

2011 – Spring Term – GEO250/ENS250: Intro to GIS

Quantitative rankings

Rating Scale:

1	2	3	4	5
Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Undecided	Agree	Strongly Agree

14 Students, 1 section Question	Number of responses in each category					Avg
	1	2	3	4	5	
1. Clear student learning objectives	0	0	0	1	6	4.86
2. Class well prepared & organized	0	0	0	2	5	4.71
3. Communicates material clearly	0	0	0	3	4	4.57
4. Displays interest in subject	0	0	0	0	7	5.00
5. Summarizes/emphasizes important points	0	0	1	1	5	4.57
6. Stimulates thinking about subject	0	0	1	2	4	4.43
7. Provides opportunities for outside contact	0	0	0	1	6	4.86
8. Expresses concern about student progress	0	0	1	2	4	4.43
9. Provides useful feedback	0	1	0	2	4	4.29
10. Clearly indicates how evaluated	0	0	1	1	5	4.57
Total of 10 questions	0	1	4	15	50	4.63
15. I have put a lot of effort into this course compared to other courses.	0	1	0	4	2	4.00

Student comments

Comment on aspects of the instructor's teaching style that helped the learning process	Comment on aspects of the instructor's teaching style that could be improved upon to help the learning process
1) Dr. Kirk is very passionate and knowledgeable which makes the learning process much more interesting. When a question is asked he provides useful feedback.	1) A way to improve the teaching might be the implementation of more independent practice using the computer before jumping into labs.
2) Dr. Kirk very intelligently structured the class by having part of it be lecture – theory and foundation of GIS – while most of it is the lab/application. This was very beneficial because I feel like I learned the skills and knowledge thoroughly. The final project also was enjoyable because it centered around a topic of our choice, but it was very challenging and required a lot of thought. Overall Dr. Kirk was helpful, provides very useful feedback, and was able to balance challenging the students with being patient when they struggled.	2) None
3) Dr. Kirk is the man. He is one of the nicest professors I have ever had. He must receive a zillion emails per day, but was always helpful and timely in returning mine. He was enthusiastic about the subject and so helpful in GIS as well as helping with the advice about life.	3) The labs could be smoothed out a little more, but were overall well made. It was difficult to receive help during class / certain office hours due to the time it took to answer other student's questions.

Ryan Kirk, Assistant Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies, Elon University.

GEO250: Intro to GIS -- End-of-Semester student evaluations.

All comments are reproduced verbatim; nothing is left out.

<p>4) Detailed lab instructions helped as a reference. Extensive time spent meeting with students outside of class was greatly appreciated.</p>	<p>4) Perhaps more emphasis could be put on the lectures. Also might be helpful to walk through more steps together as a class on the projector.</p>
<p>5) Kirk's classroom teaching style allows for open discussion and questions at any point which allow for simple and immediate clarification. The combined lecture and lab style class connects the literature to the actual work and reinforces lessons. Also Kirk allows assignments at the beginning of one week to be due the next week which is essential to doing well and understanding the labs.</p>	<p>5) Some labs are extremely large and should be broken up or given more instruction, step by step direction with the professor. Questions at the end of lab should be gone over, so students can learn how to answer them.</p>
<p>6) He was always very open to helping and trouble shooting problems. I also really liked being able to work on most labs in class. Awesome job !!</p>	<p>6) not answered</p>