

Class Observation Comment Form

Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)

Course Title & Catalog Number: BUSN

Instructor: Polina Landgraf

Date: 4/8/2019

Observer: Wayne Trembly

Class Location: BUSN 127

Number of Students Enrolled: Number of Students Present:

	Comments -- Please provide additional comments on the next page
Was Well Prepared For Class	The instructor was very well prepared.
Was Knowledgeable About the Subject Matter	The instructor knew the material very well.
Was Enthusiastic About the Subject Matter	The instructor showed enthusiasm throughout.
Spoke Clearly, Audibly, and Confidently	The instructor was easy to understand. No issues.
Used a Variety of Relevant Illustrations/Examples	The instructor used PowerPoint very well to illustrate the material being taught.
Made effective use of visual aids (board, technology, etc.)	See previous response.
Asked Stimulating and Challenging Questions	The instructor made excellent use of questioning techniques throughout the lesson.
Effectively Held Class's Attention	Nearly all students were clearly attentive throughout.
Achieved Active Student Involvement	MANY students replied to the instructor's questions.
Treated Students With Respect	Definitely!

1. Did any special circumstances (for example, poor acoustics, room size, temperature) interfere with teaching and learning during this observation? Explain. No special circumstances.
2. Describe the methods of instruction: The instructor used Powerpoint. She covered the material by use of question and answer. Rather than lecturing she asked questions throughout the lesson. Students answered the questions and she let them know whether their answers were correct, which they usually were. In many cases several students answered the question.
3. Describe the use of class time. Provide the time used for different classroom activities if possible. See #2. The instructor began by introducing herself (This was a guest lecture) and then gave an overview. She used PowerPoint and Q and A throughout and then summarized the important points of the lesson at the end.
4. How clear and well-organized was the class session? The lesson was very clear and very well organized.

5. Describe the form and extent of student participation: There was an exceptional amount of student participation. I was very impressed by the amount and quality of participation.

6. What worked well in this class?

The entire presentation.

Use of Q and A was very effective. The instructor elicited almost all of the information via use of this method, asking approximately 50 questions. Students were able to provide responses to nearly all of the questions. When they were not able to provide answers the instructor rephrased the question and in almost every case, students then answered. When they were not able to answer she explained the material.

The instructor was open, friendly, pleasant, helpful, willing to provide help as needed, affirming of correct answers.

The instructor effectively used the concept of "wait time," which simply means that she waited quietly while students thought about their responses, rather than quickly providing the answers. This technique maximizes student participation; the research shows that when students actively participate they learn more and the learning is deeper and more meaningful.

7. What could have been improved?

As is the case with most instructors this instructor stayed at the front of the room. Moving closer to students, even going up and down the aisles, is an effective way to keep students even more focused on the lesson. While the students in this class were very engaged, moving around the room would have made them even more so. Proximity increases attentiveness and attentiveness increases learning.

At one point the instructor surveyed the class on a particular question. She asked for hands up for all except the last option. She then assumed that all who had not yet raised hands favored the final choice. This may or may not be the case. I would not assume that it was the case. It is quite possible that some, perhaps even many students simply chose not to "vote."

8. Any additional comments?

This lesson was extremely effective. It was a pleasure to watch! I must compliment the regular instructor of this class. Clearly, s/he created a classroom atmosphere in which students were expected to participate. This is not easily accomplished but it was very much in evidence here.