

xxx **Your feedback and An exit Survey, 303L Fall12** xxx-
<http://www.ph.utexas.edu/~itiq/instructors/chiu/feedback.htm>

12-18-12

Hi,

During the semester, I mentioned that we are in the process of developing a new 303L curriculum for UT physics department. Our curriculum puts more emphasis on understanding physics principles and concepts. It applies these to relatively straightforward applications and puts less emphasis on solving complex physics problems. Now that you are done with this course, you are in the unique position to give us your opinions about this course and its new curriculum.

We would like to get your feedback about this course. Your thoughts could address some of the following (but please feel free to respond on other topics).

- Do you like the text book? Do you think it is good for Engineering Physics II?
- Your comments on the different aspects of this course are very welcome, such as the homework, TA discussion sessions, the role of LAs, exams and grading etc
- Would you recommend this course to your friends? What is your advice to them on how to study for this course?
- What aspects do you like the most about this course?
- Last but not the least, please comment on how we can further improve this course.

Please complete the following exit-survey:

Please choose one response to each question below

A. Strongly disagree. B. Disagree C. Neutral D. Agree. E. Strongly agree.

- 1. I would recommend the MI-curriculum for this course to future potential 303L students.**
- 2. The M&I textbook provides a good conceptual understanding of physics based on fundamental principles.**
- 3. The material covered in the M&I textbook is well organized, readable, relatively easy to follow.**
- 4. The homework sets coordinate well with our lesson plan and I am able to work them with a reasonable amount of effort.**
- 5. The present setup of the TA sessions with LA support is an important part of this course.**
- 6. The midterms and the final exams were fair and properly reflected the concepts and principles developed in this course.**

When you email me, on the subject line: Please include the phrase: "303L-feedback". Thank you for your interest in helping us. Have a great winter break! Charles Chiu

12-21-12: Concluding the exit survey

It is now little after 10:30pm, Friday, 12-21-12. **I think the bulk of survey responses are in.**

My sincere thanks to each of you who has participated the survey and has helped to spread the words around about the survey.

As mentioned earlier, your comments are very important. They are helpful to us. I will pass on the information to our 303L colleagues. We will discuss your suggestions and look for ways to implement them next semester.

For those of you who have not yet participated the survey and still want to do so, you can email me your survey responses. Remember to include "303L-feedback" in the subject line.

Thank you again. Wishing you happy holidays.

Charles Chiu

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Survey data and comments

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12-19-12

(1) 12:35am

- 1. D
- 2. D
- 3. D
- 4. E
- 5. E
- 6. E

Comments:

Student: . Working more examples as a class in the TA sections would probably be highly appreciated in my opinion.

Instructor: Thank you for your input, which is very valuable to us. Indeed we need to modify the content of TA session. For instance, we one possibility is to have follow-up in depth discussions on some selected homework problems after they are due, and also do some selected extra problems.

Student: I believe that would be very helpful to next semester's students. If there is anything else I can help with please let me know!

(2) 11:38am

DCC EEE

The TA session is very helpful with clarifying certain concepts with characteristic examples. However, one problem is that the TA sessions earlier in the week do not agree with the progress in class, so students have to work with material they are completely unfamiliar with. I think this decreases the efficiency of the TA session. Otherwise, I see no immediate problem with the TA sessions and this arrangement should be continued.

Some of the midterms were almost the same as homework questions. It should be reasonable in my opinion to give some questions that students have never seen before.

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(3) 12/19 11:45 AM

EDD EDE

Thanks again for a great semester Dr. Chiu

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(4) 12/19
11:57
PM

1. D
2. D
3. D
4. D
5. C
6. E

I think that solving more example problems in class would be helpful.

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(5) 4:25pm

e
e
e
e
e
e

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(6) 12-19-2012 11:22PM.

- 1) E
- 2) E
- 3) D
- 4) D
- 5) C
- 6) E

Although helpful, I think i would've been able to better understand the concepts in TA sections if instead of going through three or four problems in a rush, we worked through one or two and studied them in greater detail.
Thanks for a great semester Prof. Chiu.

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12-20-12

(7) 12:01AM

EDE EDE

I highly enjoyed the course and thought it was a challenging but fair course. I recommend maybe having the LAs do more examples in the discussion sections or teach a mini lecture that reinforces knowledge. Thanks again Dr. Chiu!

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(8) 11:49AM

CCC EED

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(9) 11:51 AM

DDD DDC

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(10) 12:15 PM

DDE DED

I felt that overall this was an excellent course. Grading was very fair and through the lectures, office hours, and discussion sections there were many opportunities to ask questions and learn the details and concepts of this difficult course. I think that having a solutions manual for the book's exercises at the end of each chapter would have helped since it would have provided us with more examples to study in addition to the homework sets. Also, I think that at times, lab section that corresponded with the course (103N) seemed like it was ahead of the lectures' material, which made some labs somewhat difficult since we hadn't learned the concepts behind the lab before we had to complete it. Otherwise, this course was very reasonable and helpful. Thanks for a great semester Dr. Chiu!

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(11) 3:06 PM

EED EEE

I thought the course was very well structured. The textbook was a crucial part of succeeding in this class especially when doing the homework. Also, the TA/LA sessions really helped me because it was a different setting where students could discuss concepts in a slightly different way than in class and the LA's knew the material really well so it helped. Thank you so much for everything this semester! I really enjoyed the class and the atmosphere that was presented!

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(12) 4:31PM

EEE DEE

Comments: The TA sessions all involved being given questions and having to answer them in groups, but the questions were often very hard to understand and the answers often ambiguous. Almost every class, when the answer was presented, some sort of correction would need to be made to the answers document. The TA sessions would benefit from better planning in writing the questions.

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(13) 5:08PM

CDE EED

The discussion sessions were very unique and helpful. The test should have more never-before-seen questions, rather than all coming from the homework so students would try harder to understand the concepts rather than just memorizing processes. Overall, this class was organized quite well, better than most of my other classes. Thanks for the great semester.

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(14) 6:08PM

EEE DEE

My advice for future 303L students would be to understand and explain all the problems on the homework. If a student can comprehend all the problems in a certain unit, he or she will most definitely be successful in the course

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12-21-12 1:51 PM

ADB CBD

Attached are my responses to the survey. My responses are the ones in red coloring. Thank you very much for your work toward this course and our success.

- Do you like the text book? Do you think it is good for Engineering Physics II? – The book was acceptable, but often left out what I felt was important information for understanding physics. They would quickly jump from theory to application, leaving out details that the course itself would focus more upon.
 - Your comments on the different aspects of this course are very welcome, such as the homework, TA discussion sessions, the role of LAs, exams and grading etc – The homework was excessive and often left me and my friends pulling our hair out. Even with class notes and the textbook, we often resorted to using hyper-physics online to explain topics to us. The book was often useless for the homework. The L.A.s played a minimal role in my success in the course. The topics covered in discussion were helpful, but often much more theoretical than what was covered in the homework. The grading on homework assignments was acceptable, but the exam grading was unacceptable. Physics is very math-based. When an answer was completely wrong for one simple algebra mistake, it was very discouraging. Partial credit is everything. Taking full credit away is discouraging, taking point away for missing something in the math would help teach not to make that mistake again.
 - Would you recommend this course to your friends? What is your advice to them on how to study for this course? – To any friend, I NEVER recommend this course. I kindly urge them to take it at a smaller college, such as ACC, so they don't have to worry about the excessive work and stress that comes along with UT's Physics courses. If I had to give advice for studying, use the homework assignments. Don't try to learn the theory, it's a losing battle. Learn how to get to the correct solution, even if the theory evades you.
 - What aspects do you like the most about this course? – The material is really fun. As an E.E. student, electricity appeals very strongly to me. The work that went along with the material was unnecessary, but nonetheless, the material was interesting.
 - Last but not the least, please comment on how we can further improve this course. – Lay off on the homework assignments. All of the students taking the course are engineering. This isn't their only course. Apart from personal lives, we do have other assignments to complete. You don't have to grade the homework because Quest does it for you. A little less homework would save hundreds of us a little bit of sanity to give to more important courses in our schedule (i.e.: engineering, our focus)
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