Virginia Tech
Fall 2025 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Course: ME_4524_87618_202509: Robotics & Automation-ME_4524_87618_202509

Instructor: Dylan Patrick Losey *

Response Rate: 60/69 (86.96 %)

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
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)	12	20.00%
Strongly agree	(6)	48	80.00%

Percent Responses: 0 25 50 100

Means: Question 5.80 | College 5.34 | Department 5.26

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
60/69 (86.96%)	5.80	0.40	6.00	23996	5.34	0.97	6.00	3215	5.26	1.03	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
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	1.67%
Agree	(5)	13	21.67%
Strongly agree	(6)	46	76.67%

Percent Responses: 0 25 50 100

Means: Question 5.75 | College 5.17 | Department 5.05

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
60/69 (86.96%)	5.75	0.47	6.00	23792	5.17	1.13	6.00	3195	5.05	1.20	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
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	1	1.67%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	3	5.00%
Somewhat agree	(4)	7	11.67%
Agree	(5)	18	30.00%
Strongly agree	(6)	31	51.67%

Percent Responses: 0 25 50 100

Means: Question 5.25 | College 5.11 | Department 4.92

Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
60/69 (86.96%)	5.25	0.97	6.00	23781	5.11	1.17	5.00	3196	4.92	1.26	5.00

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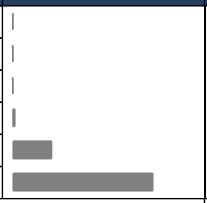
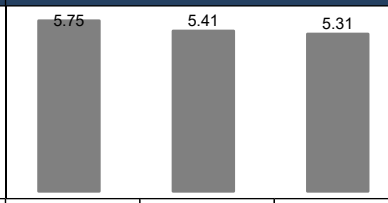
1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

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

Dylan Patrick Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	1.67%
Agree	(5)	13	21.67%
Strongly agree	(6)	46	76.67%





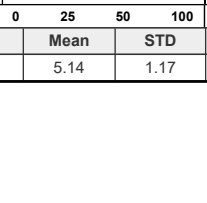
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
60/69 (86.96%)	5.75	0.47	6.00	23758	5.41	0.96	6.00	3195	5.31	1.04	6.00

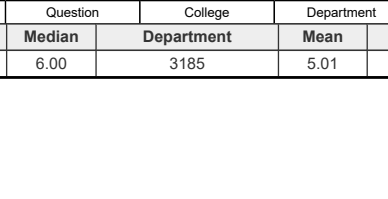
1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

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

Dylan Patrick Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	3.33%
Agree	(5)	15	25.00%
Strongly agree	(6)	43	71.67%





Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
60/69 (86.96%)	5.68	0.54	6.00	23624	5.14	1.17	6.00	3185	5.01	1.26	5.00

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2 - 2A - What did the instructor do that most helped in your learning?	
Dylan Patrick Losey	
Response Rate	52/69 (75.36%)

• Accessible and informative lecture content. Recorded lectures were helpful for review and catch up.

• Having videos on each of the lectures as well as fully solved practice problems helped a lot.

• His slides are very well put together. Honestly, they are better than the slides from any other professor I have taken at VT.

• The slides were very simple and weren't overcomplicated and I like how he organized the class content.

• Had well organized slides that were not overly complex and presented topics clearly. Had videos and practice problems accompanying each lecture.

• Uploading photos / videos to canvas that correspond to the lectures if a refresher is needed.

• -

• His Prelecture Videos

• Videos and practice problems with each lesson.

• I appreciate how clear his teachings were.

• HI lectures were very well thought out. The videos he presented at the beginning of each lecture helped in understanding the underlying concepts and the effect they have in practice.

• Losey is a fantastic instructor. He puts so much effort into every lecture and it shows. Not only does he make his slides in a simple, yet engaging way for students, he also uploads videos where he has the time to go into detail on the same material. During his office hours, his is also very helpful.

• I appreciated that every single lecture slide deck was available at the beginning of the semester, along with videos of the lecture itself. It really helped me out if I wanted to look ahead at material or if I didn't quite remember the context of a slide from a previous lecture.

• Professor Losey lays out his lectures in a logical fashion. Everything builds incrementally without any gaps. The lectures are typically given using language that is easily understood. Questions are almost always fully explained.

• went over lots of practice problems and posted slides / additional materials.

• a combination of lectures and videos

• Detailed slides and examples

• Very clear lecture slides

• Both wrote code and clearly answered any questions that were present. Additionally, presented the lectures clearly and had them online in order to recap or go over the material again.

• Worked out problems in class

• The slides and video recordings are so useful. Being able to go back and essentially not miss anything from a lecture is great when class is missed or when studying for an exam. The slides are laid out well and their progression makes them easy to follow.

• Did MATLAB code examples in class

• Having online material allowed for preparing for lecture before class and studying after class.

• The online resources really helped me better understand concepts

• He posted his lectures online making it easy to catch up and stay on task if I had to miss class.

• Included lecture notes on canvas so that I could review at my own pace, and knew I had all the necessary material

• I think the practice problems with each lecture were very helpful.

• I liked that he had in class example and that he would often ask for class participation.

• post the lecture slides but also add on when someone had a question

• His slides and canvas were very well organized also including practice videos and problems to help if ever caught behind during the live lecture it is easy to catch up with the extra resources given.

• The reviews before the homeworks were due were very helpful.

• I liked how Professor Losey provided the class with additional lecture videos and practice problems. I think it improved my understanding of the material by allowing me to do additional studying and prepare better for exams and assignments.

• The slides that were used for lectures are very informative and engaging.

• Dr. Losey's slides were exceptionally clear and concise, and video lectures were posed on the website in case we missed any classes, wanted to review past lectures, or wanted to work ahead and start early on future lectures. This made it very easy for me to catch up after being sick and reinforce concepts that I initially missed or had trouble with. Additionally, each lecture built nicely on topics from previous lectures, so the class flowed intuitively.

• Very detailed explanations on robotic movements in terms of mathematical equations. Immense help with the coding despite its complexity.

• Labs

• Answering any and pretty much all questions students had in class to the best of his abilities. I could tell he was trying to answer as best as possible for the students to understand.

• The problem sets in class helped a lot with my learning. The code examples also helped.

• Labs were helpful in understanding the concepts.

• Videos, the lecture videos are really good.

• Review Videos

• His explanations and in-class practice problems helped me a lot.

• The practice sets for each lecture were amazing. I'm glad that ample examples were provided for every single concept.

• Really appreciated his sense of humor. Efforts to engage with us go a long way. Even though the course was difficult, Dr. Losey is still very likeable as a professor. Glad he gave us feedback on the midterm as well as HW answers to study. Appreciate the sample problems too.

• videos

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- The numerous practice sets were very helpful in my learning.
- The practice problems, recorded lectures, clear expectations, and consistency of the lectures all made the content easier to learn.
- Getting the classed involved with in-class examples was great. Especially when he would let us try solutions that he knows won't work just so we can learn for ourselves
- As I found out through his controls class, Dylan is able to make complex topics seem very simple, maybe it's by breaking them down into small steps and concepts, I'm really not entirely sure what does it for me but whatever it is is very effective. I also think his personality is very calming, which might help with making the course seem simple, and plus it helps with encouraging participation in class.
- The videos are very helpful
- The Examples shown in class were really helpful and I really appreciated them as it made it really easy to understand the material. In addition to that, the recorded lectures that were uploaded for each module was unexpected but so helpful, and I was really glad that happened because it made it really easy to clear doubts at any time.
- Showed practical applications, answered questions in class, went into depth for lectures, would help out with homeworks

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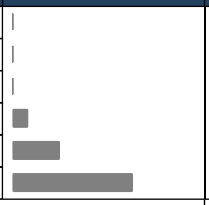
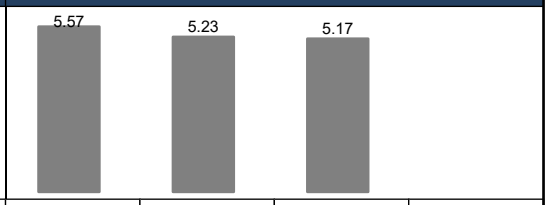
Response Rate: 60/69 (86.96 %)

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
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%
Somewhat agree	(4)	5	8.62%
Agree	(5)	15	25.86%
Strongly agree	(6)	38	65.52%



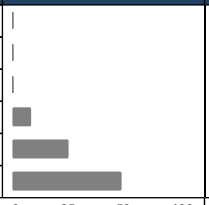


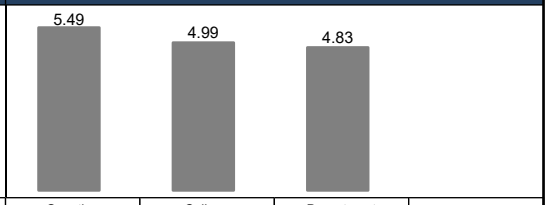
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
58/69 (84.06%)	5.57	0.65	6.00	21970	5.23	1.02	5.00	3147	5.17	1.07	5.00

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
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%
Somewhat agree	(4)	6	10.17%
Agree	(5)	18	30.51%
Strongly agree	(6)	35	59.32%





Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
59/69 (85.51%)	5.49	0.68	6.00	21988	4.99	1.25	5.00	3162	4.83	1.34	5.00

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Response Rate: 60/69 (86.96 %)

4 - 4A - What could you have done to be a better learner?	
Response Rate	46/69 (66.67%)

- I could have paid more attention in class as he is just reading off of slides.
- attended more classes
- I could have started homework's earlier to give me more time to digest the material
- Done better on the homework and do the practice problems
- -
- Go to every lecture, but his videos are very informative and class just enforces the ideas in the videos with interactive examples
- I could have attended more classes in place of video lectures.
- I could have taken more advantage of office hours.
- I could have read along in the textbook since he provides the chapters for each lecture.
- I could have read the books more.
- followed along more with in class examples, started homework earlier
- Paid more attention
- Do all of the homeworks
- Spent a little more practice on the dynamics section of the course.
- Spent more time and effort working on the homeworks, they take a ton of time, and I wasn't prepared for that
- I could have started homework assignments earlier throughout the semester. I think this would have allowed me to ask more questions and get a better understanding of what was being asked in the homework instead of doing it the last day or two before it was due.
- More office hours
- Gone to more office hours.
- I could have been more focused.
- I could've gone into office hours to ask about homework problems when I was confused rather than stressing and trying to figure it out all by myself.
- I could have procrastinated the homeworks less so that I could ask questions prior to the due date
- Started homework earlier.
- I could have started my homework as the class went over each section and attended office hours.
- started homeworks earlier
- I could have been more attentive and relied less on the video and supplemental material given to us.
- I think I could've gone to class more.
- Started the homeworks earlier and read the textbook more.
- Done each homework problem immediately after the relevant lecture instead of doing all of them the day it was due and been more consistent about going to class
- not to teach the code the day before the hw is due, and add one more day of office hours
- Played attention
- I could have done more practice problems that Losey provided.
- I could have reviewed the material more often.
- Start assignments earlier.
- attended class and do the practice problems
- Go to Class
- Be less sick and attend more classes.
- I could have started the homeworks earlier.
- Started homeworks sooner.
- do homework, practice problems
- I should have started on the homeworks sooner so I could have gone to office hours with my issues.
- Engaged more in class.
- Gone to class more
- Be more proactive in starting and completing homework assignments. I pride myself in paying close attention in class, but admittedly when it comes to homework I tend to be much more relaxed and often I underestimate how long it takes me to complete assignments, which sucks because sometimes I don't finish homework completely and I miss out on potentially more practice with the concepts we learn.
- Go to the office hours more often to ask questions
- I initially happened to miss quite a few lectures, but ever since I have been to every single class, and I realized that going to class helped me a lot for this course specially. I think I should have done that from the very beginning to ensure I maximized learning everything taught in class.
- Went to lecture more

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5 - 5A - Please add any additional comments regarding the course and/or instructor here:	
Dylan Patrick Losey	
Response Rate	38/69 (55.07%)

• Note files are somewhat annoying for ipad note takers who want to use them for note taking. Multiple very similiar slides that could be condensed into one, video files, and summary slides at the beginning and end of each power point make for a very long and large notes document, difficult to navigate through.

• N/A

• KEEP THIS MAN AT ALL COSTS

• Great instructor

• Homework's were slightly more difficult than I thought was necessary

• The homework was lightly too long and too infrequent. I think more often smaller sets of problems, ie one problem after each lecture or 2-3 problems due weekly would be better

• Dr. Losey's lectures were some of the most useful and understandable lectures I have ever had at my time at VT. He presented the subject matter in a clear and concise format, and I was always excited to attend class to learn more from him. I wish I was able to take some of his previous classes such as controls because of the clearness of his lectures.

• NA

• Great course, made difficult content clear and fun.

• I thought this course was very interesting.

• Losey is able to make good connections with students. Great guy.

• I think Prof. Losey is a model professor. I've taken 2 of his classes, and he presents the material for the class in an easily digestible manner, even though the classes are not easy. From what I have seen, he is passionate about the material, teaching, and making sure the students understand the material in class and in his office hours.

• Excellent instructor. The gold standard at Virginia Tech. Hire more of him.

• please please please don't make homework due on weekends, especially when you don't finish lecturing on homework topics until the friday before. otherwise amazing professor really enjoyed all the real-world examples in the lectures and overall a cool class

• Amazing course.

• I think the homeworks were generally too long for a 3-credit course.

• This is my first time having Dr. Losey as a professor and I think that he has quickly moved up to be one of the best that I have had in college. His lectures are easy to follow along with most of the time and the content gets directly related to real-world robotics concepts. I am usually not one for learning through slides, but the slides add onto each other and allows time for copying content down. The animations and videos included are also very useful in understanding the concepts. I thought that the practice sets were very useful to see how questions would be asked and how to go about approaching them in practice. The homework assignments, while challenging, certainly helped expand my knowledge in the concepts covered. His teaching was very effective and he was able to break it down into manageable sections. The course builds on itself throughout, so content doesn't really become irrelevant. This was great and allowed me to further my understanding of previous content while learning new concepts at the same time. My main qualms with the class are that the homework assignments were due on Saturdays and that SimuLink was not covered in the course. Although the Saturday deadlines did force me to get the assignments done earlier than I normally would, it would often come as an annoyance during the weekend. This was never really the biggest issue, and I could have just opted to complete them earlier, but nonetheless I would have preferred a Sunday deadline for homework assignments. In my previous coursework, I have never been exposed to SimuLink, so it was new to me when I went into the Lab for this class. I wish we'd gone over a quick demonstration in lecture, because I was lost when I first saw what we were doing in Lab. I managed to get the hang of it throughout the semester, but I think that an intro or refresher lecture would have greatly expedited that process. Overall, these "issues" don't amount to much and I did have a good time with this class. The content was interesting and presented clearly. The homework assignments were challenging enough to make me think and work to better understand the content. The lab provided a practical look at what was being learned. I would highly recommend this course and think that it was taught very well.

• He is a very good and engaging professor who cares deeply for what he is teaching.

• Thank you!

• I like the coding aspect of the class and feel that it is important however, it hard to understand how the tests will be conducted when a majority of the homework is based on Matlab code especially for the second half of the semester. It makes it hard to study for. I also feel that the homework grading is a little too harsh especially when it is a coding based things where there is no real way to sanity check the big matrices.

• I wish we could've learned the content well before the homeworks were due. It was sometimes hard to organize my time because we learned the content on the homework the day before the hw was due.

• I think the professor does a good job of fostering a learning environment and helps to improve the understanding of the material by the way he takes his time during lectures to ensure all his students comprehend the material and all questions are answered.

• Definitely a challenging course but rewarding.

• Dr. Losey is a great lecturer and a great person. I loved having him as a professor, even though his takes about FMAB are objectively incorrect

• Just one more office hours

• I enjoy Dr. Losey's teachings a lot. I do wish some of the practice set example problems had more thorough answers that were written out in addition to the Matlab.

• goat

• N/A

• Dr. Losey is an amazing instructor and the course is amazing. He presents the complicated information in a way that makes sense and is natural. The midterm test was very fair, and while the homeworks can be challenging, it's nothing impossible. One suggestion I have would be to have a topic on actual implementation of these robots. As someone that is building a robot for my senior design, I found this course helped me understand robotics conceptually but didn't do anything to help me actually build one. Just one week dedicated to the physical electronics systems, materials, motors, motor control, gait control, etc. would've gone a long way for connecting the concepts to the physical world. The videos at the start of each lecture were great, but I think diving a little deeper into those specifics would've been useful.

• Really wish you had more office hours or TA hours.

• In regards to the lab, the computers used were extremely slow. If there could be a way for students to use their own computers it could help saving time on building the simulations. Our group lost a decent amount of time due to the computer freezing or crashing.

• Love the excellent figure/slide formatting. This class is extremely well organized.

• N/A

• My goat. I would ask for a letter of rec from him but I don't feel like I deserve one, plus I don't really go to office hours or ask questions in class that much so I feel like he doesn't know me too well to speak on that. Also mentioning Full Metal Alchemist in class was a legendary moment. Zoom class was an honorable mention too, that was fun.

• Great Professor who explains everything well

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- I believe that there is not nearly enough office hours in this course. If there were more, I definitely would have done better.
- Dr. Losey, I have really enjoyed your class, and I sincerely apologize for asking a lot more favors. I am also thankful that you heard me out and understood of my situation and tried to help me as much as you could for me to succeed in this class. I have thoroughly enjoyed your class and the way you teach.
- Cool dude and cool class, homework can take a long time and lecture material is not the most helpful

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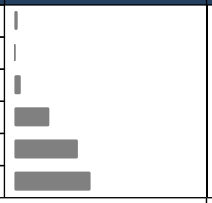
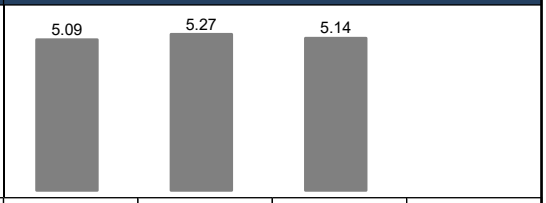
Response Rate: 60/69 (86.96 %)

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
Very Bad	(1)	1	1.72%
Bad	(2)	0	0.00%
Poor	(3)	2	3.45%
Fair	(4)	11	18.97%
Good	(5)	20	34.48%
Very Good	(6)	24	41.38%





Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
58/69 (84.06%)	5.09	1.01	5.00	21636	5.27	0.90	5.00	3105	5.14	0.91	5.00

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

Response Rate	29/69 (42.03%)

- N/A
- Easy to see lecture slides in class
- the room was quite big but there was no speakers or audio system
- It was really hot in the classroom, made it hard to focus.
- NA
- Surge is ok, but this class could have benefitted from a more standard class room with space for work.
- I felt it was conducive of learning.
- I dislike the tiny desks with chairs.
- Air conditioning was broken during different periods of time. Plastic chairs aren't excellent.
- Every now and then the class would be talkative a few seconds when the lecture begins but that's about it. No real complaints.
- This is not up to Dr. Losey, but classes were a too big
- It was alright it was just a pretty standard classroom.
- good vibes in the classroom
- The physical environment was good.
- not this classes fault at all, I just thought it was funny how the desks were almost always rearranged every class
- It is cold.
- It was good but I probably could've sat closer to the professor because it was sometimes hard to hear.
- It's surge so it automatically sucks lol.
- Surge has natural lighting, outlets, and desks big enough to fit a laptop on, so I don't hate it, although the desks are packed way more tightly than is comfortable in that room. Also, this feels like a class that should be in Goodwin
- N/A
- Too big room
- The seats are connected to the desks so I found myself uncomfortable when sitting in class for a little. Always having to slouch or be far from the desk due to the set distance of the seat to the desk.
- Surge is not the best space.
- Surge sucks
- n/A
- Nice large space. Visible screens.
- Surge sucks, at least fix the heating and air.
- The classroom itself isn't anything special but I feel like I was always able to pay full attention during class and seeing the board was never really an issue. Also would like to add that the classroom community felt very strong and welcoming, like everyone was friends and you could really say anything or ask any question without fear.
- I have no additional comments.

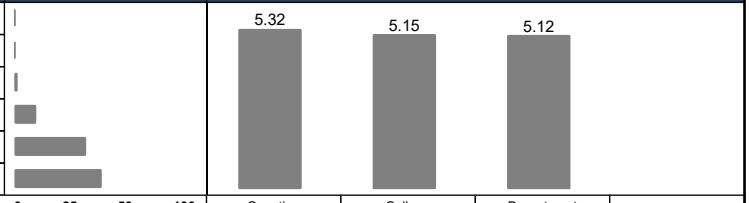
Virginia Tech
Fall 2025 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Course: ME_4524_87618_202509: Robotics & Automation-ME_4524_87618_202509
Instructor: Dylan Patrick Losey *
Response Rate: 60/69 (86.96 %)

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
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	1	1.69%
Somewhat agree	(4)	7	11.86%
Agree	(5)	23	38.98%
Strongly agree	(6)	28	47.46%

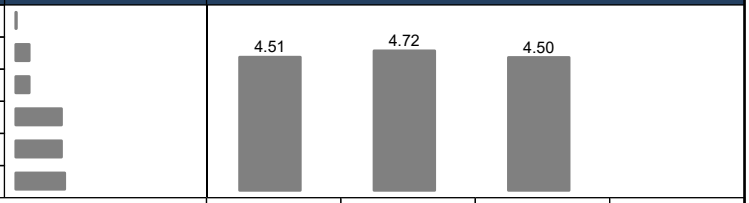


Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
59/69 (85.51%)	5.32	0.75	5.00	22018	5.15	0.99	5.00	3164	5.12	1.01	5.00

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
Strongly disagree	(1)	1	1.75%
Disagree	(2)	5	8.77%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	5	8.77%
Somewhat agree	(4)	15	26.32%
Agree	(5)	15	26.32%
Strongly agree	(6)	16	28.07%

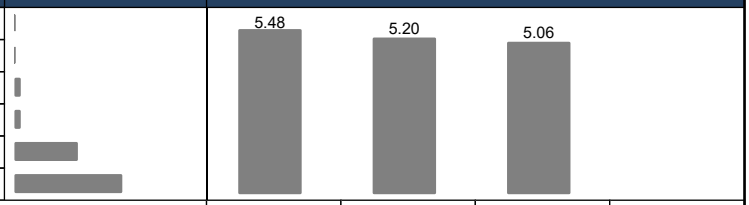


Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
57/69 (82.61%)	4.51	1.32	5.00	21913	4.72	1.37	5.00	3141	4.50	1.45	5.00

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
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	2	3.45%
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	3.45%
Agree	(5)	20	34.48%
Strongly agree	(6)	34	58.62%

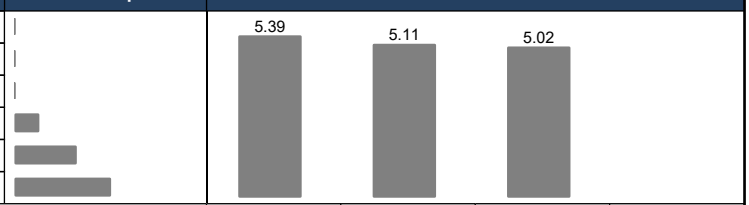


Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
58/69 (84.06%)	5.48	0.73	6.00	21994	5.20	1.03	5.00	3157	5.06	1.12	5.00

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
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%
Somewhat agree	(4)	8	13.56%
Agree	(5)	20	33.90%
Strongly agree	(6)	31	52.54%



Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
59/69 (85.51%)	5.39	0.72	6.00	21816	5.11	1.13	5.00	3136	5.02	1.20	5.00

Virginia Tech
Fall 2025 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Course: ME_4524_87618_202509: Robotics & Automation-ME_4524_87618_202509

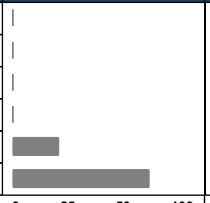
Instructor: Dylan Patrick Losey *

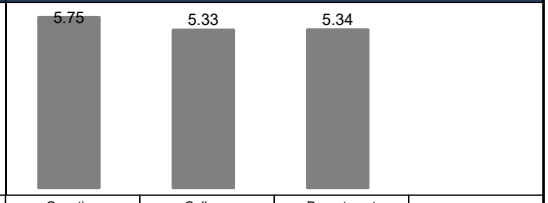
Response Rate: 60/69 (86.96 %)

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

Dylan Patrick Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses
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)	15	25.42%	
Strongly agree	(6)	44	74.58%	





Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
59/69 (85.51%)	5.75	0.44	6.00	23345	5.33	0.94	6.00	3169	5.34	0.95	6.00