

UNC-Chapel Hill Course Evaluation Report

Term(s): Spring 2011

Instructor: Penn, David L.

Course/Section: PSYC 101 3

Response Rate: 166 out of 293 (56.66%)

Course/Instructor Characteristics	0 Not Applicable	1 Strongly Disagree	2 Disagree	3 Neither Disagree Nor Agree	4 Agree	5 Strongly Agree	Missing	Mean	Median
This course challenged me to think deeply about the subject matter.	0	1	3	13	89	59	1	4.22	4.24
The instructor clearly communicated what was expected of me in this class.	0	0	1	5	56	102	2	4.58	4.70
I was able to get individual help when I needed it.	10	0	4	21	68	62	1	4.21	4.27
The course materials (e.g., coursepack, website, texts) helped me better understand the subject matter.	0	0	6	10	74	74	2	4.32	4.39
The course assignments helped me better understand the subject matter.	1	0	10	21	71	61	2	4.12	4.21
The instructor evaluated my work fairly.	1	1	5	22	73	63	1	4.17	4.24
The instructor showed concern about whether students learned the material.	0	1	1	11	61	91	1	4.46	4.59
The instructor expressed ideas clearly.	0	0	1	2	56	106	1	4.62	4.72
The instructor showed enthusiasm for the subject matter.	0	0	0	0	32	133	1	4.81	4.88
The instructor showed enthusiasm for teaching this class.	0	0	0	1	31	133	1	4.80	4.88
The instructor treated all students with respect.	0	0	0	2	31	132	1	4.79	4.88
The instructional techniques engaged me with the subject matter.	0	1	3	4	57	100	1	4.53	4.68
The instructor provided me with helpful feedback on my performance.	3	2	9	38	54	59	1	3.98	4.09
This course was very exciting to me intellectually.	0	2	7	17	67	72	1	4.21	4.34

Overall Course Assessment	0 Not Applicable	1 Strongly Disagree	2 Disagree	3 Neither Disagree Nor Agree	4 Agree	5 Strongly Agree	Missing	Mean	Median
Overall, this course was excellent.	0	0	4	18	65	78	1	4.32	4.43
Overall, this instructor was an effective teacher.	0	0	0	2	57	106	1	4.63	4.72
Overall, I learned a great deal from this course.	0	0	3	15	55	91	2	4.43	4.60
Comments on overall assessment of this course.	See Below								

Teaching Award Recommendation	0 Not Applicable	1 Strongly Disagree	2 Disagree	3 Neither Disagree Nor Agree	4 Agree	5 Strongly Agree	Missing	Mean	Median
The instructor was one of the best I have had at Carolina, fully deserving of a teaching award.	1	0	4	29	62	68	2	4.19	4.28

Feedback to Students	0 Not Applicable	1 Strongly Disagree	2 Disagree	3 Neither Disagree Nor Agree	4 Agree	5 Strongly Agree	Missing	Mean	Median
The instructor handled questions well.	0	0	0	2	56	107	1	4.64	4.73
The instructor used examples that had relevance for me.	1	0	0	0	37	127	1	4.77	4.85
The instructor used class time well.	0	0	3	2	56	104	1	4.58	4.71
The instructor encouraged students to participate in this class.	0	0	3	1	40	121	1	4.69	4.82
This course was designed to keep me engaged in learning.	0	0	3	6	52	99	6	4.54	4.69
The workload was appropriate for what I gained from this class.	0	1	1	8	57	97	2	4.51	4.66

Other Information										
	Fail	Pass	F or D	C- or C	C+ or B-	B or B+	A- or A	L	P	H
What grade do you think you will get in this course?	0	0	0	5	21	70	68	0	0	0
Is this a required course for you?	No	Yes								
	83	77								

Comments on overall assessment of this course.

- It was my favorite class this semester!
- This was definitely my favorite course this semester and I can't wait to pursue more Psychology courses!
- This course was very interesting and I enjoyed it very much. I learned a great deal from this class despite the fact that I am a senior taking a 101 class. Dr. Penn and his TAs were very helpful throughout the semester and made sure that each and every student understood the material. They provided office hours as much as they could. I was impressed at how much they cared about us as students.
- I really enjoyed this class.
- I really learned a lot from this course and i am very happy with how i learned it.
- I loved this course, learned a lot, and found it very interesting!
- Great professor and very helpful TAs.
- good course, good teacher
- Great course, I really enjoyed how personal the class felt even though it was a large lecture class. I also enjoyed how the teacher repeated important information multiple times and gave good examples, this helped a lot when it came time to study for the exams.
- The teacher is very good. A lot of fun in the class. Let students engage in the discussion.
- great class, amount of discussion and class involvement was good
- This is not a subject in which I have much interest, but the course was still enjoyable for me.
- Dr. Penn was excellent. He showed a great passion for both the material and his students. Although the class size was huge, he made an effort to learn everyone's name, which is very unusual. Help was always available when it was needed. There were, however, two things that did bother me. Maybe this was more a frustration with the curriculum, but many of the ideas presented were not scientific. They were not falsifiable. I would have preferred a more cognitive approach. This has had me reconsidering if this is a topic I wish to major in. Secondly, although the essays consumed an enormous amount of time, they were worth very little as a percentage of the final grade. I put a significant amount of time and effort into the first one, did not perform as well as I would have thought, and decided completing the rest would be an inefficient use of time.
- This was a great course and I was glad that I took it
- Good, interesting teacher.
- I really enjoyed the class. Thank you for teaching it so well!
- grading on the essays seemed a little hit or miss ... I lost points because I used an example from class and then was told that particular example wasn't always the case.
- uses great examples, videos were very helpful with explaining concepts introduced in class
- Great teacher
- A solid class.
- It was a bit difficult for a 101 class, but it was very interesting and enjoyable.
- n/a
- I loved this course so much. David Penn was an awesome teacher. He knew how to keep us engaged, and was up-to-date with technology and showed us Youtube clips to keep us interested and help us process the information better. I loved it. I'm now a Psychology major because of it!!
- I wouldn't say that there was anything unreasonable about this course. My TA didn't always offer good feedback on my essays, which I would have appreciated.
- Great job, really enjoyed the class. Your examples and demonstrations were awesome and helpful.
- Good class. Learned a lot.
- The TA's grading of our papers seemed very arbitrary. My grade dropped from a 3 to a 2 simply because I added additional relevant information in the conclusion of my paper that wasn't specifically asked for. Furthermore, whenever I got grades of 2 instead of 3 the only feedback i got was a one line comment that didn't explain how a small mistake/ added information led to a full grade lower.
- The teacher was very enthusiastic about teaching us and used examples that related to our everyday lives. He was very effective and made the 300 person class feel like a 30 person class through class participation and walking around the room.
- It was a really good class! I enjoyed most of the topics we talked about.
- Dr. Penn was an outstanding teacher and I loved the class. He deserves all the praise in the world
- Dr. Penn was a great professor. He taught enthusiastically, had great knowledge on the subject matter, and made the class interesting. Also, I was interested in all the topics we covered in class.
- Fantastic- one of the best courses I have taken. Dr. Penn is extremely engaging and the subject matter is interesting as well.
- It is undoubtedly an interesting subject, though sometimes the lectures became drawn out and boring. the interactive activities and youtube videos were very helpful and interesting.
- I loved how interactive the course was, as well as the real life examples. Dr. Penn was a wonderful teacher!
- This is a great course; the subject matter and course itself was enjoyable. I wish, however, that there were a smaller sections (not recitations) of this course so that there could be extended/more intimate discussion. I would also encourage more activities and videos - they are entertaining, engaging, and educational. Well done, Dr. Penn!

- I really enjoyed the time I spent in this class.
- Great instructor! he really related to the class and managed to get a lot of participation out of a huge lecture class. One of my best professors yet.
- Taking this course helped me to decide that I want to pursue a psychology major.
- Very informative class and fun at the same time. It's how 101 should be.
- This course was amazing and help me choose my major.
- Awesome class. I loved the professor and how he presented the material.
- Great style of teaching, I really learned alot!
- Dr. Penn's psych 101 is a great class, and he is an amazing instructor. However, my TA, Adrienne, was very difficult to communicate with and I experienced a lot of problems concerning grading.
- Dr. Penn was one of the best teachers I've had at Carolina and does a fantastic job at teaching PSYC 101.
- No comment.
- One of my favorite classes thus far at UNC.
- Great with helping apply in day to day life!
- very interesting and fun
- I really enjoyed this class. After leaving biology it really woke me up and got me thinking about what everyone else was thinking and why.
- I do not feel that I learned very much from this course. I took honors psychology in high school, not AP Psychology, so I already had a base in psychology but not enough to place out of PSYC 101. I honestly do not feel that this course went any deeper into the material than my honors psychology class did. In some cases, I actually believe that my honors class was more in depth. I wish I had known this before and could have tried to place out of this course.
- Very good lectures that made the class exciting
- Good class, but it does get redundant 3/5 of the way through the semester.
- This class was a good survey of the psychology field. The broadness and depth of the material we covered were appropriate. The psychology study participation requirement is beneficial for both students and experimenters. Keep this!
- This was one of my favorite classes I have taken at UNC. Professor Penn does an excellent job explaining concepts, providing examples that we can relate to, and showing us video clips to illustrate his explanation. The TA's were also very helpful and always willing to meet with students one on one.
- Dr. Penn was a great professor. He's very nice and enthusiastic towards the material.
- I encourage the instructor to assign more assignments to force kids to learn the material rather than cramming right before an exam.
- This class was very engaging. I loved the teacher! I learned a lot. I would recommend it to all my friends.
- Professor Penn has a way of making his huge lecture class seem like a small class! He tries to learn student names and always engages the class.
- nice
- He has the ability to turn a class room of 300 students into one that feels like a class room of no more than 30.
- The large lecture style of this class made it difficult for me to engage in class.
- I enjoyed the course and teaching method. The subject matter was very interesting
- didn't like essays! readings were difficult to understand and they were graded very difficultly
- This was a great course and the teacher was very enthusiastic and informative.