

**Science 2012W T2 - Teaching Evaluation  
Survey  
2012W2 2013**

**University of British Columbia  
Science**

**Course:** ASIC 200 001 - Global Issues in the Arts and Sciences

**Department:** ASIC

**Responsible  
Faculty:** David Ng

**Responses / Expected:** 45 / 83

**Category Instructions:** Based on a 5-point scale, where 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree and 5 = Strongly Agree, please rate your instructor on the following:

**Ng, David**

University Module	Responses					Individual					
	[SD]	[D]	[N]	[A]	[SA]	N/A	Med.	Mode	S.D.	N	Mean
<b>Q1</b> The instructor made it clear what students were expected to learn.	0	1	0	21	23	0	5	5	.62	<b>45</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Q2</b> The instructor communicated the subject matter effectively.	0	0	2	8	35	0	5	5	.53	<b>45</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>Q3</b> The instructor helped inspire interest in learning the subject matter.	1	0	3	8	32	0	5	5	.81	<b>44</b>	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Q4</b> Overall, evaluation of student learning (through exams, essays, presentations, etc.) was fair.	0	4	2	17	21	1	4	5	.91	<b>44</b>	<b>4.3</b>
<b>Q5</b> The instructor showed concern for student learning.	0	1	1	18	24	0	5	5	.66	<b>44</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Q6</b> Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	0	0	1	11	33	0	5	5	.50	<b>45</b>	<b>4.7</b>

**Responses:** [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5

**Q7 - Enter comments below**

**Faculty:** Ng, David

**Response Rate:** 71.11% (32 of 45)

- Dr. Ng was an exceptional prof. He explained science really well and inspired interest in the subjects taught. I have no suggestions for improvement.

- Incredible lectures, keep up the weird metaphors and similes!

Dave did a great job on simplifying the scientific process of DNA translations and the central dogma theorem.

- Power points were effective and class activities were fun. However, science versus arts true/false polling systems needs improvement. ;)! Perhaps add a clicker question component as in-class participation marks(5%)?

- Effective teaching, but from the perspective of a science student, very elementary and kind of boring because of this. It was interesting to learn about about the human genome project's history as that is something that isn't really covered in a science class.

- Dumbed down complex content quite well without being condescending. Thought that what was needed to know for the final was vague and unclear; didn't know what to expect. Thought both teachers were just 'going through the motions' at times since they've taught this class multiple times. Wish more novel topics were presented/ new teaching methods.

Sometimes the science taught in lectures was beyond my level of understanding from the get-go, particularly with DNA replication. The instructor started with "we all know DNA is made up of proteins and enzymes" and that was something that I probably learned in grade 9 but had an incomplete understanding of even then. I

- understand the difficulty teaching to one hundred students that all have different levels of understanding, and there are probably a bunch of people in the class who know more than just the basics introduced in class, but for me it was difficult to follow along with the lectures when I didn't even understand its scientific basis. But I thought both instructors used the allotted time really well and the various breaks given to discuss issues regarding what was being lectured on was really worthwhile and it made the three hour class periods much more reasonable.

- Hands down one of the best teachers and communicators I have ever had. He is clearly passionate about the subject. His effective use of examples, anecdotes and media made the class very engaging.

- The topic was conveyed very well with a good sense of humour. The topics were broken down allowing people who have never had exposure to the science section of the course the ability to understand and follow along.

- As an arts student with absolutely no natural inclination towards science, I really appreciated David's ability to spark my interest and keep the 3 hour lectures as informative as possible while still be highly entertaining. I'm struggling with knowing what to study for however, as a lot of the time both instructors said "this won't be on the exam," and the projects given to us were very choice specific and won't be tested on.

- Dave Ng was a PHENOMENAL instructor! As an arts kid, he made everything super relatable and INTERESTING, so much so that I bragged about him to my science friends like YOU MUST TAKE A DAVE NG CLASS!

- He was very interested in the course material which helped to inspire students interest as well. Lectures and activities were communicated effectively and clearly.

- The professor is an amazing and engaging lecturer that made his students enjoy each class they had. However, evaluation of the group project was weighted too heavily; this seems unfair, as group work almost always results in a lower grade than can be achieved individually.

- the level of engagement was through the roof! it was like watching a TED talk every Thursday night. when an instructor is passionate and animated it is infinity easier to learn the subject. Dave nailed it

- Did very well at explaining everything clearly using analogies. It might be a good idea to be more specific with the readings as reading entire reports is just way too much information, especially to remember for an exam.

- Very funny lecturer! I was actually interested in the science portion of the course. It can be difficult to get arts students interested in science (after all, that's why we're not in sciences), however, Dave always made concepts in class interesting and funny by relating it to things (such as threadless t-shirts/unicorns). I also really enjoyed the lab, as it gave me a flavour of how science labs are like. There was always a lot of laughing going on during lectures. I enjoyed watching the in-lecture science demo, and I also enjoyed the true/false questions!

- The course was very interesting and Dave did an excellent job explaining the science. I think that it was perhaps a little too simplified. As an arts student, I had no problem understanding the science. I just would have liked to have learned a bit more about the science than a simple overview. Maybe have some more readings that explain some more aspects.

The structure of the course was really good though. I really enjoyed the group assignments and labs. Really wasn't a fan of the artistic component to the FAQ though.

- ASIC 200 was without a doubt one of the best courses I have taken so far at UBC, and that was due to the quality of teaching that Dave and Allen provided throughout the term. Dave was really fantastic at taking the topics we were studying and highlighting their key scientific aspects in an interesting way. As a science student, I was impressed at his ability to take topics that I have previously studied and make me think about them in a new way. You could also clearly tell that he enjoys teaching and has a passion for what he does at UBC with the Terry Project and all that it encompasses. I hope for the sake of future students of UBC that this course sticks around for a long time, as it pushes students to get a more well-rounded education through integration of topics in both the social and physical sciences.

- Professor Ng is very effective at teaching this courses content to students both in the faculty of Science and Arts. He communicates the knowledge in a way that makes it easy for all students to understand and connect with.

- Very good at presenting material in an easily-understood manner.

- Explained course content very thoroughly and in a way that was easy to understand.

- Made science actually fun, which is something that I never expected
- Science became not only fun, but actually easy to understand with his examples
- The course itself was perfectly organized and was easily my favourite course this term.
- Thank you for being an amazing, approachable, intelligent, and hilarious professor!
- Professor Ng was successful in engaging Arts students to learn about scientific topics which I think is a very challenging task. He was funny and explained the material in a simple yet interesting way.
- Professor Ng did an excellent job teaching the science side of the course. I have no background in science but he made even the more complicated aspects easy to understand.
- Incredible lecturer, very interesting and easy to listen to, even for a three hour class. Hope I will be in your class again!

David Ng definitely has an interesting and engaging style of teaching. I know he is heavily involved in speaking out for science in the public, and I appreciated his unique and 'hip' teaching style. His lectures were unique, and I liked his attempt to bridge the gap that often exists to those that are not always involved or interested in the field of science. That being said, as a science student myself with a high amount of background knowledge into the material he was teaching, I found his lectures to be very slow and overly simplistic often times. I didn't always see the humor in his many metaphors and pop culture references, so I found some them to be fairly slow and a little condescending.

That being said, I have a high amount of respect for David Ng, and I believe that his style of teaching can be very interesting and engaging. More than anything, I think how I felt was a product of my previous knowledge (I was actually 'learning' very little), so I was bound not to be terribly responsive to the material. I do not doubt that it could have been much, much worse. The science material that David Ng covers seems to largely be directed towards the 'Arts' portion of the course, and I believe that he was effective in teaching it this way.

- Thank you so much for a great course. I loved science in middle school, but have really lost touch with that enthusiasm due to intimidating courses and a lack of expertise. You were really inspiring in how simply you explained the content, and in how engaging you made it. I remembered why I used to love science! Thank you!
- Lighthearted, funny atmosphere allowed for a more enjoyable experience.
  - Sparked interest
  - Passionate about the subject
  - Approachable outside of class
  - Very willing to help
- Skilled presenter. Uses slides as a tool rather than a crutch.
- Dave Ng is an amazing instructor. His use of graphics, humour and pace really make all of his lectures very enjoyable and informative.
- He is a wonderful educator. His passion and broad science knowledge is greatly appreciated. He is clear, well prepared and has a very fine sense of humor, which helps to make the subject matter enjoyable.
- It was interesting and informative from an arts perspective, and I liked the analogies - though at points when the information was simple/already known, it was a bit under-stimulating.

#### ASIC 200 - 001

Faculty of Science Module	Responses					Course				
	[SD]	[D]	[N]	[A]	[SA]	Med.	Mode	S.D.	N	Mean
<b>Q8</b> My academic background provided sufficient preparation for this course.	0	2	3	20	20	4	4,5	.78	<b>45</b>	<b>4.3</b>
<b>Q9</b> This course promoted conceptual understanding.	0	0	0	23	22	4	4	.50	<b>45</b>	<b>4.5</b>

<b>Q10</b>	The learning activities helped me to succeed in this course.	0	2	3	18	22	4	5	.79	<b>45</b>	<b>4.3</b>
<b>Q11</b>	The workload for this course was appropriate.	1	0	0	21	23	5	5	.72	<b>45</b>	<b>4.4</b>
<b>Q12</b>	I received sufficient feedback on my progress during this course.	0	4	8	23	10	4	4	.86	<b>45</b>	<b>3.9</b>

**Responses:** [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5