



Enrollment 29
 % responding 93%

	<i>excellent</i>	<i>very good</i>	<i>good</i>	<i>fair</i>	<i>poor</i>			
	5 %	4 %	3 %	2 %	1 %	\bar{X}	SD	N
1. The instructor(s) were consistently prepared with well-organized lectures	23 85%	4 15%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	4.9	0.4	27
2. The instructor(s) presented material clearly	18 62%	10 34%	1 3%	0 0%	0 0%	4.6	0.6	29
3. ...at a pace not too fast	15 52%	11 38%	3 10%	0 0%	0 0%	4.4	0.7	29
4. ...at a pace not too slow	17 59%	9 31%	2 7%	1 3%	0 0%	4.4	0.8	29
5. The instructor(s) encouraged questions from the class and	16 55%	11 38%	2 7%	0 0%	0 0%	4.5	0.6	29
6. The instructor(s) displayed sufficient knowledge of the material covered	20 69%	6 21%	3 10%	0 0%	0 0%	4.6	0.7	29
7. The instructor(s) showed great enthusiasm for the subject	24 83%	5 17%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	4.8	0.4	29
8. The instructor(s) was helpful when students had problems	21 78%	6 22%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	4.8	0.4	27
9. I learned a significant amount in this course	18 62%	6 21%	5 17%	0 0%	0 0%	4.4	0.8	29
10. I felt adequately prepared to take this course	15 52%	6 21%	8 28%	0 0%	0 0%	4.2	0.9	29
11. This course covers topics in a reasonable depth	14 48%	11 38%	3 10%	1 3%	0 0%	4.3	0.8	29
12. The amount of work expected for this class is reasonable	18 62%	9 31%	2 7%	0 0%	0 0%	4.6	0.6	29
13. The TA for this course is helpful	2 50%	0 0%	0 0%	1 25%	1 25%	3.3	2.1	4
14. Overall, this is an excellent course	16 55%	12 41%	1 3%	0 0%	0 0%	4.5	0.6	29
15. Overall, the instructor is an excellent teacher	20 69%	9 31%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	4.7	0.5	29
16.								
17.								
18.								
19.								
20.								

BIM 202: Biology for Engineers
So Yamada
Winter 2008

- Enjoyed the class. The book and the HW problems were very helpful. I enjoyed the lectures, but I think that having assigned reading before each lecture would help the class move faster and get more material covered.
- I appreciated the HW not be collected very much. It allowed me to work at my own pace. I'm concerned about the prelim given that the exams were open note/book. Perhaps it would have been better if the exams were closed book. Overall- excellent teacher!
- I liked how the material presented was based on actual journal articles, not just the material from the textbook.
- Great lectures and course. I learned lots of biological stuff through this course.
- The instructor was very approachable and students felt very comfortable asking questions. It was obvious that the instructor was committed to helping the students understand the material. I like the content of the course- the presentation of numerous experimental techniques was very helpful. I also like the fact that the professor discussed current literature related to class topics, although the conclusions of the paper were not always clear from the lecture slides.
- The exam questions are not really clear sometimes.
- Strengths: Good teacher, very helpful with students.
Weaknesses: I thought the course should grade the HW, this way people would not wait until the last minute to do them. Maybe if he showed some HW examples on regular lectures it would be beneficial.
- The content of the lectures is good, explanation is also awesome.
- Dr. Yamada is an excellent professor that was really concerned about his students. He made sure everyone knew how to get extra help if they needed it.
- The instructor was enthusiastic and well prepared for each lecture. The exams were fair and he showed great concern for the success of his students. The textbook for the course was not very useful, but the supplemental articles were helpful. The HW helped tremendously and would be beneficial to count as part of the grade.
- First, Professor Yamada gave a midterm exam which covered material he explicitly stated he would not cover. As such, he thereby denied students ability to demonstrate command of the material that theoretically should have been covered on the exam. Second, he has an ad-hoc and inconsistent method of grading exams. He demonstrates a high degree of rigidity and reluctance to explore other options. As such, a student may

- not be demonstrating command of the material presented in the text due to the professors method of testing.
- The course was very interesting and helpful. I like it very much. The lectures included many important and relevant papers, which helps me to get a good picture of the field.
 - The colored PowerPoint slides are very helpful. He could have presented the data taken from the journal articles a little more clearly...maybe could have provided a goal, results, and conclusion sections for each of the different papers discussed and exactly how they related to the class material. The HWs were helpful, but I could have used extra problems similar to the ones on the exam. He was always available for office hours and was truly concerned about the students understanding the material. He was very fast in grading the exams and getting them back to us.
 - I didn't think the book was very helpful. For the first 2/3rds of the class I read it, but then stopped because it confused me. Sometimes the slides were too busy and got hard to follow. I thought it would have been nice if the was graded, then we could have had another thing graded- not just the tests. Overall, I thin he was very good. Almost everything was clearly presented. Sometimes he mumbles through and I have a hard time hearing him.
 - I liked the way the material was presented. This course was more about understanding how experiments provided what we know today, which is better than presenting a lot of material for students to memorize. This course was better than I expected. Not turning in the HW was fine. It gave me a chance to work at my own pace. The exams were reasonable. Some of the grading was subjective because it was hard to know exactly what the professor was looking for.
 - The instructor was great at presenting course material in an easily understood manner. HW associated with the course provided by the instructor was great preparation for exams. However, the class text was not used much, which could have saved some students money so they didn't need to purchase it. Overall, the course was good and interesting. I give the instructor and A+!
 - HW was good. I feel like I learned a lot by just doing it. I think having it graded may have helped people prepare for the test. I think the instructor worries too much about the slowest students and could move faster, especially considering: he makes himself super available for help outside of class. And BME draws from such diverse backgrounds that someone is bound to be behind...but there is plenty of support outside of class to help them do it! Overall, fantastic quarter!
 - Dr. Yamada was an excellent instructor. He was always very enthusiastic about the material and the lectures were always well prepared. He was very concerned with student performance and made himself available almost all day, every day for help. One of the best professors I have had here.

- Yamada is coherent and insightful. I think the class is most the relevant and challenging class I have had so far. The lectures are great, but the exam question phrasing could be improved. Many questions are not clear and vague and we found ourselves spending as much time to figure out the question is asking as thinking of the solution. Answering the wrong question correctly is frustrating. But exam angst aside, this is an excellent course.
- The lectures were easy to follow, interesting and informative. However, it was difficult to look up subjects that weren't well understood because half the material was not from the text. I would have liked the material to be more centered on the text to make studying easier. The exams were challenging to get used to and very difficult to prepare for. I couldn't quite figure out how to study for this course but I felt I learned a lot since I had to cover all possible material. Overall, Yamada was very helpful and a great lecturer.
- I have a much deeper understanding of cell biology and I can follow seminars much better now. The HWs were very helpful- I think that I would have benefitted from some feedback on the first couple HWs to get to get a sense of the teacher's grading style. I loved the book and the multimedia CD that went with it. It might be helpful if the movies shown in class are posted on the internet.
- Dr. Yamada is a very good teacher. What I appreciate is that he provided many up to date research info in the lecture, so that I know what current research is going on. I learned a lot in this class.
- Overall, I thought this was an excellent course (one of the best at UCD). The instructor was knowledgeable about all the material and presented it with a unique blend of background information and data from current research. He was funny, considerate of the mixed backgrounds of the students and always took time to go over things, multiple times if necessary. HW was a huge help as it provided an idea of the level of detail necessary to know the format for exams. Not grading the HW takes the pressure off students and encourages cooperation and understanding. I bought the book (\$130) and never opened it once. The free online text is probably sufficient, although the book could serve as a good reference.
- As someone with a strong biology background, going into this course I felt that even though some of the topics were new- I'd already seen most of this. I really enjoyed the testing style. Its great for comprehension and its in a format which is challenging and new to me. Exactly why did you choose the topics you did? Many of the students in this class entered knowing almost nothing about biology, so I feel that they should have gotten a broader background than this course provided. Things I feel that should have been included: More on genetics, transcription, and translation. Discussion about the different affects of genes and proteins have on the cell. Organelle structure and function. Need to discuss mitochondria, lysosome and nucleus (again DNA).