



University of Louisiana at  
Lafayette  
Office of Institutional Research

## Student Evaluation of Instruction Results - FALL 2014

(MCHE) - Mechanical Engineering

Dear Joshua E Vaughan:

This form contains evaluation results for MCHE485-001 (FA14-273157).

The first section of the report contains student reported demographic information. The second part of the report shows the student responses to the quantitative questions. For each question, the number of students (n) who responded, the average or mean (av.), the median (md), and standard deviation (dev.) are displayed. The third part provides a profile of the student responses to the qualitative section of the evaluation. The report concludes with a compiled list of all student open-ended comments regarding the course.

Please note Adobe Acrobat Reader must be installed on your computer in order to view the files.

If you have any questions, please contact Institutional Research at [courseevaluation@louisiana.edu](mailto:courseevaluation@louisiana.edu) or 482-6863.

Ellen D. Cook, Assistant VP for Academic Affairs, Academic Resources  
and the Office of Institutional Research

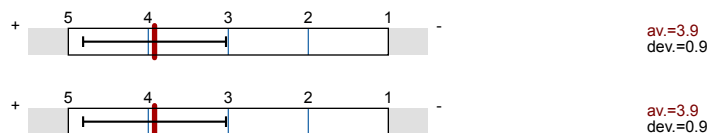
## Joshua E Vaughan

MCHE485-001  
No. of responses = 26

## Overall indicators

## Global Index

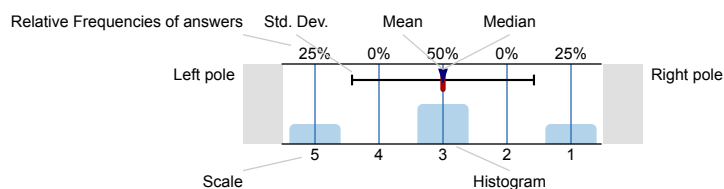
Before completing this survey please verify the course and instructor information listed above. Once you submit an evaluation, you cannot remove or edit your comments.



## Survey Results

## Legend

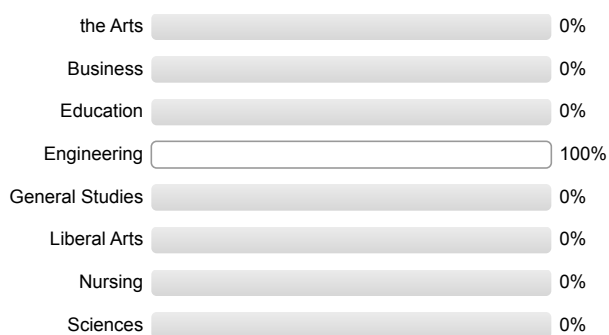
Question text



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

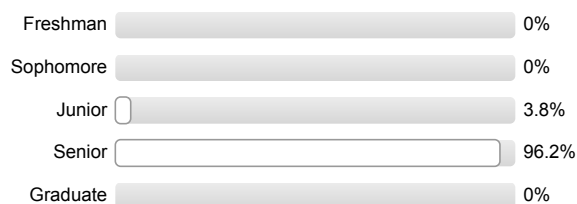
Before completing this survey please verify the course and instructor information listed above. Once you submit an evaluation, you cannot remove or edit your comments.

What is the college of your major?



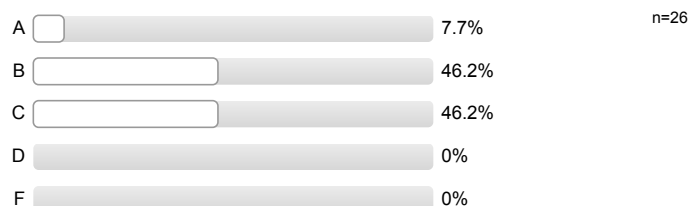
n=26

What is your classification?

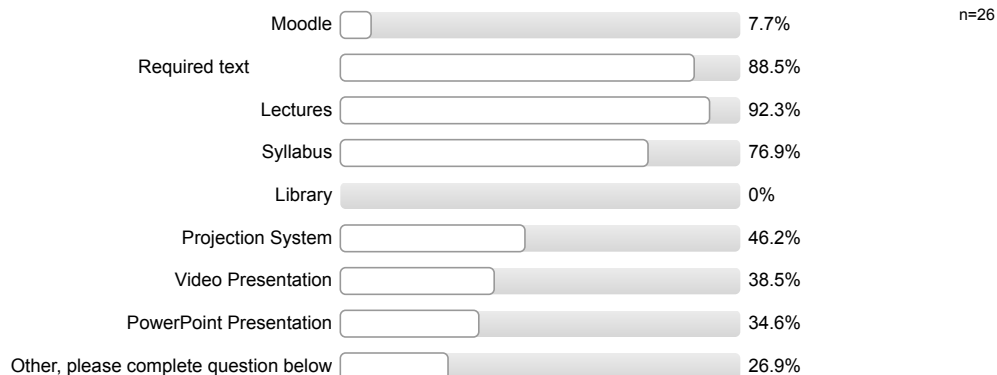


n=26

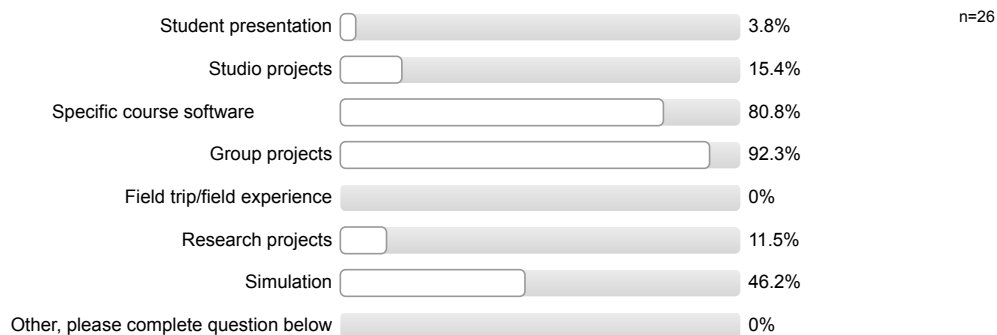
What grade do you expect in this course?



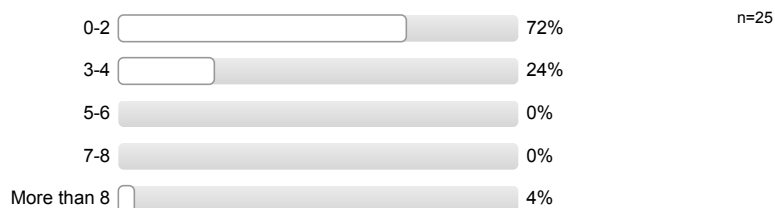
What instructional resources were used in this course? **Check all that apply.**



What activities and resources were required of students? **Check all that apply.**



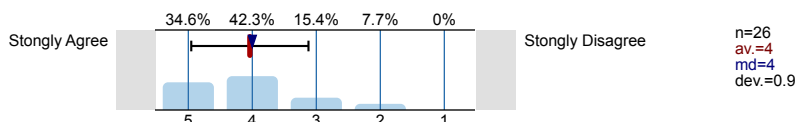
How many classes did you miss?



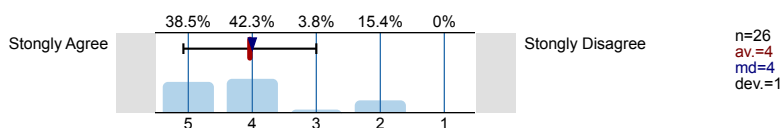
How many hours per week did you spend outside of class preparing for this course?



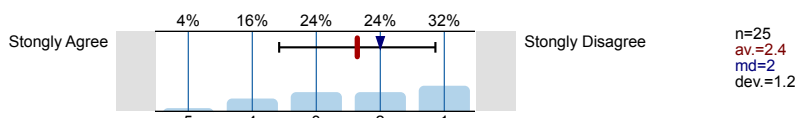
The instructor made appropriate use of illustrations, demonstrations, examples, and/or required materials.



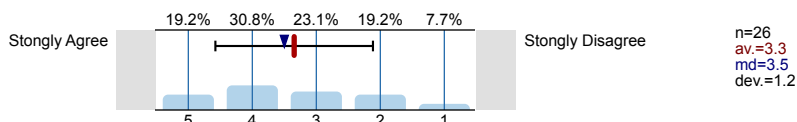
I turned in all required materials on time.



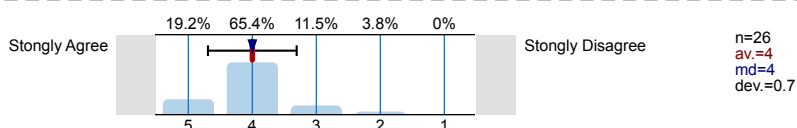
The instructor provided feedback on my performance within a reasonable time.



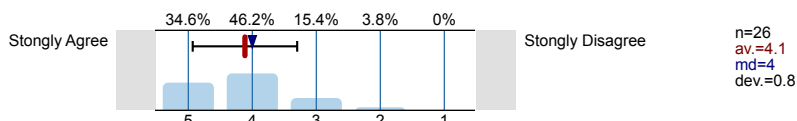
The instructor explained subject matter in a way that I could understand.



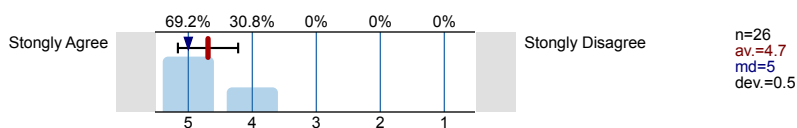
The instructor created an atmosphere where ideas can be exchanged freely and easily.



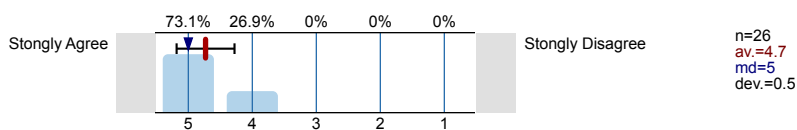
I learned a lot in this course.



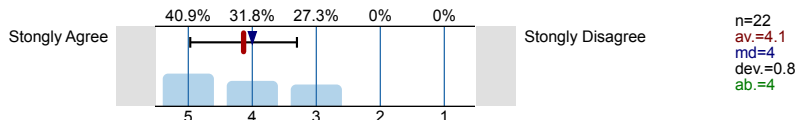
The instructor spoke audibly and clearly.



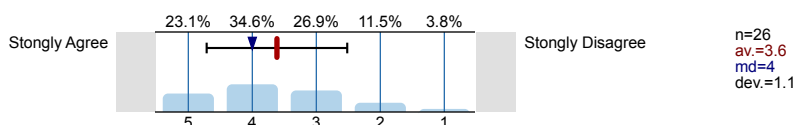
This course challenged me to think.



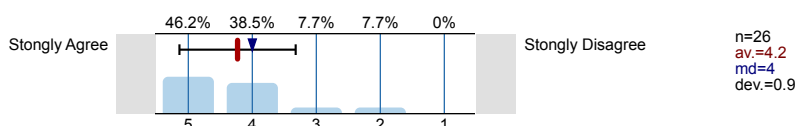
The instructor was available for scheduled appointments outside of class.



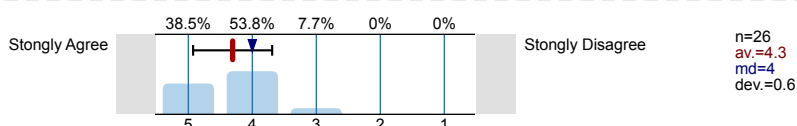
Expectations on assignments, projects, and/or exams were clearly communicated.



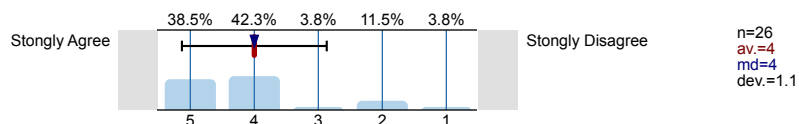
The instructor was respectful to students.



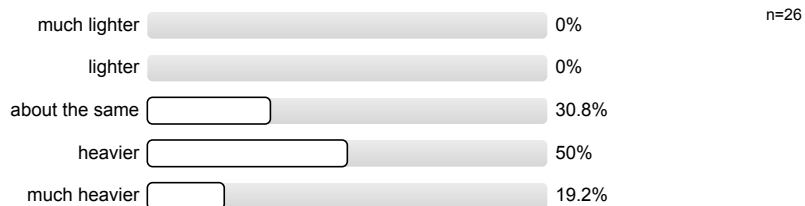
The physical environment (facility) was conducive to learning.



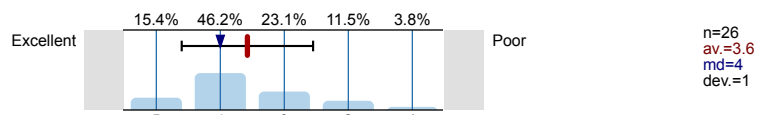
The course resources were useful and appropriate for learning.



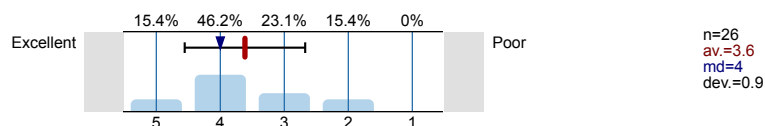
The workload for this course in relation to other courses of equal credit was:



Overall, I would rate this course as:



Overall, I would rate the effectiveness of this instructor as:



# Profile

Subunit: (MCHE) - Mechanical Engineering

Name of the instructor: Joshua E Vaughan

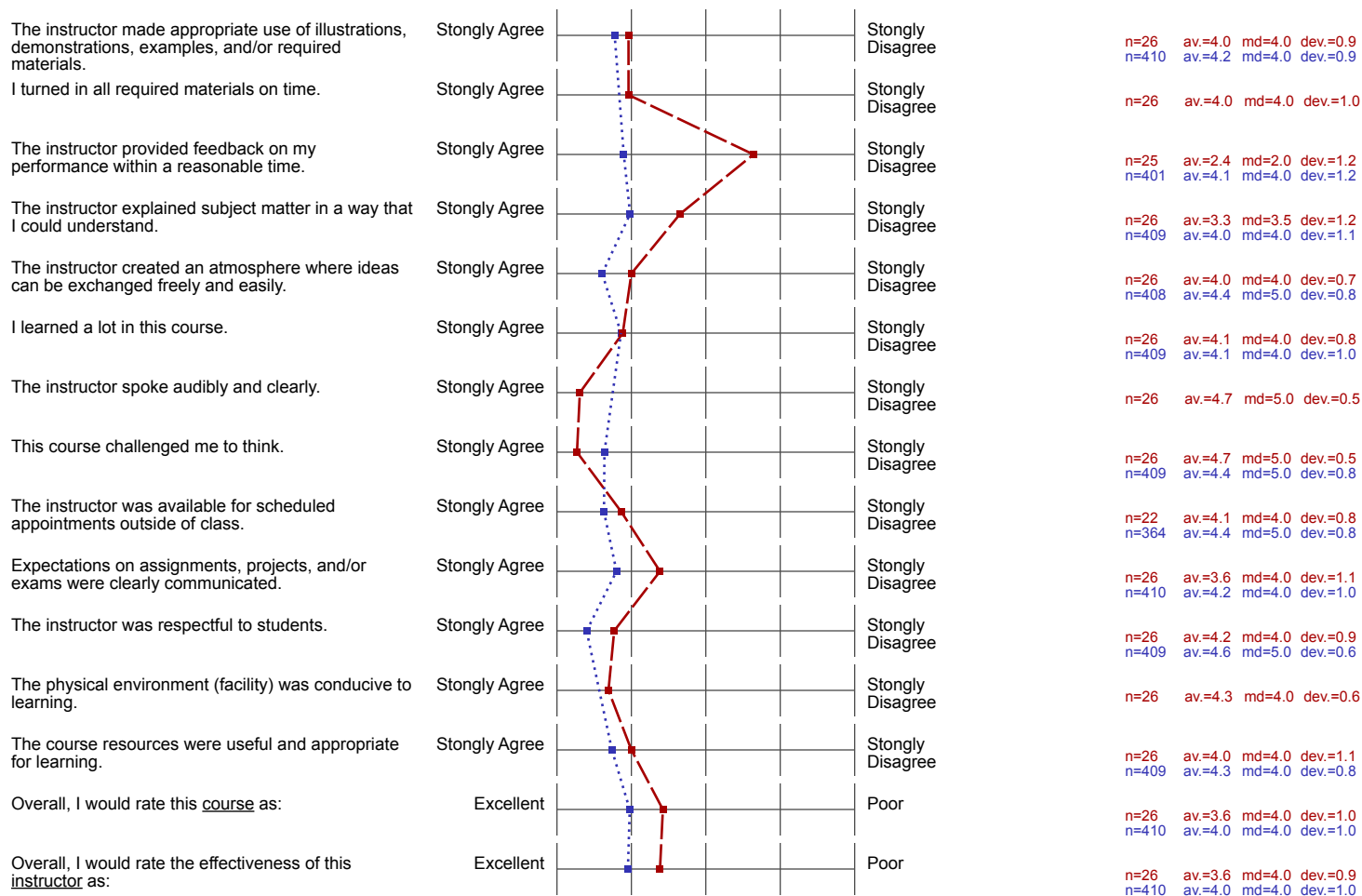
Name of the course: MCHE485-001 (FA14-273157)

(Name of the survey)

Comparative line: FALL 2014 - [(MCHE) - Mechanical Engineering]

Values used in the profile line: Mean

Before completing this survey please verify the course and instructor information listed above. Once you submit an evaluation, you cannot remove or edit your comments.



## Comments Report

Before completing this survey please verify the course and instructor information listed above. Once you submit an evaluation, you cannot remove or edit your comments.

If you marked "Other" in the question above, please list the instructional resources used in this course below.

- Class Website, Ipython Software
- Class website
- Class website, online resources.
- Vaughan's website
- Website
- his own website with video lectures, notes, and extra resources
- instructors website
- website

Please provide any comments about the course or instructor in the space below, including ways to improve instruction.

- A good course but taught with more math based methods than engineering methods, which made it more difficult to learn the subject. The book is also very difficult to learn from because of the lack of problem examples. Also, the lack of a solution manual made it difficult to practice problems and know if you are doing them right or wrong, which does not help. I would highly suggest changing books.
- As students, we all know that Vaughan is smart and good at what he does but he does not teach his subject in a way that most students can learn. He was intimidating and did not seem interested in helping the students outside of class. Students did not want to ask questions because of how he responded
- By far, the most patient and helpful instructor I've had this semester. His lectures are excellent and explain the material thoroughly. This instructor obviously understands the material he is presenting. In some instances, this excessive knowledge of the material is a problem; the material progresses a bit too quickly for a student who is not used to playing with the material covered. Also, the tests are lengthy and lead the students to memorize and take shortcuts instead of working through a problem. I've learned more in this class than I have learned in every other class this semester combined.
- By using PowerPoint notes or some similar method we could have covered the material concepts faster, allowing for more time to review examples and repeat insights. The chalkboard is just a bit slow and dated.  
  
It would have been helpful to watch something physically move as well.  
  
Also, we often wasted lecture momentum by waiting for the class to offer insights into the material being covered instead of having it presented to us. Sometimes it was awkward.
- Class was so boring, the first day where there was real world applications was very interesting and got my hopes up. Maybe start some classes with real world problems and ways that you would solve them etc. Or other ways vibrations is being used today.
- Could improve on the timeliness of graded work. Overall, I liked the course though.
- Excellent course. Material was clearly presented and I learned a lot in the course.. Thanks
- Feedback on graded assignments was not provided in a timely manner. Instructor felt disrespected by the low attendance in classes but I feel if he would have put more effort into returning assignments timely he would have received more respect from students and students would have wanted to be in class.
- Good class; however, exams were too long
- I have zero doubts in saying that Dr. Vaughan is probably the best teacher in the department or at least the professor I got the most out of. The amount of knowledge he contains in his field and his general interest and excitement creates a great environment to learn material. I've had to think more in his class than anyone elses. For a subject matter like Mechanical Vibrations, he can really explain the material in ways anyone can understand. In Mechanical Engineering we learn a lot of theory that is hundreds of years old, I really enjoyed that Dr. Vaughan is more on the "cutting edge" of engineering, using Python for class assignments and explaining the modern relevance of some of the topics in his class.

Now, no matter how awesome a teacher can be there are always some drawbacks. Dr. Vaughan didn't really have too many in my opinion, but the few he does have can be REALLY prevalent. For a guy that is known for his robotics, his personality is pretty robotic itself. He could be very intimidating to talk to, some of this is due to how intelligent he is. There were times that I would dread having to ask him a

question out of fear of him explaining the answer in a way to where I'd feel dumb with the "Why don't you get this?" tone of voice. There is a good side to this though. Even though I still dread having to ask a question, I think that he really challenges his students to think on their own, and since I would hate having to ask I ended up really trying to find answers on my own. There was always an underlying feeling that undergraduate problems were more of a nuisance to him than a teaching opportunity.

He's a great teacher and the main person I hope stays around the department. I learned a lot from him. I think the few flaws I saw are things that may just be the qualities of a research professor and that's okay. I think the good he provides to the department and the direction he's pushing it go are worth the communication issues.

- I think the course would be greatly improved if test, homework, and assignment were returned back to students within a reasonable time frame.
- Instructor was a great teacher if it wasn't for him I would have had even greater difficulty with this subject. The material, however, was very difficult to grasp. I had a few issues knowing what was important to know for exams. For instance, I had studied only the concepts for the first exams thinking we had to derive everything, but then realized that on the test you had to use the equations sheet to get the equations quicker so you can get through the test quickly.
- More examples in class.
- Overall this was a good class. I learned a lot about vibrations during the semester. Would like more feedback on homework as well as getting grades back quicker during the semester.
- The book did not provide enough examples. The homework was extremely hard and the way you graded homework was unclear (what makes an 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10?). I would strongly recommend you post a bunch of problems from the book so we can see/reference examples (not the hw problems but other problems). Maybe even change the whole book. The authors explanations is unclear and the book hard to understand. If you want us to struggle fine, post the hw from this book and recommend a book to learn from. During class you used a lot of big words and even though I learned them it was difficult to follow, if you relate it with simpler words it would help. Essentially dumb it down some more. Now for the positive, your lectures you posted online were clear and I liked the way you showed your steps (arrows and explanation) from the lecture. High five. You were always prompt with posting your lectures, maybe work on posting test solutions sooner while our brains are still working on them. Also, you asked our opinion which prompted me to write such a long review that is awesome and thank you for considering what we have to say. I along with many other students appreciate that. Have a great break!!!
- The thing that made the class amazing was his website. The resources were easily unmatched by any course I've taken in my life.
- This was a very challenging class. The material was difficult and Dr. Vaughn has a high expectation of his students. Dr Vaughn explained the material clearly and as well as I could have hoped and provided plentiful resources for his students to further their learning in addition to his lectures. Dr. Vaughn took a very long time to return test and project grades. The testing style was also different from any other tests we have taken and somewhat different from what we did in class and how we were instructed. They did successfully test our understanding but they required us to memorize material and skip steps.