

College of Engineering, Cornell University
Course Evaluation Response Summary
Semester: Fall 2020 **Course Owner: ORIE**
Course: ORIE 4350 Lec 1 **CID: 11548**
Instructor: Schalekamp
51 Responses, 74 Enrolled, 68.92% Response

Question	Mean	Count	1	2	3	4	5
<p>11. [Course Content] How did you participate in this course? (Answer for the way you attended for most of the semester)</p> <p>1. Attended sessions online, approximately half synchronously and half asynchronously</p> <p>2. Attended most sessions synchronously online (i.e., via zoom)</p> <p>3. Attended most sessions asynchronously online (i.e., watched video recordings; completed modules)</p> <p>4. Attended a mix of online and in person class sessions</p> <p>5. Attended most sessions in person (i.e., in the classroom)</p>	2.10	49	8	30	9	2	0
<p>12. [Course Content] Content Organization: Did the course structure and organization facilitate your learning?</p> <p>1. Very disorganized, significantly hindered my learning</p> <p>2. Somewhat disorganized</p> <p>3. Adequately organized</p> <p>4. Well organized</p> <p>5. Very well organized and structured, significantly enhanced my learning</p>	4.38	50	1	0	3	21	25
<p>13. [Course Content] Synthesize & Apply Content: This course challenged me to synthesize ideas, think critically about the content, and apply the material to unfamiliar topics and problems.</p> <p>1. Not at all</p> <p>2. Occasionally</p> <p>3. Every few classes</p> <p>4. Many classes and assignments</p> <p>5. Nearly every class and assignment</p>	4.40	50	0	1	3	21	25
<p>14. [Course Content] Examples & Applications: Were the number and variety of examples and practical applications presented appropriate to the course content and for your learning style?</p> <p>1. No, almost no examples</p> <p>2. A few, but insufficient number and/or mostly trivial</p> <p>3. Some, but more or higher quality would have been helpful</p> <p>4. Yes, including some very good ones</p> <p>5. Excellent use of examples and applications that significantly increased my understanding of the material</p>	4.42	50	0	0	6	17	27
<p>21. [Course Delivery] Lectures: As a whole, were lectures clear, well-structured, free of significant or frequent errors, and did they appropriately cover the course content?</p> <p>1. No, usually poorly done</p> <p>2. Sometimes</p> <p>3. Usually adequate</p> <p>4. Usually good</p> <p>5. Nearly always very good</p>	4.69	49	0	0	1	13	35
<p>22. [Course Delivery] Context: Did the lecturer motivate the course content and place it in the context of your major or your overall engineering education (beyond fulfilling a degree requirement)?</p> <p>1. No</p> <p>2. Somewhat</p> <p>3. Adequately</p> <p>4. Mostly</p> <p>5. Absolutely</p>	4.53	49	1	0	3	13	32

23. [Course Delivery] Engagement: Did the lecturer present material in an engaging way, which improved your understanding of the course content? 1. No, generally boring 2. Rarely engaging 3. Generally held my attention 4. Engaging 5. Very engaging and often required actively thinking about material	4.43	49	0	0	6	16	27
31. [Recitation or Discussion Section] Was the section effective in increasing your understanding of, and ability to use, the course material? 1. No, usually poorly done 2. Sometimes 3. Usually adequate 4. Usually good 5. Nearly always very good	4.02	48	0	2	10	21	15
41. [Laboratory Activities] How valuable were laboratory activities in enhancing your learning in this course (e.g., taught specific skills, provided experience with real equipment and data, provided hands-on experience, increased my understanding of the material)? 1. Minimal value 2. Occasional value 3. Moderate value 4. Significant value 5. Very valuable, well worth time spent on them	--	0	0	0	0	0	0
42. [Laboratory Expectations] Lab expectations (goals, tasks, reports, deadlines, etc.) were clear and realistic. 1. Not at all 2. Partially 3. Adequately 4. Usually clear and realistic 5. Almost always very clear and realistic	--	0	0	0	0	0	0
43. [Laboratory Resources] Lab resources (equipment, software, information, instructions, etc.) were sufficient to provide a positive experience. 1. Rarely sufficient, severely detracted from the experience 2. Sometimes sufficient 3. Usually sufficient 4. Almost always sufficient 5. Excellent resources that enhanced the laboratory experience	--	0	0	0	0	0	0
44. [Laboratory Staffing] Support and help, during lab and for lab reports, were sufficient to successfully complete and analyze experiments. 1. Rarely sufficient 2. Partially sufficient 3. Adequate 4. Almost always sufficient 5. Excellent, significantly enhanced the laboratory experience	--	0	0	0	0	0	0
52. [Workload, Resources, Assignments & Assessment] Workload Value: The time spent on various assignments (homework, lab reports, coding, projects) was reasonable for the amount it improved my understanding of the course content. 1. Little value relative to the time required 2. Some value 3. Reasonable value for the time spent 4. Good value for time spent 5. Excellent value to time ratio	4.43	49	0	0	5	18	26

<p>54. [Workload, Resources, Assignments & Assessment] Value of Assignments: Independent of the time required, overall, did assignments (e.g., homework, labs, programming assignments, projects, papers, presentations) improve your understanding of, and ability to use, the course concepts and content?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimally 2. Sometimes 3. Usually 4. Almost always 5. Reliably and significantly increased my understanding and ability 	4.37	49	0	0	7	17	25
<p>55. [Workload, Resources, Assignments & Assessment] Exams & Grading: Were exams and grading a fair and reasonable measure of your learning? (Exams: clear, well written, range of content and difficulty. Grading: fair, prompt.)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No 2. Significant issues exist 3. Generally fair assessment of my learning 4. Well developed and fair 5. Yes, definitely 	4.67	49	0	0	3	10	36
<p>56. [Workload, Resources, Assignments & Assessment] For classes with recorded lectures: How often did you return to recorded lectures for reference (i.e., after your initial participation in or viewing of a class session)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Never 2. Once or twice a month or less 3. Weekly 4. Daily or almost daily 5. N/A (there were no recordings available) 	2.25	48	9	20	17	2	1
<p>61. [Course Environment] Diversity & Inclusion: To what extent have the professors and teaching staff fostered an inclusive environment such that the class is welcoming to all, everyone is encouraged to participate, none are made to feel different, and all are treated fairly?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extremely non-inclusive with inappropriate comments and/or behaviors 2. Actively not inclusive with certain students ignored, left out, or treated dismissively 3. Passively not inclusive; comments or contributions by some students are valued less than those of other students 4. Passively inclusive where everyone is welcome to participate, nothing specific to encourage or discourage anyone 5. Actively inclusive, all are fully encouraged to participate and are supported 	4.71	49	0	0	0	14	35
<p>62. [Course Environment] Access to Assistance: Was there sufficient access to assistance (through office hours, online forums, in-class or section questions and/or activities, special accommodations met, etc.)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Almost no access and/or help was ineffective 2. Limited access or value 3. Acceptable access and help 4. Good access with quality help 5. Abundantly available high quality help 	4.35	49	0	0	7	18	24
<p>63. [Course Environment] Academic Integrity: Was the code of academic integrity maintained in the class (e.g. with respect to cheating, copying, plagiarism, use of unauthorized sources, etc.)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Blatant disregard for Academic Integrity 2. No, violations clearly occurred that were not addressed 3. Not strongly, violations could well have occurred (even if I am not aware of any) 4. Yes, instructor took reasonable steps to maintain academic integrity 5. Yes, academic integrity was clearly and intentionally maintained 	4.58	48	0	0	2	16	30

<p>81. [Interaction] To what extent did the instructor(s) provide opportunities to interact with other students in the course?</p> <p>1. The instructor explicitly prohibited working with other students. 2. The instructor allowed discussion of work with other students but did not facilitate it, submitted work was individual effort only. 3. The instructor encouraged interaction with other students and provided opportunities for this. 4. The instructor required interaction with other students or required groupwork for some of the work in the course. 5. Groupwork and/or interaction with other students was a very significant element of the course.</p>	3.65	48	0	10	8	19	11
<p>91. [Comparison to Other Courses] Instructor: Rate the overall teaching effectiveness of your lecturer compared to others at Cornell. 1 = Worse than average 5 = Much better than average</p>	4.69	49	0	0	2	11	36
<p>92. [Comparison to Other Courses] Course: Overall, how does this course compare with other comparable (technical or non-technical, as appropriate) courses you've taken at Cornell? 1 = Poorly, not educational 5 = Excellently, extremely educational</p>	4.59	49	0	1	3	11	34

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Comments On Course Content

1046: Very easy to follow and understand the intuition behind each section

1686: I guess it's still hard for me to tell how I could use Game Theory to solve problems in the real world rather than how I could use it to think about games and rationality. The instructor more-or-less admitted this, which was reassuring.

2931: Course content was well-paced and never felt rushed.

3513: I liked how we were taught many topics with mostly just examples, rather than just learning concepts, theorems or proofs.

3645: The course is very well structured.

4933: Franz is a great teacher, one of my favorites at Cornell

4938: Helpful examples used throughout course and well presented in lecture

5439: Loved it, amazing course, best professor

6264: Awesome course content, definitely changed the way that I think about the world and why people behave the way that they do.

6514: The course was very well organized around the textbook. The only part of the material I didn't like were some of the recitations, which sometimes seemed irrelevant to the course material in the homeworks and tests.

6907: the work for this class was honestly fun to complete

7338: I really enjoyed the few "real life" examples of Game Theory. However, I understand the theoretical nature of the content and that such examples can be hard to come by.

7945: Course content was interesting! It was cool to see more math-heavy explanations of some phenomenon in nature, even if the models are somewhat inconsistent with how people act in real life.

10356: Course content was very well organized and incorporated many relevant and interesting examples.

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Comments on Course Delivery

1046: Always great at holding my attention with a great balance between presenting material and working through examples.

1686: Extremely clear lectures. Emphasized which parts of games and their equilibria were weird and why. Connected different aspects of course.

2931: Sometimes was boring, but Frans is a very nice, funny lecturer who helped keep things entertaining when content got a bit dense.

3513: Really enjoyed how Professor Schalekamp wrote the lecture notes while we attended lecture (vs. reading and teaching pre-made lectures). This really helped me follow along and stay focused.

3645: Frans is one of the best professors I have had during my college years. His delivery is very clear and structured, and he is very interactive with students during lectures as well.

4938: Frans is a great lecturer and very engaging

5439: Amazing

6071: Frans is the best professor I have had at Cornell. His lectures are very engaging and enjoyable. Frans goes at a pace that is understandable for everyone and genuinely cares that everyone is learning.

6514: Great lectures, engaging more students would have been nice to see, but it's also nice that Frans is very laid back and kind.

6907: frans is still the best lecturer i've ever had at cornell and will be dearly missed when i graduate!

7338: Professor Schalekamp is one of the most empathetic, knowledgable, and highly skilled professors that I've had at Cornell. Having taken three classes from him, I enjoy his teaching style and finds he takes a genuine care in ensuring his students are learning and doing well outside of the classroom.

7945: Course was taught well! Constantly writing notes on the tablet instead of reading off lecture slides helped understanding. The five-minute break also helped with attention span in the middle of lecture.

10356: Frans is one of the best lecturers I've had at Cornell and kept me engaged in the class even with the remote setting. He did a great job explaining the more difficult concepts and I appreciated the sense of humor he brought to his lectures!

12458: The professor's notes are very clear, and concepts are always explained using clear examples.

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Comments on the recitation or discussion section

2931: Recitation was reasonable and has many opportunities to ask questions.

3645: Wednesday afternoon discussion: Evgenii did a great job as a TA. He explains the questions very clearly and always challenges us intellectually.

4351: Overall, the Discord was a pretty good system for meeting and breaking into groups. However, it was difficult sometimes to get help during the recitation, as usually the TA would be going over answers with teams that finished. I would have appreciated some set of solutions/guidelines as well, as we weren't always sure that our approaches were correct/

4933: Very Relevant to course material which was helpful for reinforcing topics

4938: Some discussions had content that didn't seem very useful to learning the course

5439: Felt really difficult and was poorly organized, especially checking

6264: I liked the recitations, I thought they did a great job of reinforcing important concepts and providing additional practice.

6514: Recitations weren't that helpful; the material didn't always match what we were learning and the TA didn't seem to know the material well enough to give critical feedback.

6907: evgenii ran discussions perfectly and was very helpful but they were definitely very long

7167: Independently from instructords, but did a good job providing resources to work in groups.

7555: I think the virtual format of this wasn't great. No reason it needs to be synchronous. No reason people shouldn't just hand stuff in. Maybe don't even include this as part of the grade.

Either that or get 1 or 2 more TA's that can be more present during recitation!

7945: It was a good collaborative activity to be able to interact with other students in the course and work through problems together!

9976: It was sometimes hard to feel included or heard in discussion, which made me more unsure about my learning.

10017: I always had problems using Discord. My teammates and I usually encountered technical issues when using this site.

Also, maybe it's more effective if we need to submit an actual copy of the solution (a brief sketch might be enough) rather than just talk through our ideas to the TA.

10356: Evgenii was a great TA and was very patient in providing help throughout the semester

11541: Wed 3:00 pm with Evgenii. The only thing I wish is that the answers to the discussion section were posted somewhere after both sections. Because it wasn't, it made it very hard to interact with the discussion material after the physical discussion.

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[Workload] How many hours per week on average did you spend doing work associated with this course outside of scheduled class time?

606: 8

728: 2

777: 6-8

919: 7

1046: 6

1090: 7

1686: 2

2407: 5

2616: 6

2931: 6

3213: 4-6

3239: 10

3494: 5

3513: 4

3645: 4

4351: 6

4812: 5

4933: 7

4938: 4

6071: 3

6264: 3

6514: 5

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6907: 13

7945: 5

9710: 4

9976: 6-7 hours.

10356: 2-3

11236: 5

11541: 8

11723: 4-5

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Comments on workload, resources, assignments, and assessments

1046: Perfect amount of workload. Home works were very valuable and very easy to see that the professor valued our time as much as his. Never a pointless question.

1686: Frans was very understanding. The course was less time-intensive but quite engaging.

2931: Workload was a perfect balance between challenging and fair. I would not have changed anything about the workload or the choices Frans in regards to assignments/exams.

3513: Fair assignments in length and difficulty

4938: Worload was fair, assignments took a fair amount of time in general and were valuable, but there were a small number of problems out of all the assignments that were kind of tedious and felt that they took longer for no reason

5439: Really liked difficulty of homework and tests. Super fair and reasonable, good 24 hour format. Loved

6514: Good overall!

6907: the grading policy in this class is the most reasonable and gracious one ive ever experienced

7338: Homework was very worth my time. I always felt I learned when I did it.

7945: Workload was definitely manageable! Was definitely one of the more reasonable of my courses this semester. Homework problems were directly relevant to the lecture and tied in the material well and reinforced understanding.

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Comments on Environment-Diversity

3645: Frans is very approachable and encouraging.

5439: Frans is soooo nice

11541: This is the first professor I have ever had that ACTIVELY was inclusive. He apologized for putting a book on the syllabus because one of the authors was convicted of sexual related misconduct. He affirmed survivors and would openly call out inequities in the system, and not give lip-serving platitudes on the issues that affected students. Wonderful.

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Comments on Environment-Assistance

1046: Your office hours are always helpful and being able to schedule personal meetings with you is a true phenomena. I can't explain how thankful I am for your taking the time to truly help us learn.

3645: Frans's office hours

7945: Help was great! Piazza questions were generally answered promptly, and the TAs were very helpful during office hours for understanding the course material / homeworks.

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Comments on TA

3645: Evgenii single-handedly taught both of the discussions and did such a great job. I really appreciate his help throughout this semester.

4812: Evgenii Nishkin was a wonderful TA whose office hours were extremely helpful in learning the material.

7338: Evgenii Nikishin has been a wonderful TA to have lead my recitations. He is supportive and a great teacher. He takes a student's lack of understanding as an opportunity to help them understand the material and does a great job doing so! His recitation greatly helped me during my time in the course.

12458: Evgenii-he knows the course contents very well and always helpful during recitations and office hours

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Comments on Strengths

2931: The lectures were easy to understand and the textbook was a great resource. The structure of the class made it so every topic built on the one before, so I rarely felt out of my depth in terms of content. Also, Frans made this class enjoyable even in a semester where it was sometimes difficult to be engaged or motivated.

3645: The professor is a great lecturer and is very approachable. He also went on a reasonable pace when delivering materials.

4351: Recorded lectures were very useful for revisiting confusion concepts or interpreting lecture notes.

5439: All the assignments and lectures were really good, followed the book really well for easy reference

6514: Great pacing and organization of lectures. Also having access to a textbook that mirrored the course material was extremely helpful.

6907: learning about concepts in lecture, trying them out for homework, and reinforcing them in discussion

7338: Lectures, recitations, and homework were very helpful in learning, practicing, and cementing material. I even found the prelims to be helpful in my learning. I always appreciate Professor Schalekamp's 5-minute breaks in class. More teachers should do that. I have never had a teacher always assume a female decision-maker in definitions and problems and that has also been a huge difference-maker in my Cornell Engineering experience.

7945: Having the lecture notes being written in real-time really helped reinforce my understanding of the material and reinforce it better.

8361: Professor was very cognizant of difficulties that came with this semester, and tried to make the course focused on learning rather than stress and grades. I very much appreciated this. Material was interesting, workload was manageable, overall a great class.

9976: While I didn't like how groups were formed on discord, I do think the platform helped simulate real life discussion sections.

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Comments on Weaknesses

1686: Maybe a few real world examples of where Game Theory was actually used to approach a problem---be it from Frans' experience or others. I'm somewhat compelled by these things when learning about new fields.

2931: Nothing! Thanks Frans, you're the best!!

3645: Nothing to improve. This class is perfect.

4351: Perhaps a typed list of important concepts for each lecture to augment the handwritten notes would help, as the handwritten notes are sometimes difficult to navigate after the lecture.

5439: Nothing I loved this class it was great

6514: Recitations that were more relevant to the other coursework.

7945: Having a lecture in person would be nice for engagement / learning, but in a COVID reality that is not possible. I think the course staff did the best they could given the circumstances.

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If relevant, please comment on any especially effective use of technology in this course and/or any use of technology that was problematic, ineffective or hindered learning.

6514: Nice use of a tablet for lecture notes!

6907: discord was a cool idea and it honestly worked very well
