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SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Mathematics 2685
TU 08:00
Spring 2008
Local code: 0002

IDEA Diagnostic Form Report

To learn more, see the Interpretive Guide: www.theideacenter.org/diagnosticguide.pdf

There were **30** students enrolled in the course and **21** students responded. Your results are considered **fairly reliable**. The **70**% response rate indicates that results are **probably representative** of the class as a whole.

Summary Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness

Teaching effectiveness is assessed in two ways: **A. Progress on Relevant Objectives**, a weighted average of student ratings of the progress they reported on objectives selected as "Important" or "Essential" (double weighted) and **B. Overall Ratings**, the average student agreement with statements that the teacher and the course were excellent. The **SUMMARY EVALUATION** is the average of these two measures. Individual institutions may prefer to combine these measures in some other manner to arrive at a summary judgment.

Converted Averages are standardized scores that take into account the fact that the average ratings for items on the IDEA form are not equal; students report more progress on some objectives than on others. Converted scores all have the same average (50) and the same variability (a standard deviation of 10); about 40% of them will be between 45 and 55. Because measures are not perfectly reliable, it is best to regard the "true score" as lying within plus or minus 3 of the reported score.

For comparative purposes, use converted averages. Your converted averages are compared with those from all classes in the IDEA database. If enough classes are available, comparisons are also made with classes in the same broad *discipline* as this class and/or with all classes that used IDEA at your *institution*. The *Interpretive Guide* offers some suggestions for using comparative results; **some institutions may prefer to establish their own "standards" based on raw or adjusted scores rather than on comparative standing**.

Both unadjusted (raw) and adjusted averages are reported. The latter makes classes more comparable by considering factors that influence student ratings, yet are beyond the instructor's control. Scores are adjusted to take into account student desire to take the course regardless of who taught it (item 39), student work habits (item 43), instructor reported class size, and two multiple item measures (student effort not attributable to the instructor and course difficulty not attributable to the instructor).

Your Average Scores

	Your Average (5−point scale)	
	Raw	**Adj.**
A. Progress on Relevant Objectives [1] **Three** objectives were selected as relevant (Important or Essential −see page 2)	4.4	4.6
Overall Ratings		
B. Excellent Teacher	4.7	4.8
C. Excellent Course	4.1	4.3
D. Average of B & C	4.4	4.6
Summary Evaluation (Average of A & D) [1]	**4.4**	**4.6**

[1] If you are comparing Progress on Relevant Objectives from one instructor to another, use the converted average.

[2] The process for computing Progress on Relevant Objectives for the Discipline and Institution was modified on May 1, 2006. Do not compare these results with reports generated prior to this date.

Your Converted Average When Compared to All Classes in the IDEA Database

Comparison Category	A. Progress on Relevant Objectives		Overall Ratings: B. Excellent Teacher		Overall Ratings: C. Excellent Course		Overall Ratings: D. Average of B & C		Summary Evaluation (Average of A & D)	
	Raw	**Adj.**	**Raw**	**Adj.**	**Raw**	**Adj.**	**Raw**	**Adj.**	**Raw**	**Adj.**
Much Higher Highest 10% (63 or higher)		**63**								
Higher Next 20% (56−62)	**59**		**58**	**60**		**56**		**58**	**57**	**61**
Similar Middle 40% (45−55)					**52**		**55**			
Lower Next 20% (38−44)										
Much Lower Lowest 10% (37 or lower)										

Your Converted Average When Compared to Your:[2]

Discipline (IDEA Data)	59	61	59	58	56	56	58	57	59	59
Institution	57	60	58	60	52	55	55	58	56	59

IDEA Discipline used for comparison:
Mathematics

Student Ratings of Learning on Relevant (Important and Essential) Objectives

Average unadjusted (raw) and adjusted progress ratings are shown below for those objectives you identified as "Important" or "Essential." **Progress on Relevant Objectives** (also shown on page 1) is a weighted average of student ratings of the progress they reported on objectives selected as "Important" or "Essential" (double weighted). The percent of students rating each as "1" or "2" (either "no" or "slight" progress) and as "4" or "5" ("substantial" or "exceptional" progress) is also reported. These results should help you identify objectives where improvement efforts might best be focused. Page 3 contains suggestions about the types of changes you might consider to obtain more satisfactory results. Also, refer to the **POD–IDEA Center *Learning* Notes** (**www.theideacenter.org/podidea/PODNotesLearning.html**).

	Importance Rating	Your Average (5–point scale)		Percent of Students Rating		Your Converted Average When Compared to Group Averages					
						IDEA Database		IDEA Discipline[1]		Your Institution[1]	
		Raw	Adj.	1 or 2	4 or 5	Raw	Adjusted	Raw	Adjusted	Raw	Adjusted
21. Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends)	**Essential**	**4.2**	**4.4**	**0%**	**86%**	**55 Similar**	**58 Higher**	**55 Similar**	**57 Higher**	**53 Similar**	**56 Higher**
22. Learning fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories	**Essential**	**4.5**	**4.7**	**0%**	**90%**	**62 Higher**	**66 Much Higher**	**61 Higher**	**63 Much Higher**	**59 Higher**	**63 Much Higher**
23. Learning to *apply* course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)	Important	4.6	4.8	0%	95%	61 Higher	66 Much Higher	63 Much Higher	64 Much Higher	59 Higher	64 Much Higher
24. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course	Minor/None										
25. Acquiring skills in working with others as a member of a team	Minor/None										
26. Developing creative capacities (writing, inventing, designing, performing in art, music, drama, etc.)	Minor/None										
27. Gaining a broader understanding and appreciation of intellectual/cultural activity (music, science, literature, etc.)	Minor/None										
28. Developing skill in expressing myself orally or in writing	Minor/None										
29. Learning how to find and use resources for answering questions or solving problems	Minor/None										
30. Developing a clearer understanding of, and commitment to, personal values	Minor/None										
31. Learning to *analyze* and *critically evaluate* ideas, arguments, and points of view	Minor/None										
32. Acquiring an interest in learning more by asking my own questions and seeking answers	Minor/None										
Progress on Relevant Objectives		**4.4**	**4.6**			**59**	**63**	**59**	**61**	**57**	**60**

[1] The process for computing Progress on Relevant Objectives for the Discipline and Institution was modified on May 1, 2006. Do not compare these results with reports generated prior to this date.

Much Higher = Highest 10% of classes (63 or higher)
Higher = Next 20% (56–62)
Similar = Middle 40% (45–55)
Lower = Next 20% (38–44)
Much Lower = Lowest 10% (37 or lower)

Description of Course and Students

Students described the course by rating three items related to "level of academic challenge." Results cannot be interpreted as "good" or "bad"; in general, these ratings have a slight positive relationship with measures of academic achievement. The three items describing your students relate to their academic motivation and work habits and are key factors in developing adjusted ratings.

Course Description	Your Average (5–point scale)	Your Converted Average When Compared to Group Averages					
		IDEA Database		IDEA Discipline		Your Institution	
33. Amount of reading	2.5	41	Lower	51	Similar	42	Lower
34. Amount of work in other (non–reading) assignments	3.3	48	Similar	42	Lower	46	Similar
35. Difficulty of subject matter	3.3	48	Similar	42	Lower	46	Similar
Student Description							
37. I worked harder on this course than on most courses I have taken.	3.5	48	Similar	46	Similar	46	Similar
39. I really wanted to take this course regardless of who taught it.	3.1	46	Similar	50	Similar	47	Similar
43. As a rule, I put forth more effort than other students on academic work.	3.6	48	Similar	48	Similar	43	Lower

Much Higher = Highest 10% of classes (63 or higher)
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Improving Teaching Effectiveness

One way to improve teaching effectiveness is to make more use of the teaching methods closely related to learning on specific objectives.

- Review page 2 to identify the objective(s) where improvements are most desirable.
- Use the first column to answer the question, "Which of the 20 teaching methods are most related to learning on these objective(s)?"
- Review the next two columns to answer the question, "How did students rate my use of these important methods?"
- Read the last column to answer the question, "What changes should I consider in my teaching methods?"
- Beyond specific methods, do the results suggest a general area (e.g., Stimulating Student Interest) where improvement efforts should be focused?

Suggested Actions are based on comparisons with ratings for classes of similar size and level of student motivation. **Consider increasing use** means you employed the method less frequently than those teaching similar classes. **Retain current use or consider increasing** means you employed the method with typical frequency. **Strength to retain** means you employed the method more frequently than those teaching similar classes. More detailed suggestions are in the **Interpretive Guide** (**www.theideacenter.org/diagnosticguide.pdf**), **POD−IDEA Center Notes** (**www.theideacenter.org/podidea**), and **POD−IDEA Center *Learning* Notes** (**www.theideacenter.org/podidea/PODNotesLearning.html**).

Teaching Methods and Styles

	Relevant to Objectives: (see page 2)	Your Average (5−point scale)	Percent of Students Rating 4 or 5	Suggested Action
Stimulating Student Interest				
8. Stimulated students to intellectual effort beyond that required by most courses	All selected objectives	4.1	67%	Retain current use or consider increasing
13. Introduced stimulating ideas about the subject	All selected objectives	4.3	76%	Retain current use or consider increasing
15. Inspired students to set and achieve goals which really challenged them	All selected objectives	4.1	67%	Retain current use or consider increasing
4. Demonstrated the importance and significance of the subject matter	**All selected objectives**	**4.5**	**95%**	**Strength to retain**
Fostering Student Collaboration				
5. Formed "teams" or "discussion groups" to facilitate learning	Not relevant to objectives selected	4.4	86%	
16. Asked students to share ideas and experiences with others whose backgrounds and viewpoints differ from their own	Not relevant to objectives selected	4.0	62%	
18. Asked students to help each other understand ideas or concepts	Not relevant to objectives selected	4.3	81%	
Establishing Rapport				
2. Found ways to help students answer their own questions	**All selected objectives**	**4.5**	**90%**	**Strength to retain**
1. Displayed a personal interest in students and their learning	**23**	**4.6**	**90%**	**Strength to retain**
7. Explained the reasons for criticisms of students' academic performance	**23**	**4.3**	**90%**	**Strength to retain**
20. Encouraged student−faculty interaction outside of class (office visits, phone calls, e−mails, etc.)	Not relevant to objectives selected	4.7	90%	
Encouraging Student Involvement				
11. Related course material to real life situations	23	4.2	76%	Retain current use or consider increasing
9. Encouraged students to use multiple resources (e.g. data banks, library holdings, outside experts) to improve understanding	Not relevant to objectives selected	3.9	67%	
14. Involved students in "hands on" projects such as research, case studies, or "real life" activities	Not relevant to objectives selected	4.1	76%	
19. Gave projects, tests, or assignments that required original or creative thinking	Not relevant to objectives selected	4.4	90%	
Structuring Classroom Experiences				
6. Made it clear how each topic fit into the course	**All selected objectives**	**4.5**	**95%**	**Strength to retain**
10. Explained course material clearly and concisely	**All selected objectives**	**4.7**	**95%**	**Strength to retain**
12. Gave tests, projects, etc. that covered the most important points of the course	**21, 22**	**4.7**	**95%**	**Strength to retain**
3. Scheduled course work (class activities, tests, projects) in ways which encouraged students to stay up−to−date in their work	Not relevant to objectives selected	4.5	95%	
17. Provided timely and frequent feedback on tests, reports, projects, etc. to help students improve	Not relevant to objectives selected	4.7	90%	

5−point Scale: 1 = Hardly Ever 2 = Occasionally 3 = Sometimes 4 = Frequently 5 = Almost Always

Statistical Detail

	Number Responding							
	1	2	3	4	5	Omit	Avg.	s.d.
1. Displayed a personal interest in students and their learning	0	0	2	4	15	0	4.6	0.7
2. Found ways to help students answer their own questions	0	0	2	6	13	0	4.5	0.7
3. Scheduled course work (class activities, tests, projects) in ways...	0	0	1	9	11	0	4.5	0.6
4. Demonstrated the importance and significance of the subject matter	0	0	1	9	11	0	4.5	0.6
5. Formed "teams" or "discussion groups" to facilitate learning	0	2	1	5	13	0	4.4	1.0
6. Made it clear how each topic fit into the course	0	0	1	9	11	0	4.5	0.6
7. Explained the reasons for criticisms of students' academic...	0	1	1	9	10	0	4.3	0.8
8. Stimulated students to intellectual effort beyond that required by...	0	0	7	4	10	0	4.1	0.9
9. Encouraged students to use multiple resources (e.g. data banks,...	1	1	5	6	8	0	3.9	1.1
10. Explained course material clearly and concisely	0	1	0	4	16	0	4.7	0.7
11. Related course material to real life situations	0	1	4	6	10	0	4.2	0.9
12. Gave tests, projects, etc. that covered the most important points...	0	0	1	4	16	0	4.7	0.6
13. Introduced stimulating ideas about the subject	0	0	5	5	11	0	4.3	0.8
14. Involved students in "hands on" projects such as research, case...	1	0	4	7	9	0	4.1	1.0
15. Inspired students to set and achieve goals which really...	0	1	6	5	9	0	4.0	1.0
16. Asked students to share ideas and experiences with others...	0	2	6	3	10	0	4.0	1.1
17. Provided timely and frequent feedback on tests, reports,...	0	0	2	2	17	0	4.7	0.6
18. Asked students to help each other understand ideas or concepts	0	0	4	6	11	0	4.3	0.8
19. Gave projects, tests, or assignments that required original or...	0	0	2	9	10	0	4.4	0.7
20. Encouraged student−faculty interaction outside of class (office...	0	0	2	3	15	1	4.7	0.7

Key: 1 = Hardly Ever 2 = Occasionally 3 = Sometimes 4 = Frequently 5 = Almost Always

The details on this page are of interest primarily to those who want to confirm scores reported on pages 1−3 or who want to determine if responses to some items were distributed in an unusual manner.

Converted Averages are reported only for relevant learning objectives (Important or Essential −see page 2) and other items for which comparisons were provided.

Notes:
Dept code selected on FIF: 2701
Dept code used for discipline comparison: 2701

	Number Responding								Converted Avg.		Comparison Group Average		
	1	2	3	4	5	Omit	Avg.	s.d.	Raw	Adj.	IDEA	Discipline	Institution
21. Gaining factual knowledge (terminology,...	**0**	**0**	**3**	**10**	**8**	**0**	**4.2**	**0.7**	**55**	**58**	**4.0**	**4.0**	**4.1**
22. Learning fundamental principles, generalizations, or...	**0**	**0**	**2**	**6**	**13**	**0**	**4.5**	**0.7**	**62**	**66**	**3.9**	**4.0**	**4.1**
23. Learning to *apply* course material (to improve thinking,...	**0**	**0**	**1**	**7**	**13**	**0**	**4.6**	**0.6**	**61**	**66**	**4.0**	**3.9**	**4.1**
24. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view...	0	0	2	8	10	1	4.4	0.7	NA	NA	4.0	3.8	4.1
25. Acquiring skills in working with others as a member of a team	0	1	4	7	9	0	4.1	0.9	NA	NA	3.9	3.3	4.0
26. Developing creative capacities (writing, inventing, designing,...	0	0	9	4	8	0	4.0	0.9	NA	NA	3.9	2.7	4.0
27. Gaining a broader understanding and appreciation of...	0	0	4	9	8	0	4.2	0.7	NA	NA	3.7	2.9	3.9
28. Developing skill in expressing myself orally or in writing	0	5	2	8	6	0	3.7	1.1	NA	NA	3.8	2.8	3.9
29. Learning how to find and use resources for answering questions...	0	1	3	9	8	0	4.1	0.9	NA	NA	3.7	3.5	3.9
30. Developing a clearer understanding of, and commitment to,...	1	1	3	6	10	0	4.1	1.1	NA	NA	3.8	3.0	3.9
31. Learning to *analyze* and *critically evaluate* ideas, arguments,...	0	1	2	8	10	0	4.3	0.8	NA	NA	3.8	3.4	3.9
32. Acquiring an interest in learning more by asking my own...	0	0	3	8	10	0	4.3	0.7	NA	NA	3.8	3.6	3.9

Key: 1 = No apparent progress 2 = Slight progress 3 = Moderate progress 4 = Substantial progress 5 = Exceptional progress Bold = Selected as Important or Essential

33. Amount of reading	4	4	12	0	1	0	2.5	1.0	41	NA	3.2	2.5	3.1
34. Amount of work in other (non−reading) assignments	0	1	13	7	0	0	3.3	0.6	48	NA	3.4	3.6	3.5
35. Difficulty of subject matter	1	0	12	8	0	0	3.3	0.7	48	NA	3.4	3.7	3.5

Key: 1 = Much Less than Most 2 = Less than Most 3 = About Average 4 = More than Most 5 = Much More than Most

36. I had a strong desire to take this course.	4	3	10	2	2	0	2.8	1.2	NA	NA	3.7	3.2	3.6
37. I worked harder on this course than on most courses I have taken.	0	2	8	10	1	0	3.5	0.7	48	NA	3.6	3.7	3.7
38. I really wanted to take a course from this instructor.	3	2	12	1	3	0	3.0	1.2	NA	NA	3.4	3.2	3.5
39. I really wanted to take this course regardless of who taught it.	4	1	10	1	5	0	3.1	1.4	46	NA	3.3	3.1	3.3
40. As a result of taking this course, I have more positive feelings...	0	3	4	11	3	0	3.7	0.9	47	49	3.9	3.5	3.9
41. Overall, I rate this instructor an excellent teacher.	0	0	1	4	16	0	4.7	0.6	58	60	4.2	4.1	4.2
42. Overall, I rate this course as excellent.	0	1	4	8	7	1	4.1	0.9	52	56	3.9	3.7	4.0
43. As a rule, I put forth more effort than other students on...	0	2	9	6	4	0	3.6	0.9	48	NA	3.6	3.6	3.8

Key: 1 = Definitely False 2 = More False than True 3 = In Between 4 = More True than False 5 = Definitely True

No Additional Questions.