

# Virginia Tech

## Fall 2025 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

**Course:** ECE\_5704\_84052\_202509: Robotics and Automation-ECE\_5704\_84052\_202509  
**Instructor:** Dylan Patrick Losey \*  
**Response Rate:** 5/6 (83.33 %)

**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)	5	100.00%										
					0	25	50	100	Question	College		Department		
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		6.00	0.00	6.00	23996		5.34	0.97	6.00	2975		5.21	1.10	6.00

**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)	0	0.00%													
Strongly agree			(6)	5	100.00%													
							0	25	50	100	Question		College		Department			
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median				
5/6 (83.33%)		6.00	0.00	6.00	23792		5.17	1.13	6.00	2938		4.96	1.27	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)	1	20.00%										
Strongly agree		(6)	4	80.00%										
					0	25	50	100	Question	College		Department		
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		5.80	0.45	6.00	23781		5.11	1.17	5.00	2941		4.87	1.31	5.00

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**Response Rate:** 5/6 (83.33 %)

**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%										
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)	5	100.00%										
					02550100	Question		College		Department				
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		6.00	0.00	6.00	23758		5.41	0.96	6.00	2936		5.31	1.03	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%								
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)	5	100.00%								
					0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department	
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		6.00	0.00	6.00	23624	5.14	1.17	6.00	2935	4.93	1.31	5.00

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

**Dylan Patrick Losey**

**Response Rate** 4/6 (66.67%)

- He took his time going through the lectures. Stopped to ask if people have questions constantly. Held useful office hours. Took the time to answer my questions after class. Gave hands on examples that directly related to homework and exams. Very helpful overall.
- Great, very descriptive slides. Problem set examples in class were practical and gave all necessary tools for the homework. Always open after class for questions, which was extremely helpful.
- Great examples, available after class & during office hours, lots of practice for both theory and applied problems.
- The slides and lectures were extremely well organized. It made learning the material super approachable.

**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%										
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)	5	100.00%										
					02550100	Question		College		Department				
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		6.00	0.00	6.00	21970		5.23	1.02	5.00	2893		5.10	1.07	5.00


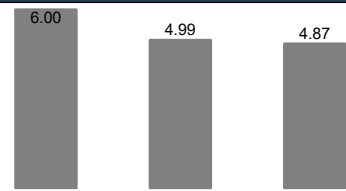

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**Response Rate:** 5/6 (83.33 %)

### 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%											
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)	5	100.00%											
					0	25	50	100	Question		College		Department		
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median	
5/6 (83.33%)		6.00	0.00	6.00	21988		4.99	1.25	5.00	2888		4.87	1.32	5.00	

### 4 - 4A - What could you have done to be a better learner?

**Response Rate** 4/6 (66.67%)

- I could have read the textbook based on the related reading sections.
- Attend more office hours early on in the class. Work more closely with others in class on homeworks.
- Read control book more.
- I could have read more of the textbook.

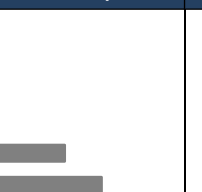
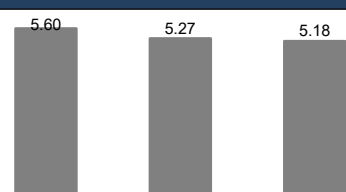
### 5 - 5A - Please add any additional comments regarding the course and/or instructor here:

**Dylan Patrick Losey**

**Response Rate** 2/6 (33.33%)

- One of the best professors I've had. Breaks down robotics topics into simple, digestible chunks that feels like I could have understood even if I were a freshman in high school. I do think the second half of the course is slightly rushed, and feel a bit like inverse kinematics & maybe even statics could be pushed in before the midterm to give more time for dynamics & control. I also think moving away from matlab would be good, to something like python, where we can use a library like Drake would be interesting.
- Dr. Losey is one of the best professors I've had at VT. He's well-organized, fair, and approachable. I think the only thing that could have made the course better would be to add another session of office hours mid-week, or an extra recitation pre-exams.

### 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%									
Bad				(2)	0	0.00%									
Poor				(3)	0	0.00%									
Fair				(4)	0	0.00%									
Good				(5)	2	40.00%									
Very Good				(6)	3	60.00%									
								0	25	50	100	Question	College	Department	
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median		
5/6 (83.33%)		5.60	0.55	6.00	21636		5.27	0.90	5.00	2851	5.18	0.94	5.00		

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

**Response Rate** 2/6 (33.33%)

- Screen size was good. Room was right size for the amount of attendees.
- Very comfortable/ welcoming towards questions.

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**Response Rate:** 5/6 (83.33 %)



**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%								
Disagree		(2)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat disagree		(3)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat agree		(4)	0	0.00%								
Agree		(5)	2	40.00%								
Strongly agree		(6)	3	60.00%								
					02550100	Question	College	Department				
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		5.60	0.55	6.00	22018	5.15	0.99	5.00	2891	5.09	0.98	5.00

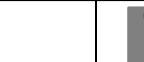
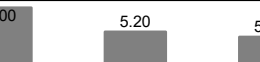
**8 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:**

**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%										
Disagree		(2)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat disagree		(3)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat agree		(4)	1	20.00%										
Agree		(5)	1	20.00%										
Strongly agree		(6)	3	60.00%										
					02550100	Question		College		Department				
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		5.40	0.89	6.00	21913		4.72	1.37	5.00	2879		4.58	1.39	5.00

**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%									
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)	5	100.00%									
						02550100	Question		College		Department			
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		6.00	0.00	6.00	21994		5.20	1.03	5.00	2891		5.03	1.12	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%								
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)	5	100.00%								
								0	25	50	100			
								Question		College		Department		
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		6.00	0.00	6.00	21816		5.11	1.13	5.00	2875		5.05	1.12	5.00

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**Response Rate:** 5/6 (83.33 %)

### 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%								
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)	4	100.00%								
					02550100	Question	College	Department				
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
4/6 (66.67%)		6.00	0.00	6.00	23345	5.33	0.94	6.00	2903	5.16	1.05	5.00

### 10 - Compared to other courses at this level, the difficulty of this course is:

Response Option		Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means								
much less than average		(1)	0	0.00%										
slightly less than average		(2)	0	0.00%										
average		(3)	1	20.00%										
slightly more than average		(4)	3	60.00%										
much more than average		(5)	1	20.00%										
I have not taken other courses at this level		(6)	0	0.00%										
					02550100	Question		College		Department				
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		4.00	0.71	4.00	2896		4.04	1.05	4.00	2896		4.04	1.05	4.00

### 11 - The grade I expect in this course is:

Response Option		Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
not applicable		(1)	0	0.00%								
pass		(2)	0	0.00%								
F		(3)	0	0.00%								
D		(4)	0	0.00%								
C		(5)	0	0.00%								
B		(6)	3	60.00%								
A		(7)	2	40.00%								
					02550100	Question	College	Department				
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		6.40	0.55	6.00	2876	6.18	1.05	6.00	2876	6.18	1.05	6.00

### 12 - Approximately how many hours per week outside of class do you spend on homework, reading, and projects for this course?

Response Option				Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means				
0-2				(1)	0	0.00%	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>	<div><div>3.00</div><div>2.91</div><div>2.91</div></div>				
3-5				(2)	2	40.00%						
6-9				(3)	1	20.00%						
10-14				(4)	2	40.00%						
15 or more				(5)	0	0.00%						
							02550100	Question	College	Department		
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		3.00	1.00	3.00	2896	2.91	0.96	3.00	2896	2.91	0.96	3.00

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**Response Rate:** 5/6 (83.33 %)

### 13 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:

#### •Classify types, features, and current applications of robotic systems

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.80	3.80
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%				
Good	(3)	1	20.00%				
Excellent	(4)	4	80.00%				
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%				
0 25 50 100					Question	College	Department
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)	3.80	0.45	4.00	5	3.80	0.45	4.00

### 13 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:

#### •Apply mechatronics design perspective on robotic systems

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.75	3.75
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%				
Good	(3)	1	20.00%				
Excellent	(4)	3	60.00%				
N/A	(0)	1	20.00%				
0 25 50 100					Question	College	Department
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)	3.75	0.50	4.00	5	3.75	0.50	4.00

### 13 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:

#### •Utilize spatial descriptions and homogeneous transformations to analyze forward and inverse kinematics

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.80	3.80
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%				
Good	(3)	1	20.00%				
Excellent	(4)	4	80.00%				
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%				
0 25 50 100					Question	College	Department
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)	3.80	0.45	4.00	5	3.80	0.45	4.00

### 13 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:

#### •Analyze velocity kinematics and force rendering

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.80	3.80
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%				
Good	(3)	1	20.00%				
Excellent	(4)	4	80.00%				
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%				
0 25 50 100					Question	College	Department
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)	3.80	0.45	4.00	5	3.80	0.45	4.00

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**Response Rate:** 5/6 (83.33 %)

### 13 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:

#### •Model the dynamics and controls of stationary and mobile robots

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.20	3.20
Fair	(2)	1	20.00%	■			
Good	(3)	2	40.00%	■			
Excellent	(4)	2	40.00%	■			
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%				
0 25 50 100					Question	College	Department
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)	3.20	0.84	3.00	5	3.20	0.84	3.00

### 13 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:

#### •Apply appropriate actuators, transmissions, sensors, and end effectors to robot design

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.50	3.50
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%				
Good	(3)	2	40.00%	■			
Excellent	(4)	2	40.00%	■			
N/A	(0)	1	20.00%	■			
0 25 50 100					Question	College	Department
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)	3.50	0.58	3.50	5	3.50	0.58	3.50

### 13 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:

#### •Develop forward and inverse kinematics algorithms for serial and mobile robots

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.40	3.40
Fair	(2)	1	20.00%	■			
Good	(3)	1	20.00%	■			
Excellent	(4)	3	60.00%	■			
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%				
0 25 50 100					Question	College	Department
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)	3.40	0.89	4.00	5	3.40	0.89	4.00

### 13 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:

#### •Compile trajectory planning and velocity kinematics algorithms for a serial robot

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means		
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.40	3.40
Fair	(2)	1	20.00%	■			
Good	(3)	1	20.00%	■			
Excellent	(4)	3	60.00%	■			
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%				
0 25 50 100					Question	College	Department
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)	3.40	0.89	4.00	5	3.40	0.89	4.00

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**Response Rate:** 5/6 (83.33 %)

### 13 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:

#### •Develop force rendering algorithms for a serial robot

Response Option			Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means							
Poor			(1)	0	0.00%									
Fair			(2)	1	20.00%									
Good			(3)	1	20.00%									
Excellent			(4)	3	60.00%									
N/A			(0)	0	0.00%									
						02550100	Question		College		Department			
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		3.40	0.89	4.00	5		3.40	0.89	4.00	5		3.40	0.89	4.00

### 13 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:

#### •Verify the effect various control parameters have on the performance of a serial robot

Response Option			Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means					
Poor			(1)	0	0.00%							
Fair			(2)	0	0.00%							
Good			(3)	3	60.00%							
Excellent			(4)	2	40.00%							
N/A			(0)	0	0.00%							
						02550100	Question	College	Department			
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		3.40	0.55	3.00	5	3.40	0.55	3.00	5	3.40	0.55	3.00

### 13 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:

#### •Develop haptic controllers to represent virtual objects through a serial robot

Response Option				Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means					
Poor				(1)	0	0.00%							
Fair				(2)	1	20.00%							
Good				(3)	1	20.00%							
Excellent				(4)	2	40.00%							
N/A				(0)	1	20.00%							
							02550100	Question	College	Department			
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		3.25	0.96	3.50	5		3.25	0.96	3.50	5	3.25	0.96	3.50

### 13 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:

#### •Compile and test various algorithms for a mobile robot, including mapping/localization, image processing and potential fields

Response Option			Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means							
Poor			(1)	0	0.00%									
Fair			(2)	1	20.00%									
Good			(3)	2	40.00%									
Excellent			(4)	1	20.00%									
N/A			(0)	1	20.00%									
						02550100	Question		College		Department			
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	College		Mean	STD	Median	Department		Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)		3.00	0.82	3.00	5		3.00	0.82	3.00	5		3.00	0.82	3.00