

EVIDENCE OF TEACHING EFFECTIVENESS

Quantitative and qualitative student evaluations on overall course and instructor ratings demonstrate strong and effective teaching performance. It is noteworthy that, across all classes, 99% of the students who completed teaching evaluations rated my teaching as “Excellent” or “Very Good.” For this, I have been recognized by the dean and my department at Florida State University. These scores provide evidence that students find my instruction in the courses I have taught well above average. In addition, students’ written comments demonstrate that students appreciate my enthusiasm, openness, knowledge of the subject, and ability to apply the material to everyday life.

Composite data (across all students in all classes across all semesters):

All Courses as Sole Instructor

Instructor: Lauren Brewer

Department: Psychology

Response Scale

E	=	Excellent
VG	=	Very Good
G	=	Good
F	=	Fair
P	=	Poor

	Overall Rating	E (5)	VG (4)	G (3)	F (2)	P (1)	(N)
1. Description of course objectives and assignments	4.75	460	101	22	1	0	583
		79%	17%	4%	0%	0%	
2. Communication of ideas and information	4.78	469	96	14	2	0	581
		81%	17%	2%	0%	0%	
3. Expression of expectations for performance in class	4.77	469	90	20	2	0	581
		81%	15%	3%	0%	0%	
4. Availability to assist students in or out of class	4.73	456	94	27	3	0	580
		79%	16%	5%	1%	0%	
5. Respect and concern for students	4.89	522	47	7	1	0	577
		90%	8%	1%	0%	0%	
6. Stimulation of interest in the course.	4.81	492	71	14	2	1	580
		85%	12%	2%	0%	0%	
7. Facilitation of learning.	4.78	471	90	16	1	1	579
		81%	16%	3%	0%	0%	
8. Overall assessment of instructor.	4.87	512	60	7	1	0	580
		88%	10%	1%	0%	0%	

Selected Student Comments (demonstrating successful execution of teaching philosophy):

- Lauren was always down to earth and really excited about teaching the class. She made coming to class a joy instead of an obligation. She made the subject interesting and worth learning.
- I loved my instructor's energy; even though class was bright and early I was motivated by her enthusiasm to come to class each day. I haven't missed any of her classes!
- The teacher was very enthusiastic about the material. She engaged students in her lectures and applied the material to everyday life. She was open to questions and opinions. She made class very enjoyable. Even though attendance was not mandatory, I always wanted to come to class.
- Lauren was absolutely fabulous. She has a passion for psychology and teaching, and it shows. She is fair in the way she runs her class. She gets people to class because they genuinely want to be here. Lauren makes the course fun and motivates me to learn.
- Lauren is an amazing teacher. She is passionate and enthusiastic about the subject, her work, and her students. Her personality makes people want to come to class even if attendance is not required. Her perspective on the subject is valued. She is able to make all the topics relatable to her students and daily life. I couldn't make any improvements even if I tried.
- Lauren is very vibrant and her personality shines greatly. Her enthusiasm about teaching social psychology was very noticeable and made me want to listen and learn. Overall, she is one of the best instructors I have ever had.
- The Facebook page helped a lot. Being able to interact with others and help each other out was very beneficial.
- My favorite aspect of this course was the Facebook group created by our instructor. This was the first class I have taken that used Facebook to help students. The Facebook group was a wonderful and easy way for us students to ask questions, share resources and create study groups. The Facebook group is a great tool and I wish all of my other classes offered this resource too!
- That facebook page is a wonderful idea because it provided students with an easy way to communicate with each other. It also gave me the choice of participating in the conversations if I wanted to, but I didn't feel obligated to provide notes or answers if I didn't want to.
- My favorite part of this course was Miss Brewer's energy. I never missed a class simply because her lectures were always so interesting! Her use of technology (youtube, Facebook) added another dimension to learning inside and outside the classroom though I found really rewarding.
- I love how happy and energetic you were about teaching the course. It got students excited to see that you were excited. I like how you share personal stories, because it helps me remember the material so much better.
- The instructor was pleasantly enthusiastic and managed to develop a friendly relationship with her students, while still maintaining a formal professor-student relationship.
- Lauren Brewer was an excellent instructor. She always was respectful to the students, even when we covered controversial topics like discrimination and racism. She always made sure that the lecture was clear and that every student understood what we learned that day. I felt comfortable enough in her classroom to ask any question without being ridiculed or feeling embarrassed.
- The instructor was engaging, excited, and always willing to help. She allowed questions to be asked, and the environment was fun for learning. She related to the students, not on a teacher-student level, but on a long time friend level.
- I liked that you would have a brief survey or in class activity that really brought forth the ideas that you were teaching. It made the ideas more realistic.

Social Psychology:

Quantitative Instructor Evaluation:

All Social Psychology Courses

Instructor: Lauren Brewer

Department: Psychology

Response Scale

E	=	Excellent
VG	=	Very Good
G	=	Good
F	=	Fair
P	=	Poor

	Overall Rating	E (5)	VG (4)	G (3)	F (2)	P (1)	(N)
1. Description of course objectives and assignments	4.85	189	28	3	0	0	220
		86%	13%	1%	0%	0%	
2. Communication of ideas and information	4.86	189	27	2	0	0	218
		87%	12%	1%	0%	0%	
3. Expression of expectations for performance in class	4.83	186	29	4	0	0	219
		85%	13%	2%	0%	0%	
4. Availability to assist students in or out of class	4.80	182	28	8	0	0	218
		83%	13%	4%	0%	0%	
5. Respect and concern for students	4.90	197	18	2	0	0	217
		91%	8%	1%	0%	0%	
6. Stimulation of interest in the course.	4.88	195	20	3	0	0	218
		89%	9%	1%	0%	0%	
7. Facilitation of learning.	4.84	188	27	4	0	0	219
		86%	12%	2%	0%	0%	
8. Overall assessment of instructor.	4.93	203	15	0	0	0	218
		93%	7%	0%	0%	0%	

Selected Student Comments from Social Psychology:

- Lauren Brewer is not only well versed in her area of study, but is endowed with the natural skill to express ideas articulately, even while remaining on a level her students can understand and relate to. I found her lectures to be more interesting in performance and content than most any other professor many years her senior.
- This class was by far one of my favorites at FSU. I was not particularly interested in the subject matter, but I ended up really enjoying it. I would take another one of Ms. Brewer's classes in a heartbeat.
- She's knows a lot about social psychology and you can tell she wanted us to learn as much as we could. She's a great teacher and she will go far as a professor.
- Lauren was absolutely fabulous. She has a passion for psych and for teaching and it shows. She is fair in the way she runs her class. She gets people to class because they genuinely want to be here. Lauren makes the course fun and therefore, learning is easier.
- I enjoyed the way she ran the class. Her tests were challenging however you always had an opportunity to alleviate a mistake made in a previous exam. Ms. Brewer is one of those professors who believes that class can be an enjoyable challenge, and that is what her class is.
- She was amazing I've never had a teacher who kept me so engaged in the class content or lectures. She didn't sound like she was lecturing it was more like she was just talking to us. I wish I had more professors like her at FSU.
- Lauren was an excellent instructor. She helped students understand the material both in and out of class. She encouraged us to take what we learned in the class out into the world. Overall, I learned a great deal from her and would definitely opt for her as an instructor again.
- Lauren is a great teacher! I was originally ... a business major, but after taking this class (which I originally just took for fun) and seeing Lauren's enthusiasm and interest in the subject matter, I too became very interested in it. She also sent me an application encouraging me to apply to be a research assistant in the social psychology labs, which encouraged me to explore the subject even further. Needless to say, I am now a psychology major and credit her on steering me towards a path that I am actually interested in and excited to learn about. Her dedication to what she is teaching is very evident in her personality and attitude.
- I have been debating about whether to major in psychology for years. Your teaching gave me the push I needed to do so. Keep up your enthusiasm. It's contagious!
- Lauren Brewer is one of my favorite instructors that I have ever had in college. She is so enthusiastic and really makes the information relatable to each student. Her lectures always gave me a new perspective to think about. Her attitude is so positive every class!

Personality Psychology:

Quantitative Instructor Evaluation:

All Personality Psychology Courses

Instructor: Lauren Brewer

Department: Psychology

Response Scale

E	=	Excellent
VG	=	Very Good
G	=	Good
F	=	Fair
P	=	Poor

	Overall Rating	E (5)	VG (4)	G (3)	F (2)	P (1)	(N)
1. Description of course objectives and assignments	4.83	68	10	2	0	0	80
		85%	13%	3%	0%	0%	
2. Communication of ideas and information	4.75	63	14	3	0	0	80
		79%	18%	4%	0%	0%	
3. Expression of expectations for performance in class	4.85	68	12	0	0	0	80
		85%	15%	0%	0%	0%	
4. Availability to assist students in or out of class	4.75	62	16	2	0	0	80
		78%	20%	3%	0%	0%	
5. Respect and concern for students	4.90	73	6	1	0	0	80
		91%	8%	1%	0%	0%	
6. Stimulation of interest in the course.	4.76	67	8	4	1	0	80
		84%	10%	5%	1%	0%	
7. Facilitation of learning.	4.80	65	12	2	0	0	79
		81%	15%	3%	0%	0%	
8. Overall assessment of instructor.	4.83	68	10	2	0	0	80
		85%	13%	3%	0%	0%	

Selected Student Comments from Personality Psychology:

- I liked that she didn't post the slides online because it encouraged us to come to class everyday and class was always interesting. I think that this was a great class.
- I like that she's very open minded and laid back. It made it easier to talk to her about any questions I may have had.
- I loved Lauren! She made the class interesting, and I still feel like I learned a lot, and those two qualities are generally mutually exclusive.
- Truthfully, there was not a day when I wasn't excited or happy to go to this class. LAUREN BREWER YOU'RE AWESOME!! Keep doing what you do!!! LOVED THIS CLASS!!!!
- I like that she is entertaining when she teaches. It certainly made the material, which at times can come of rather dry, interesting and easier to digest.
- The course was exceptionally structured. It was very well planned out and consistent. There were never any holes in scheduling when it came to grades or test dates. Lauren was efficient to post grades for tests almost immediately the same day as the exam. It gave students peace of mind. The absence of a final and midterm was extremely progressive in teaching style. I found that having a test every two weeks helped me and other students keep up with the material and want to learn. The course is perfection.
- This instructor is amazing. Her personality and energy for teaching made every lecture enjoyable. Her powerpoints were easy to follow, and she always was willing to go at a pace that allowed everyone to get down the notes. I felt that all the tests were very fair, and her policy about being able to make up exams certainly was a kind way to work with students. Many professors don't really care at all about the burdens they place on their students, but that's not the case with Ms. Brewer. I think she will make an excellent professor when she finishes graduate school, and I also think a lot of other professors should take a few pointers from her...
- Lauren was quite possibly my favorite teacher I have had thus far at FSU. She was very knowledgeable about the topics, and portrayed the ideas very clearly. She was always super enthusiastic about being in class and teaching us, and that made me excited to go to class and really want to learn. Absolutely wonderful teacher, and very nice person!
- She was by far my favorite professor yet. I love the way she teaches with humor and great examples for everything and the way she really involves the class. Also, I liked the way she divided her exams into multiple smaller sessions. It made it really easy to fully understand all the information.

General Psychology:

Quantitative Instructor Evaluation:

All General Psychology Courses

Instructor: Lauren Brewer
 Department: Psychology

Response Scale

E = Excellent
 VG = Very Good
 G = Good
 F = Fair
 P = Poor

	Overall Rating	E (5)	VG (4)	G (3)	F (2)	P (1)	(N)
1. Description of course objectives and assignments	4.7	167	39	11	1	0	218
		77%	18%	5%	0%	0%	
2. Communication of ideas and information	4.7	173	37	6	2	0	218
		79%	17%	3%	1%	0%	
3. Expression of expectations for performance in class	4.7	169	34	12	2	0	217
		78%	16%	6%	1%	0%	
4. Availability to assist students in or out of class	4.6	160	39	15	3	0	217
		74%	18%	7%	1%	0%	
5. Respect and concern for students	4.9	195	19	3	1	0	218
		89%	9%	1%	0%	0%	
6. Stimulation of interest in the course.	4.8	181	29	6	1	1	218
		83%	13%	3%	0%	0%	
7. Facilitation of learning.	4.7	167	41	7	1	1	217
		77%	19%	3%	0%	0%	
8. Overall assessment of instructor.	4.8	184	29	4	1	0	218
		84%	13%	2%	0%	0%	

Selected Student Comments from General Psychology:

- The instructor was the best part. She was very fair in grading and successfully bridged the gap between students and professor.
- Lauren is the best teacher I've ever had. She helps you work out topics you don't understand, she is funny, and she's very enthusiastic about the material she covers.
- I really liked the teacher's enthusiasm and how directed the course was (especially in a summer class). It really helped me fully grasp the concept or psychology, and I found the class very interesting. I was fully engaged in the material and have produced my best test scores at FSU.
- I thought the instructor was excellent. She motivated and worked with the students each week. She's one of the best.
- I liked that Lauren was very engaged with the students during lecture this helped me stay alert and attentive. Lauren made herself very available to the class and that was great because I wasn't afraid to email her or speak to her after class.
- I loved how Lauren gave examples for almost every topic and situation in each chapter discussed in class. It helped me remember and understand the material for the exams. She made the class fun and enjoyable for everyone, I actually looked forward to the class each morning. I liked how she gave us objectives at the beginning of each chapter so that we were able to make our own study guide and stay on task and be well prepared for the exam.
- Lauren is extremely animated and you can tell she loves teaching. Her positive energy and personal examples help me understand what we are learning.
- Lauren Brewer had an amazing way of teaching. She keeps the students' attentions, and she actually cares about whether or not the students do well. She finds fun ways to explain the different subjects.
- I really liked the way she explained the material. I also liked how she related it back to her personal life and how we can use what we learned in our own lives.

Research Methods Lab:

Quantitative Instructor Evaluation:

All Research Method Lab Courses

Instructor: Lauren Brewer
Department: Psychology

Response Scale

E = Excellent
VG = Very Good
G = Good
F = Fair
P = Poor

	Overall Rating	E (5)	VG (4)	G (3)	F (2)	P (1)	(N)
1. Description of course objectives and assignments	4.58	29	13	3	0	0	45
		64%	29%	7%	0%	0%	
2. Communication of ideas and information	4.67	31	13	1	0	0	45
		69%	29%	2%	0%	0%	
3. Expression of expectations for performance in class	4.71	34	9	2	0	0	45
		76%	20%	4%	0%	0%	
4. Availability to assist students in or out of class	4.71	34	9	2	0	0	45
		76%	20%	4%	0%	0%	
5. Respect and concern for students	4.86	37	4	1	0	0	42
		88%	10%	2%	0%	0%	
6. Stimulation of interest in the course.	4.73	33	10	1	0	0	44
		75%	23%	2%	0%	0%	
7. Facilitation of learning.	4.75	34	9	1	0	0	44
		77%	20%	2%	0%	0%	
8. Overall assessment of instructor.	4.86	39	4	1	0	0	44
		89%	9%	2%	0%	0%	