# Evaluation of Instruction Program Report

**Course:** 20W: EPS SCI 9 LEC 1: SOLAR SYSTM&PLANETS  
**No. of responses = 188**  
**Enrollment = 437**  
**Response Rate = 43.02%**

## 1. Background Information:

### 1.1) Year in School:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
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<td>Senior</td>
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### 1.2) UCLA GPA:

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### 1.3) Expected Grade:

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<td>B</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>?</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>22.91%</td>
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### 1.4) What requirements does this course fulfill?

<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>G.E.</td>
<td>149</td>
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<tr>
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<td>11.26%</td>
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2. To What Extent Do You Feel That:

2.1) Instructor Concern “The instructor was concerned about student learning.”

Very Low or Never 1 1 2 4 6 12 27 35 66 Very High or Always

n=186 av.=7.9 md=9 dev.=1.54 ab.=1

2.2) Organization “Class presentations were well prepared and organized.”

Very Low or Never 1 0 4 3 5 6 7 8 9 Very High or Always

n=187 av.=8.07 md=9 dev.=1.46 ab.=1

2.3) Interaction “Students felt welcome in seeking help in or outside of the class.”

Very Low or Never 3 0 3 6 7 17 28 28 94 Very High or Always

n=184 av.=7.73 md=9 dev.=1.75 ab.=3

2.4) Communication Skills “The instructor had good communication skills.”

Very Low or Never 0 2 3 3 5 6 7 8 9 Very High or Always

n=187 av.=8.03 md=9 dev.=1.49 ab.=1

2.5) Value “You have learned something you consider valuable.”

Very Low or Never 2 3 4 7 9 10 31 28 62 Very High or Always

n=186 av.=7.65 md=8 dev.=1.86 ab.=1

2.6) Overall “Your overall rating of the instructor.”

Very Low or Never 0 0 2 4 9 13 18 37 104 Very High or Always

n=187 av.=7.78 md=8 dev.=1.58 ab.=1

2.7) Overall “Your overall rating of the course.”

Very Low or Never 1 1 2 4 9 20 23 39 88 Very High or Always

n=187 av.=7.78 md=8 dev.=1.58 ab.=1

3. Your View of Course Characteristics:

3.1) Subject interest before course

Low 53 85 50 High

n=188 av.=1.98 md=2 dev.=0.74

3.2) Subject interest after course

Low 22 78 88 High

n=188 av.=2.35 md=2 dev.=0.88

3.3) Mastery of course material

Low 27 111 48 High

n=186 av.=2.11 md=2 dev.=0.63 ab.=2

3.4) Difficulty (relative to other courses)

Low 46 124 17 High

n=187 av.=1.84 md=2 dev.=0.56

3.5) Workload/pace was

Too Slow 11 165 10 Too Much

n=186 av.=1.99 md=2 dev.=0.34

3.6) Texts, required readings

Poor 13 82 50 Excellent

n=145 av.=2.26 md=2 dev.=0.61 ab.=42
### Homework assignments

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<th>Average</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>69</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>3</td>
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- **n=153**
- **av.=2.4**
- **md=2**
- **dev.=0.59**
- **ab.=34**

### Graded materials, examinations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Excellent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **n=185**
- **av.=2.22**
- **md=2**
- **dev.=0.63**
- **ab.=1**

### Lecture presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Excellent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **n=186**
- **av.=2.63**
- **md=3**
- **dev.=0.55**

### Class discussions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poor</th>
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<th>Excellent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

- **n=173**
- **av.=2.43**
- **md=3**
- **dev.=0.66**
- **ab.=13**

### Comments:

1. Please identify what you perceive to be the real strengths and weaknesses of this instructor and course.

- **Amazing. Hands down a great professor, and I could never have any complaints.**

- **Best lecturer ever. Very engaging, knowledgeable, and entertaining. I thoroughly enjoyed going to lecture and I am able to appreciate space science even though it is not my proposed major. No complaints.**

- **Charismatic Genius!**

- **Class was very engaging the use of videos and charts made everything very clear and understandable. Professor Jewitt had a great sense of humor which kept the lectures lively. It was a class I looked forward to going to and it is a shame we missed out on the last lecture.**

- **Dave Jewitt might be the best teacher I have ever had. He is hysterical! Not to mention, he's very very smart as well! The class is easy enough if you go to lecture, midterm was the right difficulty. Labs are super easy, but all in all the class is interesting. It's worth going to, not even to take notes, but to just go listen to. Dave is awesome! Would recommend to anyone and everyone.**

- **Definitely became more interested in the Solar System after taking this class.**

- **Dr. Jewitt is a renowned figure in his field and it shows in his lectures as he truly cares about the material he teaches as well as the students. He is a super fun/funny lecturer! I think that this class provides a good balance between rigorous studying and fun.**

- **Dr. Jewitt is a very intelligent man and clearly knows the material that he is teaching, but he is not the best at actually teaching it. At times his lectures were very informative and I actually felt like I was preparing for the midterm and final. But other times, lectures felt like a complete waste of my time. He would show random (and sometimes graphic) videos with zero correlation to the course material. He would also often make inappropriate jokes about sensitive topics such as how he wishes that "a nuclear bomb would hit UCLA and kill all the administration." Additionally, he would often stray off-topic and talk about robots and world wars in a class about the solar system and planets. On top of that, the average midterm grade was 68% which is incredibly low. The only reason I think I can get an A in this class is because my TA graded labs on completion and because of copious amounts of extra credit provided by Dr. Jewitt.**

- **Dr. Jewitt is a very intelligent, dedicated, and humorous professor. His lectures were very engaging and heightened my interest in the solar system as he showed both educational and funny videos. He was able to use analogies to enhance our understanding of more abstract theorems/principles. He encourages students to ask questions, which reflects his passion for his field/research and desire to...**
I enjoyed the structure of the course as a large part of our grade was affected by the quizzes we took based off of the section material we learned, which was a unique way of learning a subject and not having to stress for minor quizzes since they asked questions directly from the worksheets we completed in discussion. I most enjoyed the lab in which the TA took us to a small "meteor exhibit" during section and I had the opportunity to hold a meteorite. The Extra Credit assignments given were very interesting and encouraged us to experience the universe outside of the classroom.

While sections were an overall good experience, I believe that they could have been improved by making every other week a different experience instead of simply rushing through slides just to take a quiz on them the following week.

- Dr. Jewitt is awesome! I wish I could take his class every quarter!
- Exams were quite difficult. Course material was very fascinating.
- From a student's perspective, I can understand why Professor Jewitt has received a lot of flak regarding his handling of the final due to the coronavirus. That being the case, I feel that too many of my peers are caught up in chasing an arbitrary letter grade, and that they should instead try to be more understanding of the situation that he is in. Dave has time and time again stressed the learning of science above all else, and has provided countless extra credit opportunities to boost grades and learn the material in a more applied way. His lectures are engaging and funny, and, as a North Campus major, I appreciate how passionate he is, as well as how accessible he tries to make the material to people of all backgrounds (I noticed some elderly people attending lectures most days, for instance). Though the situation is obviously not ideal, I hope that the instructor evaluations of those angry do not overshadow how great of a professor Dave truly is.
- Funny lecturer, class is not boring!
- Going to class and learning was always a fun and interesting experience thanks to professor and no other class has ever been this entertaining. My only real issue is that there isn't many study guides for the material or homeworks in the class.
- Good professors, good at managing a class of over 400 people
- Great class and great professor. The only thing I would change is the extra credit. Dr Jewitt does and amazing job at offering these to students but some are hard to get to (science museum) as a student with other classes and no car. He is very very passionate about the material and very humble regarding how advanced he is in his field.
- Great professor actually wants to students to learn. However, the midterm went pretty bad not sure how students could have prepared for it.
- Great professor knows his stuff
- Great professor, makes the course fun and interesting.
- Great, interesting course, extra credit offered is very easy and Proff. Jewitt was a great professor.
- He really cared about students learning and enjoying the subject not just tests and lab grades. He provided fun and engaging lectures that did not make it seem like he was just talking at us. He dealt with all the chaos about switching to online formats very well and did his best to alleviate stress about final grades with it all. Overall a great professor who was really passionate about the subject he was teaching.
- He was always engaging and excited about the material, and had a great sense of humor to boot. He was also very clearly knowledgeable in his field and many others, and it was wonderful to have him as a teacher. One of my favorite professors of all time.
He was an engaging professor. He makes the material interesting. He made the midterm a little too difficult (class average was a D).

He would always crack jokes or say puns that would keep the students involved. It is amazing what he has done and his contribution to science. He walks around and I like that because it keeps me from getting distracted.

Hilarious lecturer. Great professor who treats class as a way to make science interesting.

I absolutely loved this class! I wish I had been exposed to this material and this professor at a younger age or earlier point in life as I feel I would have majored in a related field. Professor Jewitt is an absolute gem. He is clear, patient, passionate about the field, and very experienced. I was really impressed to see him in the BBC film about asteroids (the good, bad and ugly). He truly is a rock star! Pun definitely intended especially that his humor was also greatly appreciated. He has a great perspective about teaching and he believes it should be used to create interest and not beat over students’ head, which some professors should consider doing as all they accomplish is deterring students from certain fields and information that can be and sometimes is crucial in life. Thanks Professor Jewitt! You even handled the corona virus fiasco like a champ!

I appreciate everything that he has done for the field of astronomy. He truly has left a mark in history that will never ever be forgotten. That being said, there are a few things lacking in his teaching. First, his slides are a little disorganized. Some slides show a bunch of pictures while others show large blocks of text. Ideally, in my opinion, each slide should have a mixture of both pictures and words. He, however, does present the information clearly and is also very humorous in his presentation. Secondly, I honestly do not like the fact that we got little help in preparation for the midterm. There is so much information to know, and I didn’t know how specific the midterm was going to be. It turns out, the midterm had questions that were quite specific! We had to know little details and do math without a calculator when there was supposed to be no math on the midterm. I felt a little betrayed, and the average was a D as a result. Maybe a study guide would be helpful? Or even give out homework relating to the week’s lectures? I also don’t like how discussion is kind of separate from lecture (there is some overlap though) because even though the things we learned is discussion were riveting, we can’t ask the TAs too much for help about the material covered in lecture. Overall, however, I still enjoyed the material of the course and the extra credit assignments.

I appreciate his knowledge in the field and his interest in teaching us a broad range of concepts.

I enjoyed EPSSCI9 way more than I thought I would. Professor Jewitt is undoubtedly knowledgeable about the content, but he is also really funny without trying. I learned something new every lecture and my interest in astronomy increased considerably. The weakness of the class relate to exams and section. First, sections aren’t used to review lecture material, which is something I would have liked. Second, professor gives us a lot of content to consider, but there were only 29 questions on the midterm. This leaves less room for error, and to be honest some of the exam questions were a bit unfair. I expected more questions on the sun or general topics, but we got very specific questions about tectonic plate speeds and planet sizes.

I have always been interested in what lies beyond the small mass of rock we live on called Earth. As children, we are taught to memorize all the planets in our solar system (+ Pluto) and that they orbit the sun in a circular path. However, not much is told to us beyond that unless we take specific planetary science classes. I am an English major, but when I found that this course was offered and open to all students, I could not resist enrolling and it has been one of the best experiences. Professor Jewitt is marvelous at explaining the scientific concepts so everyone can understand, even North Campus majors. He always added his own humor to the lectures, which made it so there was never a dull moment. I often found myself sucked into the lecture topics and disappointed when the class finished because I wanted to know more. The last lecture was unfortunately cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak and the university cancelling classes to avoid mass-contamination. I have, however, uploaded all the past lecture slides onto my computer and am sure will return to them in my free time to study them again. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience in Professor Jewitt's class and would highly recommend it to other students.
I liked this class. Professor Jewitt also knew a lot about the topic and is very passionate about what he teaches, so the classes were always interesting and packed with useful information.

I love that the professor cares more about our learning than making the class hard.

I really enjoyed this course because the professor placed more emphasis on trying to make the class enjoyable rather than making the students worry about their grade. The extra credit assignments were actually quite enjoyable, and I ended up learning a lot of information from those. I think this class wouldn't have been as fun if I didn't have friends in the class, so I recommend taking this class with a lot of friends! It was really impressive to find out that the professor was responsible for discovering the Kuiper belt; that definitely built credibility of this entire course and the content he was teaching. As for teaching style, I sometimes felt like I was being bombarded with information and facts, since there's definitely a lot of stuff to cover. The math questions on the midterm were harder than expected, but I felt like the exam was generally fair. The videos and other visuals he showed in class really helped students understand the material better. Overall one of the best professors I've had for a G.E. class!

I really liked Professor Jewitt. He is very funny and friendly and cares more about learning than grades so he offers extra credit opportunities.

I really respect Ravich's attitude every day coming into class. I scored very poorly on the first midterm and somewhat felt like giving up and simply trying to pass the class. A few days before the second midterm Ravich brought his guitar in and sang us a few songs. This showed me how much he cares about us and made me care about the class a lot more. I scored much higher on the second midterm than I did on the first.

Insufficient information provided about exam content. Very little guidance as to what to study for the exam, what will be emphasized, and what sort of questions will be asked. Providing a study guide or learning objectives for exams would be very helpful.

Is good.

It is hard to tell which things/subjects are important in this class.

It may be because this is not part of my major, but I did not find this class very interesting. I have always been interested in the fields surrounding astronomy, but after this class I no longer am. I do believe Professor Jewitt had good intentions, and he himself is a very interesting and caring man, but the material fell flat for me. Also, it might be that I did not understand the material well, but it felt like the midterm was not a good representation of the course itself and was significantly harder and more tedious than it should have been.

It's unfortunate that the final got cancelled, but overall the class is really interesting and I personally think that Mr. Jewitt did a great job structuring the class and using powerpoints that kept students engaged. I know a lot of us were stressed about the final being cancelled because our midterm was pretty difficult and the class average wasn't great, but Mr. Jewitt has done his best to better the situation by adjusting the grade scale and allowing us more time for extra credit options. I don't really have anything bad to say, I think its a good class!

Jewel was very helpful in explaining the class concepts and points further to all students in her section while relating things to real life which helped to make the course a little more realistic.

Jewitt has been an incredible professor. I came into this course with very minimal knowledge and interest in the solar system and now feel like I have a real understanding of it and some of its complexities. He has a real talent for explaining confusing concepts to those who don't have a good basis of understanding in EPS or science in general (like me, a communications major). His extra credit assignments also helped to curate a sense of excitement for science and the solar system. This has been one of the best science classes I have taken and I am actually following Professor Jewitt to EPS 15 next quarter so I can continue to learn from him.

Jewitt is extremely knowledgeable on the topic and dedicated to the success of his students. He is very...
fair when it comes to grading and stresses the importance of learning class material over worrying about grades (more professors should be doing this). I believe that his decision to cancel the final should hardly be controversial especially given the fact that students had the opportunity to earn a whopping 20% worth of extra credit. Thank you Professor Jewitt for keeping the class up-to-date with all your emails and for sparking my interest in the solar system!

- Jewitt is one of the best professors I have had and probably ever will have. I have never seen a professor that cares the way he does.

- Jewitt was an excellent professor. He taught something he is passionate about. To do what he has accomplished in his field, you need the passion and stubbornness to keep going when others don’t. You also need that if you want to be a good teacher. Science is a weak point of mine. I admire the field but academically, I’m a blunder. Jewitt really wanted to drive the point that our main focus should be our understanding of the topic instead of our grade. Of course, I fretted over my grade regardless, but it was reassuring for my peace of mind to know that Jewitt understands that grades should not be the end all, be all of education. Hats off to him because of how he had to handle UCLA’s late decision to transition to online classes because of coronavirus. Jewitt, if you’re reading this, I really appreciated your class. I’m graduating soon so if I’m too casual in this review don’t mind me cause I’m tired of UCLA. Anyways, if I had your class earlier in my undergraduate experience, I think my life would have been a bit better. That sounds dramatic but the good ol’ American education system truly has conditioned me to value my grade too much. The science went over my head but I still feel like I learned something. Also I think you handled the last minute adjustments about the final well, even if my classmates sent hordes of panicked emails. I hope you continue lecturing at UCLA; this awful place needs professors like you. Au revoir!

- Jordan was always very organized and made discussions clear and efficient. She appears to be very passionate about what she is teaching and is accommodating for her students. I am very glad I got her as a TA.

- LOVE HIM! Hes the best Professor. Only issue was that we were in a big hall so it was often times hard to hear him.

- Lectures were really great and fun, and Professor Jewitt is a great lecturer! I wish there was more preparation available for the midterm exam though- I studied mostly content about different objects in the Solary System, but I felt like the midterm was more physics and statistics focused, which was not what I was expecting.

- Many of the strengths in the class stemmed from Professor Jewitt's sheer excitement and interests he shared when addressing topics in his class. Professor Jewitt presented much of what he taught in an easy to digest and inspiring way that compelled us to continue learning more, regardless of background. Though my major isn’t directly relevant to the course, the excitement and passion the professor displayed when teaching us is a trait I have learned so much from, and is a quality I hope to channel into my own passions in the future. I learned much more than just the course material, and I am immensely grateful for that.

A criticism I would like to make, though there aren't many to begin with, would be to assign readings that better complement the course. Of course there is likely no textbook that aligns with all the material we learned in class, but even excerpts from scholarly journals/articles, or PDFs with certain information on it would undoubtedly be helpful.

Overall, thank you for a great quarter Professor Jewitt, you made coming to class so worth it!

- None

- Prof Jewitt is obviously very passionate about the material, but I felt he didn't take into consideration all the best ways to keep students on track. I wish there had been some type of light hw to ask questions/inform more deeply about the lectures of the week to solidify information. The absence of hw made it hard to keep track of all materials besides constantly rehashing the lectures, and the labs we did had little to do with what talked about in lecture specifically so it didn't help us study. Also, Prof Jewitt put
mostly math and equation questions on the midterm after directly telling the class multiple times that we didn't need to know it. That was unfair and he didn't see any issue with it somehow, even though the entire class average on the midterm was a D. He would get annoyed with people's concern about grades, but never clarified during the concern that the class would be curved. I understand we are in school to learn, not only get good grades, but he should be more understanding of our concern around our grades since they impact our futures greatly.

- Prof. Jewitt is so interesting and clearly passionate about what he teaches. He really tries his best to make the topic relatable and interesting even to those who are not interested in astronomy. He stays on topic and includes lots of interesting videos and pictures to help with understanding. He is also hilarious and s such a cool guy. I enjoyed this course and would recommend it to a friend.

However, I think he focuses a lot on small minute details, both in class and especially on examinations. I personally found it hard to sometimes get the big picture from lecture because of the detail he goes into on certain topics. He included a lot of these details on the midterm, which I believed to be unfair. I knew a lot of the big picture ideas from the course, as well as information that we learned in class, but his midterm included many numerical calculations and extremely specific information that was not emphasized. His quizzes in discussion are similar, as they are just memorization of specific facts and names, and not on the main idea that we learned in discussion.

- Professor Jewitt is a fun humorous professor. He is very knowledgable on the material and delivers it well.

- Professor Jewitt is a great lecturer and very obviously knowledgable about the material, as he is an accomplished scientist in the field. His lectures were very interesting and I learned a lot about the solar system. The only downside is that the material itself is quite simple, yet the midterm exam was surprisingly very difficult and it didn't align with a lot of the things we learned in lecture, as the midterm tested very specific, small details of the course. But overall, Professor Jewitt is very funny, smart, and organized.

- Professor Jewitt is a very funny guy that makes lectures worth going to. He creates a funny environment for students during lecture to ask questions.

- Professor Jewitt is an engaging speaker, and I enjoyed the information I learned throughout the course.

- Professor Jewitt is an excellent lecturer and made the material very interesting. As a non-STEM major, I did not always understand certain things, but the professor made a great effort to explain certain concepts in a unique way that became easier to understand. I think the midterm was unnecessarily difficult for such a large class (the average was a D), but I believe including a study guide could fix this very easily. However, there was a lot of extra credit made available to help counteract this. Overall, I loved the course and recommend it to anyone who needs to fulfill a science G.E.

- Professor Jewitt is very knowledgeable about the solar system. He tries to make class fun, showing us interesting videos that relate to the lecture topic. I learned a lot of new material in this class concerning planets and satellites. It was cool that we got to complete an assignment that involved going to Griffith Observatory.

- Professor Jewitt is very knowledgeable in the subject course and his slides were very entertaining and informative. However, he does tend to be a little monotone, which makes it difficult to pay full attention sometimes.

- Professor Jewitt is very passionate about his work. The work he puts into research outside of class is amazing and helped me to find the course material more interesting. However, it was a little difficult for me to study and the tests were very complex. A lot of it was not based on the discussions or lecture slides, which made it hard for me to know how to study.

- Professor Jewitt is very passionate about the subject and makes students motivated about the subject, the lectures were always organized and easy to follow, and he was able to make his class enjoyable.
Professor Jewitt is very passionate, knowledgeable, and clear. His lectures were engaging and the lecture slides were helpful. However, I wish there were more assignments instead of simply just the quizzes in lab, midterm, and final.

Professor Jewitt made lectures fun and enjoyable. His lecture slides were very well put together and was always organized and started classes on time. The only bad thing I could say is that I was highly discouraged to seek help from him outside of the classroom. From the first day, he said his office hours were "whenever my door is open." This is a very discouraging statement. It felt like was saying it in that way to stop kids from coming.

Professor Jewitt makes class interesting, the way that he lectures is engaging and I enjoy lectures a lot. The midterm felt unfair in terms of what we were expected to know, the average was like a 65% and wasn't curved, which wasn't an expectation I had for a GE. I do enjoy the material but I have a problem with the tests. I don't think I was able to show all that I learned during the midterm. I hope that I have the opportunity to change that for the final.

Professor Jewitt makes it clear on the first day that he's more concerned with his students learning science rather than having to worry about grades. Considering that, he made everyone worry when the midterm required physics based calculations that we had not been required to do the entire quarter, had questions based on concepts he hadn't taught yet, and questions based on specific facts in a course that's largely conceptual. The average was a 60%, which made the extra credit less "extra" and more of a requirement in order to get a good grade in the class. On top of that several of the extra credit assignments require a bus drive/Uber to a place that's several miles away. The bus option is less costly but may take up to 3 hours there and double for the trip back. I decided to take an Uber which cost me over 100$ total for both the Griffith observatory and California Science Lab extra credits. Overall what Jewitt teaches does not line up with what he tests on and it makes for a class that is unnecessarily extremely difficult.

Professor Jewitt strongly encouraged students to challenge themselves, venture out into the world to learn more information, and overall provided a welcoming, enlightening, and thought-provoking environment. Despite the difficulties due to the coronavirus, he constantly communicated with us.

Professor Jewitt truly cares about his students' learning and is always available to seek for help. I think one of the professor's only weakness is the high speed of his lectures.

Professor Jewitt was amazing. He obviously knows so much about the topic and he shows that to everyone with his lectures that are great. He's funny and keeps the lectures engaging which is great as someone who isn't huge into science. I think the extra credit opportunities he provides are great considering how hard the midterm is and how much it can damage the grade. That being said, I think the midterm was a little different than what I was expecting. I knew it would be hard, but I wasn't expecting so many math related questions. The class focused so little on math aside but the midterm had a good amount of math-related questions that surely hurt my grade.

Professor Jewitt was an awesome professor who gave very interesting and often funny lectures

Professor Jewitt was really amazing, his passion for science was visible. He explained everything well and made class engaging by adding videos and facts about science today. He believes in teaching to show that science is fun, and in my perspective he really did that for me.

Professor Jewitt was very passionate and great at explaining concepts. He also finds ways to make the course material relevant to our lives, constantly relating it back to coronavirus. Very funny and humble guy. Great professor!!!!

Professor Jewitt was very straightforward with class expectations and course material. He did not make this class unreasonably difficult and wanted students to enjoy learning about science. There were many extra credit opportunities, which is amazing! Even with the coronavirus shock, Professor Jewitt was very clear in his emails about the remainder of the course. I have learned a lot, and am way more interested in science now. He also has a very dry sense of humor and made several jokes during lecture, which was interesting. Overall, I enjoyed taking this class and will be taking his Oceanography class during the
Spring Quarter. (Hopefully, depending on the virus)

- Professor Jewitt's greatest strength is his teaching style that is matter of fact, wittily funny, and intriguing. His greatest weakness is matching the information in lecture and lab to the subject matter in the tests and exams.

- Professor was truly an expert in the field, making him knowledgeable and passionate. Midterm was okay.

- Professore Jewitt keeps his students engaged and present by changing up every lecture. Whether it's a bit of comedy, or a video with modern relevance and relation to the topic at hand, Professor Jewitt does a fantastic job at making his students share his interest in our solar system. I had a fantastic time.

- Really enjoyed this class and its discussion session. Learning a lot!

- Slides would often contain too much information and I wouldn't really know what exactly i should study and find important. Still interesting lectures.

- Some lecture slides seemed irrelevant to the course material. The midterm was difficult to study for due to the lack of study material provided and the fact that the midterm covered specific details that were barely covered in the lecture. Other than that, the lab discussions were interesting and easy to succeed in and the amount of extra credit offered was a good alternative to help raise our grades.

- Some strengths are that the instructor cares a lot about students learning. He breaks down all the material to be very simple and i appreciate it. Some weaknesses are that i cant think of.

- Strengths was he clearly knows everything he is talking about and is passionate about it. I liked coming to lecture and learning about new things, and he always had great anecdotes and videos to exactly show a phenomenon that made it so much simpler to understand. I think weaknesses are simply he didn't see to approachable outside of class? I guess I never tried to. It's just that lecture and discussion were so separate for some reason and we were highly encouraged to speak to our TA about everything. The exams made sense considering such a large class but I hope he goes easy on us because I didn't score much above the average despite attending every lecture and creating a meticulous study guide for the midterm. But he does seem more worried about us learning than us freaking out over grades. Really cool guy overall, did the EC and found out all his contributions to science so I think that was really interesting.

- Strengths: Prof Jewitt made lectures interesting and worth attending, even though im not taking this class for either a GE or for my major. Hes a funny dude
  Weaknesses: none! A+ prof :)

- Strengths: Very engaging and interesting, makes class very fun! Definitely sparks interest in students and cares about student understanding!
  Weaknesses: Exams were really difficult and a lot of topics on them were not always covered or emphasized.

- Strengths: going over concepts in detail, incorporating humor into learning, focusing on answering questions as well as lecturing (simultaneously), overall providing a better understanding of the subject matter.

  Weaknesses: a bit disorganized with presentations, sometimes went over material too quickly, a bit more structure in the course would be helpful (powerpoints, outside reading, study guides for the midterm/final, consider making the midterm/final more general in certain areas - overarching concepts, at the very least emphasize some of the more detailed aspects that will be on the exams.

- Strengths: knows material very well, engaging lecturing, organized lectures
  Weaknesses: examinations more about memorization than comprehension, a bit jaded/blunt during student interactions (could come out as rude)
- **Strengths:** passionate about the subject, has made significant contributions in the field, credible source, humorous

Weaknesses: Course did not follow a book so teachings were all over the place, very broad topics were taught and then very specific material was tested. No study guide for the midterm, average on the midterm was 68% which we did not seem concerned about

- Thank you professor Jewitt for making a subject I was not concerned with very interesting. I really enjoyed your philosophy at teaching, allowing me to apply what I learned through numerous extra credit opportunities. The reason I came to UCLA is because of professors of your accomplishments. Thank you for teaching lower div. classes, inspiring students like me to show what we can one day become. Thank you, thank you!

P.S. I like your accent and that midterm was very hard man!

- The class is very interesting but the midterm had virtually nothing to do with anything we learned in class

- The class was very entertaining, and a big part of that was Professor Jewitt. He is a very entertaining lecturer and obviously knows his stuff very very well. My only complaint would be that the class lacks a bit of structure. Other that that, a top notch professor and class.

- The class was very interesting, and well structured. For the midterm, it was hard to know what to study since there was so much information. Getting practice questions or direction on what topics to study would be helpful to study for the midterm, especially since the midterm had a lot of math questions while the lecture slides were focused on other facts.

- The course material was interesting, but I found overall organization to be low. I would show up to lecture, take notes, and still not completely understand why we were learning what we were. There is no one better than Dr. Jewitt to teach this class, and I appreciate his work, he always responded well to questions. I think the TA's (or particularly mine) could have stepped up to integrate class material with discussion.

- The instructor is a great lecturer who gives plenty of examples and offers extra credit to help students succeed in his class. There are no weaknesses that I can identify in this instructor. The midterms for this course is very difficult as one must memorie specific details, but other than this the class is very engaging and manageable.

- The instructor is very interactive with his class. All questions are answered. He also provides visuals/videos along with his presentation. He also adds in some humor, which makes the atmosphere brighter. The weakness would be that I was not sure what to study for the midterm, a review session would be helpful.

- The instructor seemed to enjoy teaching and was very knowledgeable about the course material. However, his presentations were very difficult to stay engaged with at times, especially if one didn't have any interest in the subject prior to the course. However, his exams and homework assignments were fair, and it seems that the instructor cares about his students as he offers extra credit assignments that are very fun and educational while also relating directly to the course. Overall, while his lectures may not have been the most engaging, he is a very fair instructor who is passionate about the subject.

- The instructors strengths included answering all student's questions during lecture and the powerpoints created and shown for lecture. A weakness is that it was sometimes difficult to review before class because the chapters of the lectures were not specified.

- The lectures are full of material, from start to finish. It never feels like there is time being wasted in class and the explanations given for the material is simplified in a way that I found easier to understand. A major strength of this instructor is how questions are welcomes and curiosity is too. The course can be overwhelming for someone who does not have a background in science, but the instructor makes it
The lectures were very enjoyable. The extra credit assignments were all very interesting to do and watch. I really did not know much about the solar system, the galaxy, and everything else that’s out there, but now I feel like I have a little bit sense about the subject.

The material of this class is very interesting, and Prof. Jewitt would often make learning the material more exciting by showing videos and making jokes during lecture. However, the information presented during lecture often seemed unclear and hard to follow, which honestly made paying attention really difficult. I felt that lots of unnecessary videos and ideas were shown, and the class seemed to lack structure. I was also disappointed that Prof. Jewitt refused to provide any information about our midterm exam such as how many questions would be on the exam and what topics we could study to help prepare. I felt there was no need to hold that information from the class, and it made me less prepared to take the test than I potentially could have been. I would say the extra credit assignments of this class are a strength because the material we studied for those assignments were very interesting and gave me more insight on the subject of the class. Overall, I would have wanted more structure and clarity during lectures, and more transparency when it comes to tests that count for a large percent of our grades.

The midterm did not seem representative of the information taught in class. However, Professor Jewitt did give us the opportunity to gain these points back through extra credit assignments. The lectures were not very engaging.

The professor is a nice man who seems extremely well educated and knowledgable about astronomy. However, I find this subject to be extremely boring. He tries to make the lectures more interesting with jokes, and it is not an overwhelming amount of work. The midterm was impossible, with the average being a D. This should not be the case for a GE, and he makes us increase our failing grade with an overwhelming amount of extra credit. It seems more reasonable to just make the midterm fair.

The professor is effective at making the course as engaging and interesting as possible.

The professor is knowledgeable and assigns really good extra credit tasks.

The professor is my favorite in UCLA so far. He is humorous, knowledgeable, passionate, and just an enjoyable presence. His extra credit is very fun to do (also a small flex on his personal achievements, which is very cool I am not mad about it at all.) I believe that his midterm was very math heavy, which is contradictory to his promise before the exam. Hopefully the final exam is as delightful as his personality.

The professor is really knowledgeable in the material and you can see his passion for it through the presentations. The presentations were interesting since it is SPACE and what's not interesting about space? The material is not hard, it's just a lot to take in at times. The midterm was eh since some of the questions were a bit tricky, but since the professor offers A LOT of extra credit opportunities, the students just need to capitalize on them. Overall I think it was a low stress class and a really interesting class at that. The professor is funny and really sarcastic which I always appreciate in a learning environment.

The professor is really passionate about the material, but I always felt very lost as to what was going on. There wasn't much guidance on how to study for the midterm exam which resulted in the class average being fairly low. The extra credit opportunities were really helpful and I feel like I learned a lot from them. Although he would answer questions during lecture, it didn't appear as if he welcomed them which made me hesitant to ask for help outside of class.

The professor is really passionate and it's an amazing opportunity to be taught by someone so renowned in their field. The class was really interesting and set at a good pace. While the midterm was difficult having the extra credit opportunities was really appreciated. Overall, I really liked the class.

The strengths of this professor were his understanding of the students' heavy concern with grades and his subsequent dealing with this situation. By essentially making the problem of grades a trivial issue (i.e. not an issue at all), he was able to make students really want to learn the material. The humor
interspersed throughout the lectures kept students entertained and engaged, helping the students to really learn the material rather than simply memorize it.

- The structure of the class was strange: a majority of students fail the midterm, do well on the final, and submit extra credit assignments that bring up the grade as much as 8% per assignment. Personally I did not enjoy this method of grading. Regarding the lectures, they were interesting however it was too ambiguous what is needed to be known. Many students who do not attend lectures get by with the extra credit and ace the course with little knowledge gained afterward according to Bruinwalk. The material reviewed in the discussion sections did not reflect the midterm, and I predict that they will not reflect the final either.

- This class was amazing. I am taking his eps sci class next quarter because I adored this one so much. Professors like Professor Jewitt are why I love UCLA. He is a leader in his field and is very concerned about teaching the student body.

- This instructor was very engaging, and I don't think I was ever bored in class. The course material was also very interesting. I did not take this course for upper div credit, and it was mostly for the units, but I enjoyed the class.

- This professor genuinely cares about everyone coming out of the class with more knowledge than we came in with. He also deeply cares about passing on the interest in the subject that he has, onto us. I have never come across a professor who cares more for his students' learning and his students' success than Jewitt. Jewitt blew me away with how much he cared and how easy he was to approach. He was very reasonable and understanding with everything. He makes college courses enjoyable. I can't think of any weaknesses he has. Amazing professor!

- This professor hands us a midterm and said he wasn't going to answer any questions for the midterm. The whole midterm was not conceptual at all, and was just mathematical formulas and he spoke about plate boundaries. We did not learn about plate boundaries until week 8 so how were we even supposed to know this? I think he made this midterm impossible on purpose just so the extra credits became enforced. He did not make me feel comfortable asking for help. He often played videos (minimizing class time) that had nothing to do with the course itself. Then when the videos were done he would say something like, "this has nothing to do with the class." Then why show us? All the extra credit he had, did actually help quite a lot since the average of the midterm was a 19/29. But the extra credits 75% of the time were required for you to go somewhere else and I do not have the money to pay for 3 buses or an uber. The buses were not smart to ride since each place takes 3 hours to get there and one extra credit assignment takes 6 hours in total. I am a low income student of color and I do not have the financial means to pay for all of these means of transportation.

- This professor is very knowledgeable about the topic and truly does want students to learn. He is open to questions and wants students to gain a better understanding of science overall. However, the midterm contained many topics that were either not taught in class or that were simply mentioned in passing. He could do a better job of emphasizing what he believes is important to know.

- This was my favorite class this quarter! Professor Jewitt is an incredibly engaging lecturer. His passion for the material is evident, and he makes his students excited about learning. I loved the way that this class was structured. Professor Jewitt is also the most hilarious professor I had, and I hope I can take another class with him in the future.

- Very engaging and interesting information that applies to real life and made me appreciate small things that many take for granted like the moon. A little more guidance on what will be on the tests would be helpful but other than that this was a great class.

- Very knowledgable professor. fun and engaging

- Very knowledgeable teacher. Big class, so the professor doesn't really care about the learning of the individual.

- amazing energy and interest/passion for the subject that rubbed off on his students
he's really funny.

love this guy. He's great.

prof Jewitt was really entertaining and made the material fun to learn. He is really good at contextualizing so that more difficult ideas are made clear. He clearly wants his students to succeed, and to not feel incapable of learning science.

professor was great; easiest course I have ever taken

purchased a book that i didn't even need, unwilling to view things from my perspective

really knew what he was talking about but sometimes would show really pointless videos in class that weren't really needed.

strengths- interesting and super organized
weaknesses- midterm questions were way harder than anything we have done

strengths: interesting lectures, great and really educational assignments
weaknesses: unclear which information in the slides is relevant

the professor is very charismatic and entertaining. students can sense his passion for the topic and it makes learning about it that much more fun. there are many extra credit opportunities to help boost grades! great instructor overall.

the professor is very passionate about sharing this topic with his students. he is merely focused upon the course. i appreciate the extra credit opportunities he provided, as the exams were challenging.
Profile

Subunit: EPS SCI
Name of the instructor: D.C. JEWITT
Name of the course: 20W: EPS SCI 9 LEC 1: SOLAR SYSTM&PLANETS

Values used in the profile line: Mean

2. To What Extent Do You Feel That:

2.1) Instructor Concern – The instructor was concerned about student learning.
Very Low or Never | Very High or Always
---|---

n=186 av.=7.90

2.2) Organization – Class presentations were well prepared and organized.
Very Low or Never | Very High or Always
---|---

n=187 av.=8.07

2.3) Interaction – Students felt welcome in seeking help in or outside of the class.
Very Low or Never | Very High or Always
---|---

n=184 av.=7.73

2.4) Communication Skills – The instructor had good communication skills.
Very Low or Never | Very High or Always
---|---

n=187 av.=8.03

2.5) Value – You have learned something you consider valuable.
Very Low or Never | Very High or Always
---|---

n=186 av.=7.65

2.6) Overall – Your overall rating of the instructor.
Very Low or Never | Very High or Always
---|---

n=187 av.=8.04

2.7) Overall – Your overall rating of the course.
Very Low or Never | Very High or Always
---|---

n=187 av.=7.78

3. Your View of Course Characteristics:

3.1) Subject interest before course
Low | High
---|---

n=188 av.=1.98

3.2) Subject interest after course
Low | High
---|---

n=188 av.=2.35

3.3) Mastery of course material
Low | High
---|---

n=186 av.=2.11

3.4) Difficulty (relative to other courses)
Low | High
---|---

n=187 av.=1.84

3.5) Workload/pace was
Too Slow | Too Much
---|---

n=186 av.=1.99

3.6) Texts, required readings
Poor | Excellent
---|---

n=145 av.=2.26

3.7) Homework assignments
Poor | Excellent
---|---

n=153 av.=2.40

3.8) Graded materials, examinations
Poor | Excellent
---|---

n=185 av.=2.22

3.9) Lecture presentations
Poor | Excellent
---|---

n=186 av.=2.63

3.10) Class discussions
Poor | Excellent
---|---

n=173 av.=2.43