Course Report AS7006 VT17

Respondents: 1
Answer Count: 1
Answer Frequency: 100.00 %

. Teacher

Teacher
Jorrit Leenaarts

. Number of students who took the exam

Number of students who took the exam
9

. Number of students who passed the course

Number of students who passed the course
7

. Description of changes since the previous time the course was given.

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None

. What are the course's strong points according to the students (summary based on the numerical results as well as their free text answers)

What are the course's strong points according to the students (summary based on the numerical results as well as their free text answers)
-The subject matter was very interesting. -Interesting subject -Interesting -That we got a deeper knowledge of how astro spectra get created and what we can learn from them. -Jorrit is a competent teacher who knows the subject matter very well. That's great!

. What are the course's weak points according to the students (summary based on the numerical results as well as their free text answers)

What are the course's weak points according to the students (summary based on the numerical results as well as their free text answers)

-Only some of the answers to previous exams were available.
-Since the course seemed to put grade emphasis on being able to calculate results to exam questions, it would have been better to put more emphasis on practicing. For instance we could have been given more exercises earlier on the course.
-Add lecture slides to Mondo
-More examples in the lectures to easier understand how all the formulas you get handed work. And to get the reading before the lecture and not after. So you can prepare before.

. The teacher's analysis of the course

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I ran the course in much the same way as last year. As usual, the background knowledge, the motivation to attend, and the willingness to actively participate varied strongly. Less than half of the registered students tended to show up for the exercise classes, despite several warnings from me that the exercise classes are very important because they are similar to what the students get on the exam. Those who attended most lectures and put in an effort to do the exercises passed the exam without too much difficulty.

. Conclusions as well as suggestions for improvements

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A recommendation for next year is to demonstrate more how to apply the theory to actual problems. Right now the students are required to learn this by themselves during the exercise classes (with help on request), but explicit examples will make it easier for weaker/shy students to understand how things work. Given the rather large amount of theory that needs to be treated during the lectures the best way to do so is probably to increase the number of exercise classes from 3 to 5 and start them with a demonstration question.

A student states "For instance we could have been given more exercises earlier on the course." This is a problem that I recognise. The nature of the course is that one needs quite a bit of theory before one can solve interesting problems. Maybe more not-so-interesting but didactic exercises should be added.

. Comments on administrative aspects of the course

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-The lecture hall and the smart board work well (except that the software appears to be quite old, maybe it's time to renew a license and get a better version?)
-The course evaluation is very nice, but one wonders of course what those who didn't respond think about the course.