

CHICO STATE
ENGINEERING



February 4, 2019

Dear Personnel Committee,

Below is my observation of Professor Kevin Taylor during the Spring 2019 semester in CAGD 117 Concept Design and Storyboarding on February 4 at 10:00 AM. My overall impression is that Professor Taylor is knowledgeable, professional, and engaging.

Class Session Description

Professor Taylor teaches two, 2-hour sections of CAGD 117 back-to-back. The 10:00 AM section filed in as the previous section's students left and stragglers asked questions of Professor Taylor. The classroom is a large computer lab, with a computer and drawing tablet at each station. Nearly all of the 40 enrolled students were present, and there were enough computer stations to accommodate each student. The instructor's computer screen was projected onto three different walls.

The topic for the class period was the psychology of color. Professor Taylor began with logistics-related remarks, reminding students to mark themselves as present for attendance, encouraging students to ask questions during class, and to take advantage of his office hours. Professor Taylor then drew students' attention to Assignment 3: Light and Colour in Blackboard Learn. This assignment would be the deliverable to be completed based on the day's lesson.

Professor Taylor walked through a Powerpoint presentation during the first hour titled "Week 3: Psychology of Colour". The introductory slides focused on the use of color for discernment and conveying emotion. Professor Taylor frequently paused to ask students for examples of their own. The students were at ease with Professor Taylor and were both responsive to Professor Taylor's questions as well as asking several questions of their own.

In the second hour of the class Professor Taylor had students log onto their computers and launch Photoshop. Students selected color swatches and applied them to a line art graphic as Professor Taylor walked through the process on his computer.

Summary

Professor Taylor is skilled at managing the classroom. Not only did he present the lesson, but he was also careful to explain the instructional motivation behind the material. He also made clear his expectations for the assignment by reviewing the grading rubric for the assignment. Professor Taylor encouraged students to take notes and also invited them to take pictures of the slides as he was presenting them. His determined pace ensured that students kept up on their computer while he continually introduced new material. His relaxed but professional demeanor had students at ease and willing to contribute to the class discussion.

Professor Taylor is well-versed in the content area, and his approach provides students with both a pleasant and productive learning experience. Overall, I rate Professor Taylor's class presentation very highly.

Sincerely,

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