

**Department of Psychology  
REPORT ON OBSERVATION OF TEACHING**

SEMESTER: SPRING 2019 OBSERVATION DATE: MARCH 8<sup>th</sup> 2019

INSTRUCTOR NAME: MATTHEW VANAMAN

COURSE NUMBER: PSYC 3400 SECTION: T9CB TIME: 9:00 - 10:50 am

COURSE TITLE: STATISTICAL METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH LAB

OBSERVER NAME: ANJALI KRISHNAN

**I. PRESENTATION OF SUBJECT**

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
a) The presentation was organized.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) The presentation was clear.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) The presentation had a good pace and flow.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe whether the class materials were presented in an organized and clear fashion and describe the pace and flow of the presentation.

The class was focused on solving HW problems (which were already submitted), and the instructor used the white board to work out the examples. No powerpoint slides were necessary. The class was well-paced with enough time given to students to think about and work out the problems by themselves. The instructor was clear and could be heard well at the back of the classroom. The entire class period was used and both instructor and students were engaged throughout. The class was quite interactive.

**II. KNOWLEDGE**

	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	VERY GOOD	OUTSTANDING
a) Instructor's expertise on class content.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Instructor's breadth on class content.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Instructor's depth on class content.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe whether the instructor was knowledgeable of the subject matter and provided explanations and or examples to improve students understanding of the subject matter.

The instructor covered probability, the binomial distribution and the use of the binomial probabilities table. The students had already submitted the HW and now had the opportunity to look back and see if their understanding was correct. The instructor took care to show multiple ways of arriving at the same answer, and was able to effectively answer students' specific questions. Probability is a hard topic for most students, and the instructor was able to make this topic more approachable. One suggestion might be to use a few more out-of-the-book examples to make the topic more relatable for students.

**III. RESPONSE OF STUDENTS**

	NEVER	SELDOM	SOMETIMES	OFTEN	ALMOST ALWAYS
a) Students' desire to participate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Students' independent thinking.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Students' interest in content.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe whether the students were interested and engaged in the class material.

The instructor began the class discussing HW. Most students were quite enthusiastic to work through the HW. The instructor had a nice question-answer format of engaging students so that they learn to come up with the answers on their own. All students seemed to work on the HW and did not seem otherwise distracted. Students were comfortable to participate and ask questions in class.

**IV. PERSONALITY OF INSTRUCTOR**

	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	VERY GOOD	OUTSTANDING
a) Instructor's attitude toward students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Instructor's professionalism.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Instructor's projection and tone.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Instructor's language clarity and expression.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe whether the instructor was professional, positive, and respectful; has an open attitude towards students; was able to effectively communicate, ensuring that students were following along.

The instructor had a very respectful and professional attitude towards the students. When confronted with a challenging binomial HW question that a student actually had the right answer, but the HW key was wrong, the instructor was very gracious in acknowledging the student and worked out the correct answer for the benefit of the class. The students did appreciate this honest approach.

**V. GENERAL COMMENTS**

Overall, the class was well-paced, and the students seemed motivated to participate. The instructor was quite knowledgeable with the material and was able to answer students' questions effectively. The instructor was able to keep the students' attention, and could make use of more examples. It was a positive learning environment where all students had the opportunity to ask questions and participate in class.

Anjali Krishnan  
OBSERVER SIGNATURE

Met...  
INSTRUCTOR (OBSERVEE) SIGNATURE

03/08/19  
DATE OF CONFERENCE

ANJALI KRISHNAN  
OBSERVER NAME (PRINT)

NOTE: Attach syllabus along with any supplementary materials used during this lecture. Also attach additional comments on a separate page.