Course Report AS5001 HT17

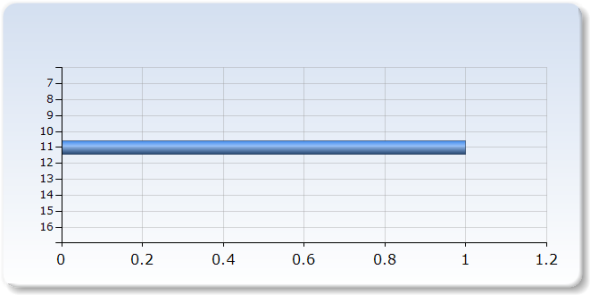
Respondents: 1
Answer Count: 1
Answer Frequency: 100.00 %

. Teacher

Teacher
Arjan Bik

. Number of students who took the exam

Number of students who took the exam	Number of Responses
7	0 (0.0%)
8	0 (0.0%)
9	0 (0.0%)
10	0 (0.0%)
11	1 (100.0%)
12	0 (0.0%)
13	0 (0.0%)
14	0 (0.0%)
15	0 (0.0%)
16	0 (0.0%)
Total	1 (100.0%)



. Number of students who passed the course

Number of students who passed the course	Number of Responses
7	0 (0.0%)
8	0 (0.0%)
9	0 (0.0%)
10	0 (0.0%)
11	1 (100.0%)
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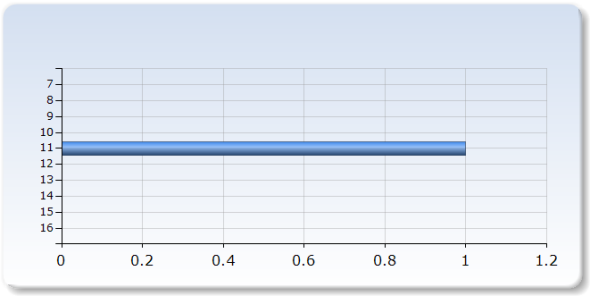

. Description of changes since the previous time the course was given.

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-After the feedback from last year, I used a combination of teaching on the whiteboard (for formula derivations) and slides (for the rest of the lectures).
- I tried make the lectures more interactive, by starting the course with asking about the previous lecture. This led to many questions of the students after that.
-A group project and presentation was added as part of the evaluation

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

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-The content of the course: a good overview of astronomy
-The book
-The students were positive about the teaching and the course material.

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

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The students felt that some more exercises, and especially exercises not taken from the course book could have been usefull.
Some more practicing in calculations would have been usefull

. The teacher's analysis of the course

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After last year's feedback I have spent more time on especially the derivation of some of the formula and concepts in the course. Concepts like the viral theorem and the stellar structure equations I have derived on the whiteboard. This made it much easier for the students to follow then via the powerpoint presentations. They had them as reference to study at home.
Also, asking questions about the previous lecture resulted in lots of discussion and many question from the students.
The students find the concept of "scaling relations" very difficult. I have spent a lot of time on it, but still this was one of the most difficult exam questions for most students.
The exercises from the book are sometimes difficult for the students as it's not always clear for them what is been asked. This is true for exercises in the last half of the book.

. Conclusions as well as suggestions for improvements

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Generally I am happy with how the course went, the students were enthusiastic and seemed to be happy about the course too.

Improvement for next year:
-Make sure all students understand the scaling relations as they are important in astronomy, even more questions to the students to make sure they got the point.
-Focus on revising some of the exercises and take exercises which are not coming from the course book.