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Subject: Final 121 communication
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To: phys-121-06-2184@calpoly.edu



Hi everyone,

I hope you are all now well engaged into a positive summer endeavor. I've finished reading your surveys and student evaluations, which I've posted in entirety on our [class website](#). I've made the change over to WordPress, so the website is different, but has the same content. I state here a short summary of what I've learned from your statements, and the class in general.

21 of the 40 students in the class submitted [evaluations](#). My numerical "grade" from your Cal Poly evaluations was 3.9/5, while the physics department averaged 4.24/5 for all students this quarter. The [SurveyMonkey results](#) indicated that on average, students enjoyed the class more than they thought they would, and [many comments](#) were positive and informative.

The comments spanned the full range of human emotions. While I'm glad for students that found this experience rewarding, I will keep in mind the criticism that I can be sensitive to the student experience and serve future classes better. When students dislike teaching practices that are clearly different from the status quo, they often feel cheated. Thus I will continue to send future classes an Email ahead of time letting them know that this class is different and giving them access to comprehensive student evaluations, like [this Email I sent your class](#) March 5, four weeks before the first day of class. I will also send the message again a week before class in case some students add the class later.

Many students expressed being overwhelmed by the homework load. Thus, when we use these questions as class exercises, I'll make clear that each exercise is a problem on the problem set that each of us should finish putting the problem all together.

Following one recommendation, next quarter I will choose the members for each group for project #1.

Thanks for your communications and for what you've taught me this quarter. Please contact me in the future for any reason.

Sincerely
Pete

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