

BIO 457 (001): Ichthyology

Qualitative

<p>68 Students Enrolled 30 Students Responded 44.12% Response Rate</p>

Responses

Comments -

- I absolutely loved Dr. McLean. I found his appreciation for the subject and ability to bring hands on experiences to the course made it wonderful. I have never loved coming to an 8 am course as much as this one. Dr. McLean seemed to truly care that all students not only come away from the semester with a firm understanding of ichthyology, but also with an idea of how this information and skills can transfer into the workplace. I have not had many teachers at UNCW who cared as much about helping students find their way, or caring that the course was fun and entertaining as well as informational. I think the exams were well designed and well represented the information given to us, and the two class assignments were fun to work on and I enjoyed the variety of skills we were able to express through them.
- Written assignments took a very long time to be returned and graded. Assignment 1 (a written paper assignment) was due March 2. It is currently April 19, and we have not received a grade for said assignment. Furthermore, the only other grades in the course are exams, so I don't believe it's fair for other assignments to not be factored in until a later date. Also, the professor takes a lot of student consideration into account when making assignments and exams. However, it seems as though students are taking advantage by saying the exams are "too hard" and such. I appreciate how open the professor was to taking criticism and inputting students' comments, but it seemed a little too much. Also, the lectures were basically word for word from the PowerPoint slides, which did not help with attendance.
- One of the best classes and professors I've taken. He took the time to get us professionals in the field to speak with us and really helped increase all of our enthusiasm in this subject. You could see his passion in this subject and made it a fun class. I highly recommend.
- Dr. McLean is an excellent teacher who tries to help his students in the classroom and outside. He also provides opportunities to talk to people that are already in the field to help us better understand how to go from school to the working field.
- Really enjoyed having you as a professor and the course itself. I liked doing fish of the day and fishy questions kept our interest in the material. The class structure is nice and the tests were fair variety of types of questions. Assignments were not too difficult and allowed us to choose a topic we wanted, which I think helps when researching and writing about. It was very helpful that you had guest speakers throughout the class to explain what they do and answer our questions. That particularly helped me choose what internships and jobs applied to and big thank you for talking to me about your experience...fisheries observer here I come! I also really appreciated that you made an effort to meet your student's needs and took the time to talk to them if needed. I had a great semester taking your class, keep up the good work! :)

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- You are so great at listening and responding to feedback, I appreciate it so much and it makes me feel heard as a student. I love the guest lectures and your exam style is very digestible making me stress less.
- I liked how there were assignments that had the same value as a test. I like the questions in the power points, because it made us have the chance to be more involved in the lecture. The fish of the day and the fishy questions were great! The amount of information on the slides were great to study off of and gave me a break from writing constantly like some other classes. I loved the course and it was very interesting!
- Dr. McLean was great, he took the time to make sure everyone understood the material and made the exams very straightforward. He provided opportunities to bring up your grade and he brought in guest speakers to explain future grad opportunities and how to get started. He is a great instructor that really cares about the success of his students! I enjoyed his class very much!
- Such an awesome class! I really enjoyed it! I loved the different applications of the material such as the graded assignments. The guest speakers were really great too! Not many classes prepare you as much for going into job searches or grad school so it was much appreciated! SO many awesome people doing awesome things! Thanks for the great semester! You were the best!
- I would recommend using Kahoot or Menti for polls or mini quizzes. Other than that I really enjoyed this class!
- I really enjoyed the class, I think Dr. McLean was a great professor. His lectures were interesting, I learned a lot because the lectures were engaging. Overall I liked this class a lot.
- Liked having guest speakers talk about their journey in their career
- Dr. McLean is an amazing professor. It was his first year here at UNCW and I enjoyed his class very much and was able to learn a lot. He was very interacting with the students by having games to keep us engaged with in the class as it was an 8am class. He brought in guest speakers to help us learn from an outside perspective and ask questions about their jobs and school career. Made sure we were understanding the material by having in class quizzes, conceptual thinking, fish of the day, etc. I learned a lot from his class and was able to get a big understanding on the jobs that is available for me when I graduate in December. I have recommended this class with Dr. McLean to my friends who want to take Ichthyology in the fall 2023 and I have told them it was worth waking up early to attend his class.
- This was such a good class and Dr. McLean was awesome! I really appreciate that he took the time for students and really cared that we were learning things that we were interested in and would help our future. This course was a perfect balance between remaining challenging/stimulating but not being so

Responses

overwhelming in work that it took away all the fun. The tests were fair and the lectures were fun. Dr. McLean made them thorough and engaging so I feel like I learned a lot just by going to lecture. I also appreciated that the slides were all inclusive of test material. I didn't take notes, which made me pay more attention to the discussions. It took the pressure off of having to write everything out and just allowed me to listen, which I really enjoyed and benefitted from. I know some people need to take notes so they pay attention, but I really liked not having to take them. The guest speakers were great, too. Even though they were not test related, I feel like we don't really get career advice and tips in our classes, so that was super helpful. I hope he keeps those up. Other than that, I just want to say that Dr. McLean was one of my favorite professors and it meant a lot that he gave us so much time and effort. It was clear he remembered the struggles of being a student and did everything he could for us, and that doesn't happen often, so I think we all are grateful for that!

- Doctor McLean has been one of my favorite teachers. He is great at explaining the course content and makes it really engaging with examples and videos to provide visuals. He is really attuned to the student perspective as well so he was always willing to take student feedback to adjust the course if needed (although I don't think he has to). He is a professor that really cares about the students. I never imagined thinking Ichthyology would be my favorite course but it really was (even at 8 am)! Professor McLean is an awesome addition to UNCW.
- This class and professor were my absolute favorite ever. I wanted to take this course regardless of who taught it but by the end I wouldn't have taken it if Dr. McLean wasn't teaching it. He made this course extremely fun and I enjoyed all the fun facts I learned along with the fish of the day which was so fun and amazing. The assignments were engaging and actually really fun to do. Dr. McLean was not only an amazing professor for the course work but he made time out of his teaching schedule to give advice for how to get into grad school and find a job which was so incredibly helpful and without him helping with that, I would have zero clue how to move forward with my life after I graduate. I have recommended this course with Dr. McLean as the professor to many of my friends in the same major. The only thing I did not like was that the class was at 8am but other than that it was the most enjoyable course I have ever taken.
- I enjoyed Dr. McLean's course. I thought the tests were fair and papers were fun ways to learn more about course content. If there was one thing I wish there was more of, it's in class activities. Or other ways to earn points. Otherwise, it was a fun and informative class.
- One of the best teachers I have ever had! Taught material in a clear and concise manner, clear expectations, and always open to classes! Very thoughtful about students. Wish he had started sooner so I

Responses

could take more of his classes. Learned more from his class (both content wise and advice wise) than majority of other classes I have taken so far.

- For a first-semester professor, he did amazing. I was genuinely excited to go to class. He kept the class engaged with the material and provided a lot of knowledge on post-graduate and out side of the classroom opportunities.
 - Dr. McLean is a great professor. His incorporation of interviews with biologists currently working in the work force and how they got there was one of the most helpful things I have learned in a lecture class. He wants his students to succeed in class and in the real world.
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