

# UNIV-460 Experiential Learning (Tutorial Methods of Instruction)

## Final Course Evaluation by students – Spring 2012

### **23. Identify or describe some thing(s) that Professor White does / particularly well.**

- Initiate in-class discussion. / Provide interesting articles to read in class.
- Keeps the class informal and open so that people feel they can share whatever comes to mind.
- He makes students feel comfortable with him in the less formal setting of a discussion class. He also always found little ways to share his knowledge in interesting ways; I came out of the class learning a few interesting things about science even though that was not the purpose of the course. He did a great job promoting discussion in class. He was really a great teacher!
- I like this "informal" teaching style, since I can easily learn more things. And I really enjoy Professor White doing the extended things at the beginning of the class because that helped me to learn more information about other fields and correct some misunderstanding of some common sense.
- Varies in the way that he teaches; discussions, readings, videos, etc. were all incorporated in the class.
- Professor White has an innate ability to grab everybody's attention and maintain it. He allows others to take time to think of possible answers on their own.
- Professor White kept the class interesting. He always gives good examples during class.
- He presents the information in an interesting way that is interactive.
- I enjoy how Professor White is able to motivate intellectual thinking. This motivated me to think about how I approach learning and how I could motivate my students to strive for greater thinking.
- I like how Dr. White is consistently available outside of class, and is more than happy to answer students' questions. I also like how he does not readily give away answers, but gives the right prompts that allow the students to come to the solution of their own problem.
- Professor White is very good at relating a singular concept to a wider world topic. He is very knowledgeable in a number of different topics and is able to relate them to concepts to better intrigue and facilitate the students learning process. He is also good at coming up with creative ways to present material and help students that are having problems themselves or with a group. He is also very good at asking questions probing questions that go beyond superficial learning yet do not hint at the answer.
- Professor White has a wealth of experience that he shares with the students in the realms of PBL and PLTL. His feedback is always on-target and valuable, and he is excellent at helping students develop their own ideas into coherent responses.
- He explains things in such a way to make them interesting. When I say explain I mean that he explains and asks probing questions to help the students find the answers. For example; he explained  $PV = nRT$  in class, something I always found boring and kind of irrelevant, in terms of weather and the movement of clouds and storms, I found myself more interested than ever in the equation.
- Professor White is always effective in initiating class discussions and catalyzing participation from students. He makes his lectures interesting.
- Liked how he made the class a friendly environment.
- He is able to keep the attention of the class very well and can relate things that seem completely unrelated.

**24. Identify or describe some way(s) that Professor White could improve / his teaching (and your learning).**

- Maybe use shorter articles? Some articles are too long for students to read in class.
- Doesn't need to show some of the super cheesy old videos --they are nearly impossible to relate to because the acting is terrible. They are better for a laugh than any other purpose.
- N/A
- I would like to hear More and More about the Bio-chemical knowledge because I really can understand well from Professor White when he talks about Protein etc.
- If he spoke italian, that would have enhanced my learning. Maybe, if the class was offered twice a week, it would better enhance the tutors understanding even more.
- I didn't feel like anything was really lacking here.
- Perhaps ask students to write a reflection after every class meeting. There is a saying that talks about how if you don't reflect upon a great experience, you may still forget it. However, if you reflect upon even a bad experience, it will turn out to be a good experience because of the lessons you learn from it.
- None.
- Sometimes, a large amount of time is spent on a tangential topic that is not really related to the teaching material. Other than that, I thought Dr. White did a spectacular job.
- I'm not sure, the only thing I could possibly say could be improved would be asking everyone how their classes are going currently at the beginning of class. I think that this could be done in groups of 3-4 efficiently and achieve the same goals.
- Professor White could possibly go on fewer tangent discussions. For example, he will sometimes start talking about meteorology and spend the better part of a half hour discussing the seasons/weather instead of the topic of the discussion. However, he does always tie these tangents in to the discussion somehow.
- n/a

**25. Comment on the Tutorial Methods of Instruction course.**

- It is very helpful in the way that I learn to deal with some problems that occur in my workshop.
- I loved this course. I thought that it was super interesting and eye opening.
- This class absolutely helped me to be a better PLTL leader for chem workshop. It made me want to help the students and it also taught me a lot of things that are valuable outside of PLTL. I think it was a fun and helpful class.
- This is a fun course and a good class to improve my ways to be a workshop leader because I can know more issues happened in other sections and other classes. In this way, I can be more contend to be a workshop leader.
- Should be necessary for all PLTL Workshop leaders to take this course.
- I really enjoyed the course. I could present my problems in class and get some feedback on how to resolve them.
- The tutorial methods were great and informational.
- I enjoyed the course. It was my first small sized class and my first class where discussion was emphasized. It was a comfortable environment which made it easy to open up in discussions.
- I enjoyed this class. It made me think about concepts that I probably would not have thought about on my own. I especially like the discussion on teachers' expectations and teaching vs. what

the students received and were required to do. I never really thought about it before, and I can honestly say that there is a communication problem in many of the classes that I have taken. I also liked the ethics conversation. It is a very controversial topic, and I liked the flow of ideas between people with differing opinions on what exactly is cheating.

- I thought it helped me become a better tutor. It was nice to have a support group to talk about the problems you are having and get feedback from multiple people on how to resolve the issue. All of the topics were relevant to both PLTL and PBL. Not only does this class help one to become a better facilitator, but also to work better in groups and understand your peers and yourself.
- I think the class was extremely worthwhile for the small amount of effort required on the part of the students. The classes were informative and interesting, the lessons beneficial, and the work outside of class perfectly manageable.
- This course was extremely helpful in helping me understand more about teaching and how to be better at tutoring/teaching. Without this course I think that I may have found myself lost at times in my PBL class, but I always found myself, when faced with a particularly hard situation, going back to what I learned in this class to find a suitable response.
- It was a very useful course for me as a beginning PLTL tutor. I would recommend it to all PLTL tutors.
- It helped to have a support group to talk about the problems in our PBL group.

**26. In an informative sentence or two, describe or characterize the / Tutorial Methods of Instruction course to someone who might consider taking the / course, e.g. What is the essence of this course?**

- The course is discussion-based and it teaches you how to improve your teaching skills as a PLTL leader or PBL tutor. It consists of many interesting topics such as misconception and motivation for learning.
- It gives you a very different perspective on teacher's and professors and your own PBL or PLTL leaders. As a student it makes you want to engage in class because it makes things more interconnected and interesting.
- The course addresses topics that relate to teaching, leading, being taught, and being a good role model and person as a whole. We also learned how to deal effectively with the PLTL or PBL groups in particular, including how to address common problems and goals.
- This course will let you learn more how to be a good TA, and it is a good course for you to stay with really outstanding students from other major field.
- Whether it's your first time or fourth time tutoring you can improve the way you facilitate learning because of this class. You also learn more about yourself and the way you learn, deal with conflicts, and other personality traits.
- The essence of this course is to improve the way we think and in turn, improve the way we teach others (science related). It provides us with a new viewpoint on how to resolve issues.
- This class helps me with dealing with my groups. During the class, we talk to each other and come up with methods for different situation.
- The essence of this course is to help make students be better pltl or pbl peer educators. It breaks down the teaching/learning process into subcategories such as motivation and clearing up misconceptions. It is very useful if you are considering a career in teaching also.
- The Tutorial Methods of Instruction course is very useful to workshop leaders because it provides an opportunity to assess how you lead workshop. It raises awareness of how students learn and what motivates students. By knowing this, you can then adjust your teaching style to best help your students.

- The essence of Tutorial Methods of Instruction is to enable peer leaders to inspire, promote and evoke the highest level of learning in a group of peers.
- This course teaches you new methods in teaching that allow the students to gain a higher level of understanding. It teaches you how to ask appropriate questions, break down misconceptions, and inspire your students and peers.
- The course is about learning about the best ways to teach and learning about the different ways that students learn, and to couple the two into an effective teaching tool for science students.
- The essence of this course is how to make a topic, previously uninteresting and boring, fun and memorable.
- This course helps improve understanding of how to be an effective tutor.
- It is worth going to class, not for the money , but for yourself. It helps in a lot of ways and you get to learn cool things like the way thunder storm works.

**27. Open Mic. Please use the space below to provide feedback on any aspect of your experience that has not been covered adequately above.**

- I have a Workshop Leader for only 2 semesters, and they have been covered in class. / Thank you Professor White and Other classmates for letting me know more about teaching.
- Had a good time!
- n/a

Final Course Evaluation UNIV-460 Tutorial Methods of Instruction – Spring 2012

1. This / semester I was a:	6 PBL tutor, 10 PLTL leader						
2. My primary reason(s) for being a peer / facilitator and taking this course was (were): (Check all that apply.)	1						
a. Prepare for MCAT	1						
b. A Requirement	15						
c. Interest in teaching	6						
d. Financial	5						
e. Other, Describe:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I wanted to be a better workshop leader than the one I had in CHEM103, I thought it would be fun, it will look good on a resume</li> <li>• I thought the course was unique and inspiring when I took it, and I wanted to help others see the value of such a class.</li> <li>• Review general chemistry,</li> <li>• Loved the class</li> <li>• DLE credit</li> </ul>						
	Strongly Disagree	Strongly Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Agree	Ave	
3. I think that the Tutor Methods instructor has a good knowledge of how students learn and how to use problem-based learning and group-based learning.	0	0	0	2	14	4.88	
4. The instructor demonstrated thorough knowledge of the subject matter.	0	0	0	0	16	5.00	
5. The instructor presented the materials in an interesting way.	0	0	0	3	13	4.81	
6. The instructor encouraged class participation.	0	0	0	0	16	5.00	
7. I would recommend this instructor because of his/her teaching to others considering taking this course.	0	0	0	1	15	4.94	
8. Overall, the instructor was effective in facilitating my learning of the material in this course.	0	0	0	2	14	4.88	
9. I have enjoyed the tutoring experience.	0	0	0	3	13	4.81	
10. I think that my understanding of my major field of study has improved as the result of being a tutor.	0	0	2	2	11	4.60	
11. I think that the tutoring experience has helped me to better understand the way that I and other people think and learn.	0	0	1	3	12	4.69	
12. I think that my interest in incorporating teaching into some aspect of my professional career has been enhanced by this experience.	1	0	1	5	9	4.31	
13. I feel that the students in my tutorial group have benefited from the experience of having an undergraduate tutor guide them.	0	0	0	8	8	4.50	
14. As the result of the tutoring experience I feel that I am more comfortable interacting with my professors.	0	1	4	7	4	3.88	
15. I would recommend the tutoring experience to others.	0	0	0	7	9	4.56	

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As the result of the tutoring experience, I think that I have an improved ability to:						
16. to provide constructive criticism in situations when it is needed.	0	1	0	10	5	4.44
17. to mediate conflicts that arise when people work in groups.	0	0	2	9	5	4.06
18. to help groups to run smoothly and efficiently.	0	0	0	10	6	4.63
19. to use questions rather than statements to lead others to take a deeper look.	0	0	0	6	10	4.81
20. to deal effectively with inappropriate behaviors exhibited by others.	0	0	2	9	5	4.25
<b>The following are topics or activities that were included in UNIV-460 this semester. Please rate them</b>						
Personality types e.g. INTJ	3	11	1	1	0	2.00
Intellectual and ethical development-Perry Scheme e.g. dualism, multiplicity, relativism	6	5	4	1	0	2.00
Questioning Skills-Bloom's Taxonomy	11	3	2	0	0	1.44
Dealing with problems in groups	9	7	0	0	0	1.44
Motivation for learning	12	2	2	0	0	1.38
Dealing with misconceptions	13	2	0	1	0	1.31
Cooperative Learning - e.g. PBL, PLTL, POGIL:	11	5	0	0	0	1.31
Mentoring	10	6	0	0	0	1.38
Writing a teaching case study	2	7	6	0	1	2.44
Ethical Issues in Education	10	6	0	0	0	1.38
21. Overall I would rate the tutoring experience:	0	0	0	6	9	4.60
22. Overall I would rate the Tutor Methods course:	0	0	1	2	12	4.73