

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
STUDENT DESCRIPTION OF TEACHING**

COURSE ME170

Professor: Benson Tongue

Fall 2003

PLEASE COMMENT ON THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE INSTRUCTOR IN CLASSROOM PRESENTATION AND PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS, IF ANY, FOR IMPROVEMENT.

- EXCELLENT. He knows his stuff, presents and teaches it well and in a most entertaining manner. I have a tough time not paying attention.
- Overall Tongue is an excellent instructor. The only suggestion I'd make is to "take a breather" once in a while. Sometimes he writes so fast it's all I can do to just keep up with the copying and I don't get to really internalize the information.
- Very animated in class. Always worth coming to the lecture.
- The material is not all in 1 place. Prof. tongue is very smart and can't necessarily identify with what the students are struggling with. Focus more on problems and give more examples.
- Excellent professor. Cares about students. His teaching is interesting and effective, also entertaining.
- Could slow down a bit, but still cover all the material by not performing computations during lecture. *Very good, though*
- Interesting style of presentation. Wonder if a slightly more traditional approach to subject would help with harder problems.
- Ridiculously enthusiastic. "Two thumbs up".
- The triple coordinate pipe thing is confusing.
- Prof. Tongue is an outstanding professor. He makes everything so simple and easy to understand, and spends a lot of time preparing little demos for us.
- Pretty good.
- He is a model for other professors.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF THE INSTRUCTOR'S EFFECTIVENESS IN INTERACTING WITH STUDENTS? ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT?

- Please be careful in understanding a student's question in class prior to answering. I've heard from multiple accounts that the instructor has misinterpreted the question in haste and assumed that the student was asking something else.
- The most personable professor I know by far.
- EXCELLENT! I mean, he has students over his house for thanksgiving!
- The coolest professor in the department.
- Could explain things a bit slower.
- Very good at remembering individuals.
- Please ask Dr. Tongue to teach all graduate ME courses. This would be a tremendous improvement o the ME dept.
- His enthusiasm, use of visual aids, and effort to connect with students is unmatched in the department. *Very good.*
- Always willing to help.

- He also knows every student's name.

PLEASE GIVE YOUR OPINION ON THE NATURE AND QUALITY OF THE EXAMS AND ASSIGNMENTS/PROJECTS:

- It is hard to answer question 3 until after we get over final grade, I have every hope that it will be equitable, no clear idea of how it works. I would take Tongue's class regardless of what grade he gives me.
- Exams and homework are hard. Homework was kind of useful but limited.
- Grading system was changes and he became very weird.
- Homeworks are actually really good! As in, interesting and useful.
- Changing from exams → quizzes was odd but seems ok.
- Stick to original grading scheme (or at least 1 throughout).
- Exams were fairly specific and very time rushed. Even the quizzes were too specific.
- Assignments were creative and allow for further learning of the course material.
- Highly adaptive to student's performance.
- The time for the first exam was insufficient. I could have done much better if I'd have the time to do the second problem, or 2.
- Exams are always tough but.
- People with a little program in TI-85 has a huge advantage when computing matrices manipulations. Perhaps select questions more carefully.

PLEASE GIVE ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COURSE AND THE TEXT/NOTES:

- The reader has poor continuity, though individual sections are decent. If the reader is used again, please take out all (??)-things and make sure that it is stand alone.
- I felt like I haven't even needed the book . . . haven't looked at it in a long time. Lecture covers everything we need to know.
- This semester, I think more time should have been spent going over the assignments and the engineering values and their implications. I feel like h really flew by that very important topic.
- A well balanced course.
- The course provides an excellent review of ME 104 as well as guides students through the 3D extension.
- More examples in reader would help. Engineering students learn by example.
- First problem was that the text doesn't cover the second half of the class, which was rather annoying. Also, in the text, usually the examples were very specific in finding the easies solution and special uses, such as using 90 degree angles and square objects which makes it harder for us to figure out what is actually going on.
- The reader is really short on all the later/advanced material. Would be nice to have thorough explanations on later topics.
- The notes didn't cover much in the last 1/3rd of the class.
- It would be helpful is there was just one text with al the information used in the course, not one required with some, and recommended text with some.
- More class notes on inertia stud and 3-D stuff would be helpful.
- Book is not very descriptive.

- The required text doesn't have much details on the latter part of the course.

YOU ARE INVITED TO PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS ABOUT THE COURSE AND/OR INSTRUCTOR:

- It is always educating and entertaining to attend class.
- I've had Prof. Tongue for three semesters and he is one of the best professors I have learned from here at UCB.
- Sartorial splendor.
- Mmm . . . cookies.
- He has been very, very helpful out of class and out of OH and has taken a lot of trouble and effort to ground the conception.
- Professor Tongue Rocks!