

# Virginia Tech

## Spring 2022 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

**Course:** ME4824: Intro Human-Robot Interaction-ME\_4824\_21882\_202201  
**Instructor:** Dylan Losey \*  
**Response Rate:** 10/14 (71.43%)

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

**1A - The instructor was well prepared.**

Dylan Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means								
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.70	5.24	5.10	Question	College	Department	Mean	STD	Median
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%										
Agree	(5)	3	30.00%										
Strongly agree	(6)	7	70.00%										
<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>		
10/14 (71.43%)	5.70	0.48	6.00	19839	5.24	1.08	6.00	2095	5.10	1.13	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 Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means								
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.50	5.01	4.84	Question	College	Department	Mean	STD	Median
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	10.00%										
Agree	(5)	3	30.00%										
Strongly agree	(6)	6	60.00%										
<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>		
10/14 (71.43%)	5.50	0.71	6.00	19709	5.01	1.25	5.00	2078	4.84	1.28	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 Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means								
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.56	4.97	4.88	Question	College	Department	Mean	STD	Median
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%										
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%										
Agree	(5)	4	44.44%										
Strongly agree	(6)	5	55.56%										
<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>		
9/14 (64.29%)	5.56	0.53	6.00	19676	4.97	1.28	5.00	2073	4.88	1.28	5.00		

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**Instructor:** Dylan Losey \*  
**Response Rate:** 10/14 (71.43%)

**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 Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means									
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.70	5.35	5.29	Question	College	Department	Mean	STD	Median	
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%											
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%											
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%											
Agree	(5)	3	30.00%											
Strongly agree	(6)	7	70.00%											
					0	25	50	100						
<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>			
10/14 (71.43%)	5.70	0.48	6.00	19693	5.35	1.03	6.00	2075	5.29	1.01	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 Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means									
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.60	5.00	4.87	Question	College	Department	Mean	STD	Median	
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%											
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%											
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	10.00%											
Agree	(5)	2	20.00%											
Strongly agree	(6)	7	70.00%											
					0	25	50	100						
<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>			
10/14 (71.43%)	5.60	0.70	6.00	19556	5.00	1.28	5.00	2071	4.87	1.30	5.00			

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

Dylan Losey

**Response Rate** 7/14 (50%)

- The sheer amount of effort he made to connect with us both as students and people. One of only three professors that I've ever had remember my name throughout the semester (the other two are Roger Chang and Christopher Galitz). The class material was really really interesting with a large amount of visible effort to help engage and enthuse us as well as a pretty well-made effort to introduce us to some interesting state-of-the-art applications of what we were learning.
- he helped me talk about robotics and learning, even if I did not know what I was talking about initially. I would take this professor's classes again without question.
- I felt that the homeworks early in the semester really helped me grasp the concepts
- Explained the materials very clear. Office hours were very useful
- He was prepared, got grades back, lenient where it counts and provided constant helpful feedback when students ran into issues. Not to mention, his class format involving student teaching helps not just the class but also the presenters best understand the content that's on display within the class.
- Assigned pre-class readings. Being able to get a basic understanding of the content before class helped a lot with comprehension.
- I really liked how he brought real world examples into the classroom everyday. This really helped me visualize how HRI applies to the real world.

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### 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%		5.40	5.11	5.00				
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat agree	(4)	2	20.00%								
Agree	(5)	2	20.00%								
Strongly agree	(6)	6	60.00%								
					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>
10/14 (71.43%)	5.40	0.84	6.00	18115	5.11	1.12	5.00	2066	5.00	1.11	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%		5.44	4.85	4.71				
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	11.11%								
Agree	(5)	3	33.33%								
Strongly agree	(6)	5	55.56%								
					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>
9/14 (64.29%)	5.44	0.73	6.00	18025	4.85	1.35	5.00	2059	4.71	1.35	5.00

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

Response Rate	6/14 (42.86%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Put more effort into the class project, it was a rough semester</li> <li>I could have sat closer to the screen, it was very hard to focus in such a cramped room</li> <li>I could have tried harder to pay attention in class.</li> <li>I could have probably taken better notes during class, since most of the time I was more focused on the slides content than making sure I had it stored in my actual notebook, but that's a very minor thing if anything.</li> <li>Asked more questions</li> <li>I think I should go over the notes more before class. I will help me refresh my knowledge so that I can ask better questions later on.</li> </ul>	

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

Dylan Losey	
Response Rate	6/14 (42.86%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be a bit more careful with groups and assign more group milestones to ensure more steady progress on the project.</li> <li>Overall, I felt that this class was very well executed. I have a deeper interest in human-robot interaction and I can definitely see myself applying what I learned in my hobbies.</li> <li>The instructor has a good knowledge about the materials.</li> <li>Professor Losey, I want you to know that in the time I've been at Virginia Tech, you are easily my favorite professor I've had here. You're polite, concise, quick on your feet and very well engaged in material that the university doesn't do a good enough job at teaching to undergraduate students unless they're literally doing research at every chance they get. I mean it when I say that getting to take Robotics and Automation and HRI has been a highlight of going to Virginia Tech and Majoring in Mechanical Engineering (For the record, I'd been following Virginia Tech trying to offer a robotics engineering degree since 2016, so naturally they only offered it when I was finished with my degree, but I digress). Truly, thank you.</li> <li>Dr. Losey did a great job explaining content while keeping lectures interesting.</li> <li>This is the best professor you can have to teach this class. All of his current research is very well related to what you learn in class</li> </ul>	

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**Response Rate:** 10/14 (71.43 %)

**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%			4.20	5.16	5.12	Question	College	Department	
Bad	(2)	1	10.00%	█								
Poor	(3)	1	10.00%	█								
Fair	(4)	4	40.00%	████								
Good	(5)	3	30.00%	█████								
Very Good	(6)	1	10.00%	█								
					0	25	50	100				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	
10/14 (71.43%)	4.20	1.14	4.00	17956	5.16	0.97	5.00	2048	5.12	0.97	5.00	

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

Response Rate	6/14 (42.86%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please renovate some of the classrooms, give us tables or desks instead of the crappy chair desks that can't hold a laptop and notepad.</li> <li>• I personally do not like the small tables in McBryde</li> <li>• Good</li> <li>• Not a knock on the class itself but McBryde is a REALLY cramped space for a class like this. Hopefully next time this course is offered the construction on the surrounding buildings will be done and there'll be a better place to hold this class.</li> <li>• The class was a bit cramped, but everything was able to be understood.</li> <li>• The classroom was a little too small for the amount of people there.</li> </ul>	

**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%			5.30	5.06	4.96	Question	College	Department	
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%									
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%									
Somewhat agree	(4)	1	10.00%	█								
Agree	(5)	5	50.00%	█████								
Strongly agree	(6)	4	40.00%	█████								
					0	25	50	100				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	
10/14 (71.43%)	5.30	0.67	5.00	18068	5.06	1.08	5.00	2067	4.96	1.10	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%			5.10	4.56	4.44	Question	College	Department	
Disagree	(2)	1	10.00%	█								
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%									
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%									
Agree	(5)	5	50.00%	█████								
Strongly agree	(6)	4	40.00%	█████								
					0	25	50	100				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	
10/14 (71.43%)	5.10	1.20	5.00	17968	4.56	1.44	5.00	2055	4.44	1.43	5.00	

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### 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%		5.67	5.07	4.91				
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%								
Agree	(5)	3	33.33%								
Strongly agree	(6)	6	66.67%								
					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>
9/14 (64.29%)	5.67	0.50	6.00	18003	5.07	1.15	5.00	2055	4.91	1.19	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%		5.56	5.01	4.90				
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%								
Agree	(5)	4	44.44%								
Strongly agree	(6)	5	55.56%								
					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>
9/14 (64.29%)	5.56	0.53	6.00	17908	5.01	1.20	5.00	2050	4.90	1.23	5.00

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

Dylan Losey

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%		5.56	5.26	5.18				
Disagree	(2)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat disagree	(3)	0	0.00%								
Somewhat agree	(4)	0	0.00%								
Agree	(5)	4	44.44%								
Strongly agree	(6)	5	55.56%								
					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>
9/14 (64.29%)	5.56	0.53	6.00	19417	5.26	1.02	6.00	2036	5.18	1.05	5.00

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

Articulate the challenges of developing algorithms that support human-robot interaction.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%		3.60	3.60	3.60				
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%								
Good	(3)	4	40.00%								
Excellent	(4)	6	60.00%								
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%								
					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>
10/14 (71.43%)	3.60	0.52	4.00	10	3.60	0.52	4.00	10	3.60	0.52	4.00

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**Instructor:** Dylan Losey \*  
**Response Rate:** 10/14 (71.43%)

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

**Appraise and implement different methods that robots use to learn from human demonstrations.**

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.20	3.20	3.20			
Fair	(2)	1	10.00%	█							
Good	(3)	6	60.00%	████████							
Excellent	(4)	3	30.00%	████							
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%								
0 25 50 100					Question	College	Department				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
10/14 (71.43%)	3.20	0.63	3.00	10	3.20	0.63	3.00	10	3.20	0.63	3.00

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

**Use Bayesian inference to detect human intent and autonomously assist humans.**

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.00	3.00	3.00			
Fair	(2)	2	20.00%	██							
Good	(3)	6	60.00%	████████							
Excellent	(4)	2	20.00%	██							
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%								
0 25 50 100					Question	College	Department				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
10/14 (71.43%)	3.00	0.67	3.00	10	3.00	0.67	3.00	10	3.00	0.67	3.00

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

**Apply safe and optimal controllers so that the robots can safely but efficiently operate around humans.**

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.10	3.10	3.10			
Fair	(2)	2	20.00%	██							
Good	(3)	5	50.00%	██████							
Excellent	(4)	3	30.00%	████							
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%								
0 25 50 100					Question	College	Department				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
10/14 (71.43%)	3.10	0.74	3.00	10	3.10	0.74	3.00	10	3.10	0.74	3.00

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

**Combine human and robot control inputs for assistive autonomy tasks.**

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.30	3.30	3.30			
Fair	(2)	2	20.00%	██							
Good	(3)	3	30.00%	████							
Excellent	(4)	5	50.00%	██████							
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%								
0 25 50 100					Question	College	Department				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	College	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median
10/14 (71.43%)	3.30	0.82	3.50	10	3.30	0.82	3.50	10	3.30	0.82	3.50

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**10 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:**  
**Plan, conduct, and analyze a user study that involves human-robot interaction.**

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.30	3.30	3.30			
Fair	(2)	1	10.00%	█							
Good	(3)	5	50.00%	█████							
Excellent	(4)	4	40.00%	█████							
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%								
<p>0 25 50 100</p>					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>
10/14 (71.43%)	3.30	0.67	3.00	10	3.30	0.67	3.00	10	3.30	0.67	3.00

**10 - At the end of this course, how do I rate my ability to:**  
**Assess the scientific merits and weaknesses of human-robot interaction research published in scholarly journals.**

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.50	3.50	3.50			
Fair	(2)	2	20.00%	██							
Good	(3)	1	10.00%	█							
Excellent	(4)	7	70.00%	███████							
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%								
<p>0 25 50 100</p>					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>
10/14 (71.43%)	3.50	0.85	4.00	10	3.50	0.85	4.00	10	3.50	0.85	4.00