

# Virginia Tech

## Spring 2023 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

**Course:** ME5824: ME 5824: Human-Robot Interaction-ME\_5824\_17575\_202301  
**Instructor:** Dylan Patrick Losey \*  
**Response Rate:** 14/16 (87.50%)

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1A - The instructor was well prepared.

Dylan Patrick Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means								
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%										
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%										
Agree	(5)	0	0.00%										
Strongly agree	(6)	14	100.00%										
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department		
<b>Response Rate</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>		
14/16 (87.50%)	6.00	0.00	6.00	20791	5.27	1.05	6.00	2044	5.12	1.15	5.00		

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1B - The instructor presented the subject matter clearly.

Dylan Patrick Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means								
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%										
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%										
Agree	(5)	2	14.29%										
Strongly agree	(6)	12	85.71%										
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department		
<b>Response Rate</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>		
14/16 (87.50%)	5.86	0.36	6.00	20640	5.07	1.21	5.00	2029	4.91	1.31	5.00		

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1C - The instructor provided feedback intended to improve my course performance.

Dylan Patrick Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means								
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%										
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%										
Agree	(5)	5	35.71%										
Strongly agree	(6)	9	64.29%										
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department		
<b>Response Rate</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>		
14/16 (87.50%)	5.64	0.50	6.00	20641	5.04	1.24	5.00	2033	4.84	1.33	5.00		

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**Response Rate:** 14/16 (87.50 %)

**1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:**

**1D - The instructor fostered an atmosphere of mutual respect.**

Dylan Patrick Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means								
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		6.00	5.36	5.20	Question	College	Department	STD	Median	
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%										
Agree	(5)	0	0.00%										
Strongly agree	(6)	14	100.00%										
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department	STD	Median
<b>Response Rate</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>		
14/16 (87.50%)	6.00	0.00	6.00	20631	5.36	1.02	6.00	2032	5.20	1.13	6.00		

**1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:**

**1E - Overall, the instructor's teaching was effective.**

Dylan Patrick Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means								
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.77	5.06	4.90	Question	College	Department	STD	Median	
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	7.69%										
Agree	(5)	1	7.69%										
Strongly agree	(6)	11	84.62%										
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department	STD	Median
<b>Response Rate</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>		
13/16 (81.25%)	5.77	0.60	6.00	20542	5.06	1.25	5.00	2024	4.90	1.34	5.00		

**2 - 2A - What did the instructor do that most helped in your learning?**

Dylan Patrick Losey

**Response Rate** 9/16 (56.25%)

- For every topic he covered, he showed us many real-life examples (research or industry), where those concepts were used.
- The powerpoints in class as well as the in-class examples were very helpful in applying the concepts.
- Gave excellent, informative lectures
- He gave concrete coding examples on how to implement the algorithms discussed in the class. He was also a fun teacher with a sense of honor.
- He was very approachable and he clearly understood and enjoyed his content which made it interesting to show up to class everyday.
- Lectures were very well-designed and very informational. Office hours were also very good -- if you show up and ask questions, Dr. Losey will lead you on the right path.
- Dr. Losey gave lectures about the state-of-the-art topics in HRI using concrete and understandable examples (practice sets), homework, and discussions. The pace of the class was just right. Every homework was thought provoking and interesting to solve. The class was really helpful, definitely innovative, and one of a kind.
- The professor's slides were well constructed and clearly explained the subject matter. In addition, multiple papers and the solutions to assignments were very valuable to the overall understanding of the topics discussed in class.
- The materials were well taught but hard.

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**Response Rate:** 14/16 (87.50 %)

3 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:												
3A - I have a deeper understanding of the subject matter as a result of this course.												
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means							
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.43			5.14		5.05		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%									
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%									
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	14.29%									
Agree	(5)	4	28.57%									
Strongly agree	(6)	8	57.14%									
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department	
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	
14/16 (87.50%)	5.43	0.76	6.00	19646	5.14	1.09	5.00	2012	5.05	1.12	5.00	

3 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:												
3B - My interest in the subject matter was stimulated by this course.												
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means							
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.50			4.89		4.79		
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%									
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%									
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	7.14%									
Agree	(5)	5	35.71%									
Strongly agree	(6)	8	57.14%									
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department	
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	
14/16 (87.50%)	5.50	0.65	6.00	19561	4.89	1.32	5.00	2006	4.79	1.36	5.00	

4 - 4A - What could you have done to be a better learner?	
Response Rate	8/16 (50%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning python before take this course!</li> <li>• Attend office hours more often.</li> <li>• I could have practiced more outside of class and read ALL of the suggested readings provided</li> <li>• I could have read the weekly readings.</li> <li>• I didn't have a deep background in Python, so I probably should have learned more outside of class.</li> <li>• Reading the papers that Dr. Losey provided as supplemental would have helped me to gain a deeper understanding of the topics.</li> <li>• I could have focused throughout the entirety of each lecture.</li> <li>• Get involved more</li> </ul>	

5 - 5A - Please add any additional comments regarding the course and/or instructor here:	
Dylan Patrick Losey	
Response Rate	7/16 (43.75%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I strongly suggest adding a prerequisite Python course for this course! For those who didn't have any experience with Python, this course is very hard. Spending almost 15 hours on each homework and still struggling. At the same time, my friends who have cs minor or cs major were spending about 1-2hr fly through every homework.</li> <li>• Its a really good course. Anybody looking to a career in robotics should definitely take it.</li> <li>• My one gripe was the 1 hour of office hours a week. Many topics I was in need of help and I couldn't make that 1-hr time slot most weeks. I did utilize the discussion posts a couple times as well as after class questions, but the more 1 on 1 of office hours definitely was better in most options.</li> <li>• A great teacher who truly cares about his students. His class was difficult but fun at the same time. My only recommendation for the next class would be to re-consider the competition homework which was provided. Some students may come from a machine learning background (from ECE or CS) and thus have a lot more out-of-class knowledge on how to really improve training time thus leaving the rest of the students at a disadvantage</li> <li>• Loved that you love your content</li> <li>• Thank you for developing an engaging course that clearly demonstrated your interest in topic and encouraged us to learn more about it. HRI is an interesting research area that your class helped me gain a better understanding of.</li> <li>• This professor's course content is difficult but I really appreciated how hard he tried to teach very difficult topics in a way that was easy to understand</li> </ul>	

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**Response Rate:** 14/16 (87.50 %)

### 6 - 6A - How would you rate the physical environment in which you took this class based upon your ability to see, hear, concentrate, and participate?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Very Bad	(1)	0	0.00%			4.71	5.18	5.12			
Bad	(2)	2	14.29%	█							
Poor	(3)	0	0.00%								
Fair	(4)	3	21.43%	█							
Good	(5)	4	28.57%	█							
Very Good	(6)	5	35.71%	█							
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department
<b>Response Rate</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>
14/16 (87.50%)	4.71	1.38	5.00	19486	5.18	0.96	5.00	2002	5.12	0.98	5.00

### 7 - 7A - Please add any comments about the physical environment here:

**Response Rate** 6/16 (37.5%)

- Randolph in general is a little rough and with poor lighting and flickering lights it was sometimes distracting.
- The room which the class was taught in was old. The lights would flicker on and off randomly and it was kind of distracting. It wasn't too bad but occasionally, the room setting would be annoying and distracting.
- There was that one funky light that would flicker on and off. It's also in Randolph and not one of the newer buildings so it's not as nice.
- The classroom itself had lights and projector that didn't always work
- I am glad that Randolph Hall is going away. Dr. Losey tried multiple times to have maintenance fix small lighting issues in the classroom. They were never fixed.
- I agree that this class could have been better taught at Goodwin.

### 8 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

I improved my ability to problem solve.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%			5.57	5.10	5.00			
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	7.14%	█							
Agree	(5)	4	28.57%	█							
Strongly agree	(6)	9	64.29%	█							
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department
<b>Response Rate</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>
14/16 (87.50%)	5.57	0.65	6.00	19584	5.10	1.05	5.00	2012	5.00	1.09	5.00

### 8 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

The textbook or course readings made a valuable contribution to my learning.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%			5.36	4.63	4.43			
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat agree	(4)	3	21.43%	█							
Agree	(5)	3	21.43%	█							
Strongly agree	(6)	8	57.14%	█							
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department
<b>Response Rate</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>STD</b>	<b>Median</b>
14/16 (87.50%)	5.36	0.84	6.00	19493	4.63	1.41	5.00	2003	4.43	1.47	5.00

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 Response Rate: 14/16 (87.50 %)

8 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

The objectives of the course were clearly explained.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.57	5.11	4.93				
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	7.14%								
Agree	(5)	4	28.57%								
Strongly agree	(6)	9	64.29%								
					Question	College	Department				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/16 (87.50%)	5.57	0.65	6.00	19525	5.11	1.12	5.00	2005	4.93	1.21	5.00

8 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

The out-of-class assignments were educationally valuable.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.43	5.06	4.94				
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	14.29%								
Agree	(5)	4	28.57%								
Strongly agree	(6)	8	57.14%								
					Question	College	Department				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/16 (87.50%)	5.43	0.76	6.00	19408	5.06	1.16	5.00	1998	4.94	1.20	5.00

9 - The instructor related theories and concepts to practical issues.

Dylan Patrick Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.79	5.30	5.16				
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%								
Agree	(5)	3	21.43%								
Strongly agree	(6)	11	78.57%								
					Question	College	Department				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
14/16 (87.50%)	5.79	0.43	6.00	20433	5.30	1.00	6.00	2015	5.16	1.12	5.00