabus was correct throughout the whole semester
- Yes.
- Yes.
- Yes
- Yes, he did.
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes.
- The expectations were laid out in the syllabus and the work was evaluated accordingly.
- Yes.
- Yes
- Yes.
- Yes
- yes
- Absolutely he did. The syllabus was followed to a T. All grades appeared very fair.
- yes
- He is a hard grader and everyone knows that going into the class. So I guess I would say yes to this question.
- Yes. The instructor evaluated my work based on his course syllabus guidelines and stayed fair to the syllabus when his decision making was challenged by students.

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

Return Rate	46/54 (85.19%)
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- yes
- Yes, was always early to classroom, always started class at 740.
- Almost always started on time. The one time we started a few minutes late, due to an off-topic conversation that began before class started, he jokingly threatened to hold us over that many minutes (didn't actually). Always made the most of the time allotted.
- Yes.
- Dr Thomas always shows up 10 minutes before class even starts.
- Yes.
- Yes, Dr. Thomas was always early for class and was available to the students. He would always begin and end class on time.
- yes every day
- yes
- Yes
- Yes always started on time and use the whole class time.
- Yes he always started class on time on the dot. He used the full time to either lecture or doing practice problems in class.
- yes
- class always started precisely when it was supposed to and his time was used well, he never let us out more than five minutes early and would usually try to do another half a problem if he had the time.
- Yes
- Yes, on time every time. Never late and used the entire class period effectively.
- Yes he is very prompt and starts class on time and uses all of his given time to the fullest.
- Always
- Started class on time and was never late. Yes he used the full class period.
- Yes,he shows up earlier than time and waits till time to start the class and leaves the class at exact time.
- Always
- Yes he starts class exactly at 7:40 pm and end at 9:00 pm. Sometimes he does give problems at the end of class that you can work together with other classmates to finish. I think this is smart so that no one leaves class early and it allows you to really figure out if you know what you are talking about or not.
- Yes, he made great use of the period.
- Yes
- Yes
- Always.
- Every day he started at exactly 7:40 and ended within 5 min of the end time.
- yes, he was never late and was always there early
- Yes.
- He was always on time and made sure that he started class at the exact time.
- Absolutely
- Yes.
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes. Maintains time very accurately and effectively uses it.
- He was never late to class. He was always 10 minutes early. The full class period was always used.
- Definitely, on time, every time.
- Always on time and for the full period
- Yes.
- Yes
- Yes he was always on time and used the entire period.
- yes
- Started class at 7:40 PM sharp every Monday and Wednesday. (perfectly on time)
- yes
- Yes, he was very consistent in this regard.
- Yes.

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

Return Rate	45/54 (83.33%)
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- yes
- He worked out all problems with both symbols and numbers to try and help students, and if a student was confused would repeat whole parts of problems to try and help them learn.
- Related things to objects we commonly use in our lives. Showed enthusiasm in the lessons and got excited for students that showed progress in the class or general interest in the topic.
- Yes
- He used examples from the real world so as to understand what this is used for.
- One way Dr. Thomas showed he was interested in my learning was that he would ask about topics I was interested in and ask questions of me to learn more about me so he could better focus his instruction.
- just going over his notes
- lots of examples
- He always asks for questions and tries to rework problems the way that we would to help us learn. He is also one of the most motivated to teach professors that I have ever had.
- He always asked if we understood and took time out to explain if we needed help.
- Yes. He has a large passion for the class and takes passion in all the classes he teaches.
- he's very passionate when teaching and shows us real world examples of what we are doing.
- besides making sure his lecture was interesting, he also pleaded with us to utilize his office hours.
- Every class showed us things that were relevant to what we were learning. example: jet engines
- The instructor has a passion for teaching students and wants the student's very best in that class.
- The instructor is very concerned with learning and takes the necessary amount of extra time to make sure that the topic is understood.
- Highly
- It was very important to him that he answer all of our questions and had a lot of office hours to provide extra help.
- He is very friendly and inspirational. He is encouraging and motivates to learn new things. He is one of the best teacher I have ever had.
- He applied what we were learning to real life concepts. He made it very easy to understand why we needed to know this information.
- He always relates it back to the real world which in the end is all students care about. How does what I am learning in class relate to the real world.
- Constantly asking if we were understanding what he was explaining, doing some small quizzes at the end of exercises.
- Would take pause breaks during examples to make sure we understood the material.
- He is very open about saying that if anyone has a question, please ask.
- He always allowed for questions in anything regarding the class.
- Always encouraged office hours
- he made the class less boring, tried his hardest to display information
- He is always willing to do whatever works best for the students.
- He answered everyone's questions thoroughly, and his methods of posting solutions to homework and past exams, allowing us to use our textbooks during the exams, and giving us the option to skip the exams and have their weight transferred to the final were a big help to everybody.
- He takes his students progress very seriously, and will take the time to answer any questions or work with any student.
- He broke down the material very clearly.
- He made sure we all knew what was going on and answered all questions very well.
- Yes
- He briefs us the lesson and starts doing examples. if we need, he explains it twice or thrice until we are satisfied with the answer.
- He would make sure that were understand the topic and was always asking if we had questions.
- He used many examples to explain the subject he was teaching.
- This course obviously is very interesting but he would involve extra knowledge which would grasp much of the class which i think is important for keeping their involvement in the course.
- Consistently answered all questions asked, made sure to explain until student(s) was/were satisfied.
- He added another chapter from the book that he found to be a very interesting subject.
- He would always stop and take the time to answer any and all questions that came up eachieve class.
- His attitude in class each day showed a huge interest in teaching the subject to the class
- If a student ever had a question, Dr. Thomas would stop the whole class and explain/clarify what he had been going over until the student was satisfied. He made a habit of stopping class while others were speaking amongst themselves so as to ensure that everyone could devote their whole attention to the subject.
- very passionate about the subject and wanted us to succeed in the subject
- Dr. Thomas is very bright and very enthusiastic about the course material.
- The instructor would always ask for feed back on how well we were receiving the material and if there was anything he could do better.

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

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- yes
- Extremely well. any changes that were made to the syllabus were done both in class and out of class through emails.
- In class - Very effective. Was always willing to pause for questions, back track a bit to more clearly explain part of the material to someone who was confused or struggling, and made an effort that both his writing on the board was legible and his voice could be heard by everyone. Wanted to make sure everyone was on the same page with each other when it came to where things came from in examples (which tables, shortcuts on interpolation calculations, etc) Out of class - Emailed important information to class (such as midterm dates and locations). Has an online website where all course notes are available for consulting in case a class period was missed.
- Very well, he was always available for questions.
- Great
- Extremely well. Very easy to get a hold of in and out of class.
- Dr. Thomas communicated very effectively. Dr. Thomas has all of his class notes, lecture slides, homework assignments, and old exams posted online from the first day to give the students the best chance for success.
- he is easy to understand but did not learn the maeteral from him
- very effective
- Very effectively. He always answered quickly and was very concerned with making sure that he understood the question and that we understood the answer.
- Very well you could email and or go to office hours.
- Very good has lots of office hours and made sure students were aware of what was going on.
- very well.
- excellently. everyone understood exactly how to find out anything they might have missed.
- great
- The instructor communicate well. No issues at all.
- The instructor makes it in and out of the class very clear what the expectations of the class are and the material that will be covered.
- He was good at communication. Just has a strong background on subject matter, making it hard to keep up with. It being the intro course basic fundamentals are not covered long enough.
- Very well. Everything was spelled out in the syllabus and anything that needed clarified, he addressed either in the classroom or by e-mail.
- He communicates very good both in and out of the class. He motivates us to meet him in his office hours if we ever had doubts on studies. When I was absent for two days at different occasion, I went to meet him at the office to catch up the classes that I missed, he explained what we did on the previous class without hesitation. He is very encouraging and motivating.
- Very effectively. He was always willing to meet if we needed anything.
- He is always asking if we understand while in class, and then he send out emails about updates.
- Great, answered all the emails pretty fast and he has a large amount of time for questions off class.
- Effective when needed.
- Pretty good
- Very effective in communication.
- great
- well
- Very effective.
- He communicated well.
- Very effectively.
- Very effectively
- Very well
- greatly
- Very Good. I am fully satisfied.
- The instructor was very effective in communicating in and out of the classroom.
- Good.
- Very well always able to talk for consultation
- Well in both cases.
- In class he was very good about answering questions.
- He always would make sure everyone understood what was being discussed and was always available for office hours.
- Never communicated outside of class. Inside of class was effective.
- The instructor communicated very effectively in the classroom (mentioned above). His communication outside of the classroom was stellar. Replies to emails were timely and he was always available for his office hours.
- very well
- He works very hard to understand our questions and give appropriate feedback.
- The instructor spoke clearly and presented the course material well.

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6 - Were the course content and lectures well organized?

Return Rate	46/54 (85.19%)
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- yes
- Yes. all material was well organized in detailed handwritten notes which he also posted online.
- Very well organized.
- Yes.
- Yes
- For the most part. There were a few times when things appeared less organized, but that was normally due to a question during class rather than an mistake in his organization.
- Yes, Dr. Thomas' lectures and course content are very organized and structured to help the student.
- for the most part
- yes
- They were very well organized.
- Yes exactly like the syllabus.
- yes
- yes. and in class hes more worried about doing problems than the theory behind it, which is VERY GOOD.
- Impeccably so
- yes very
- Very organized and well taught.
- Yes they were very well organized and were not deviated from too much.
- YES they were
- Yes
- Yes, they were.
- Yes
- Yes very well organized. We were always on track with the syllabus except for maybe one week. He even posted notes at the beginning of the semester that went right along with what he was teaching.
- Yes, he did not rushed any part of the course, explaining pretty well everything
- Yes
- Sometimes, we didn't cover all of the material in a lecture, not a big deal really
- Yes.
- yes
- for the most part
- Yes.
- They were extremely well organized and we were always on schedule.
- Yes, we managed to stay right on the timetable all semester.
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- yes.
- Yes the content and lectures were always well organized and very effective.
- Yes.
- Yes, all work is easily available online as well in lecture
- Yes.
- For the most part.
- Yes
- yes
- Yes, very
- yes
- I really disagree with the addition of Gas power cycles to the last few classes. It was a very large and involved subject, and it was too big to pack into the last few days.
- 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
- Yes, always there for any questions.c
- I did not utilize office hours or make any appointments. Assumed availability through both and through email consultation.
- Absolutely.
- Yes
- Yes.
- Absolutley.
- yes he seems to be good about that stuff
- yes
- Yes he was.
- Yes
- yes he was
- yes always able to help.
- yes
- yes every time
- Yes, always open for office hours and encourages students to come. He is very helpful during office hours too.
- Yes he was always readily available and more than willing to help with any problems or confusion about the subject.
- Yes
- Absolutely
- Yes, he was. He even replied my email back.
- Yes
- YES!!!!!!!!!!
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- yes
- yes
- Yes.
- Yes, he was available in class, during office hours, and by email.
- Absolutely.
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes, I am satisfied.
- Yes.
- Yes.
- Yes very available
- Yes.
- Yes
- Yes he always responded to emails and helped during office hours.
- Never attempted these.
- Absolutely he was.
- yes
- Yes.
- Yes.

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8 - Do you have any additional, relevant comments?

Return Rate	42/54 (77.78%)
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- no
- Great guy, great professor.
- N/A
- It's a difficult class, but he teaches it well.
- No
- In previous semesters of this class, they did not teach Gas Power cycles. With the difficulty of the entire class material as well as the difficulty of gas power cycles, it is overwhelming. I would prefer to drop the Gas Power Cycles to have more time for the other material. Gas Power Cycles feel like they were just tacked into the course.
- I have enjoyed Dr. Thomas' class and will look for future courses taught by him.
- don't add more maaterial try cover the other stuff better and go over it slower the class was to fast to learn
- no
- He is a really good professor. One of the best ones that I have had at Wright State University. Little tricky on tests, but very transparent about everything.
- Keep up the good work!
- Keep up the good work scott. you do a good job at teaching -Bret Kindred
- I like taking his classes because I know I will learn a ton more than other teachers. but I hate the fact I might fail based off the exams being so hard. also there are grad student in the class and they are counted towards our curve and that's not fair. also the student who are taking the class for the second time should also be graded separate from the regular students. anything you take for a second time your going to be much better at than everyone else.
- 10/10
- it was great, challenging, but not ridiculously challenging like Dr. Wolff.
- Exams are a little tough and the grading is not reasonable with the entire class as a whole. I suggest revising the grading to help with some of the loop holes. Overall great class though.
- The class was taught very well. At the end though it seemed to start to rush a bit through the topics.
- Slow down focus more on why you can make the assumptions, adding the content of power cycles is overwhelming in 3 days. Spend more time on First law and make sure that the assumptions you will be using can be common knowledge rather than a stumping factor through the remainder of the class.
- Best teacher I've had in the 3 years I've been at Wright State
- He is very encouraging,motivating and inspirational teacher I have had so far.
- He's easily the best instructor I've had so far in the mechanical engineering classes.
- Scott is a great teacher. He is hard but very fair.
- Thermodynamics with Scott Thomas was really great, he showed interest if we were learning, he was fair on the tests, great lessons with lot of examples, the solved exercises on his page are really helpful for the complete understand of some exercises, also the old tests makes you comfortable about what expect from the text. I'm pretty confident about what I learn on Thermo I because of the professor.
- No
- I like your teaching style, I think your exams can be a little hard, (especially the second one), but I enjoy you as a teacher and look forward to taking classes with you again.
- No
- Hard Exams
- the exams are almost impossible, everyone went into them knowing they would fail.
- I like that he gives all the solutions to the homework and exams online. I am not sure why other teachers do not to this because the only way I can learn from my mistakes is if I know the solution. Scott is always thinking about what works best for the students. Definitely, one of the best professors at Wright State and one the only teachers I have ever had who will do whatever it takes to teach effectively.
- He is very enthusiastic about all of the subjects he teaches.
- I understand it was a hassle, but posting recordings of the lectures when I was in the class before was extraordinarily helpful for both cases of absence and for studying/reviewing material.
- No
- No
- He was a great asset to have
- No.
- I wish the exams were a little easier.
- n/a
- Great teacher that cares a lot about the students and subjects he teaches. The only issue is tests are extremely difficult.
- It was a pleasure to have had Dr. Scott Thomas as an instructor for Thermodynamics
- no
- I think that this material comes as second nature to Dr. Thomas, either through years of repetition or through natural giftedness, but that makes it difficult to learn because he skips a lot of foundational concepts that are easy for him. It makes the course significantly more difficult.
- No.