

Alexander Reyna Teaching Evaluations

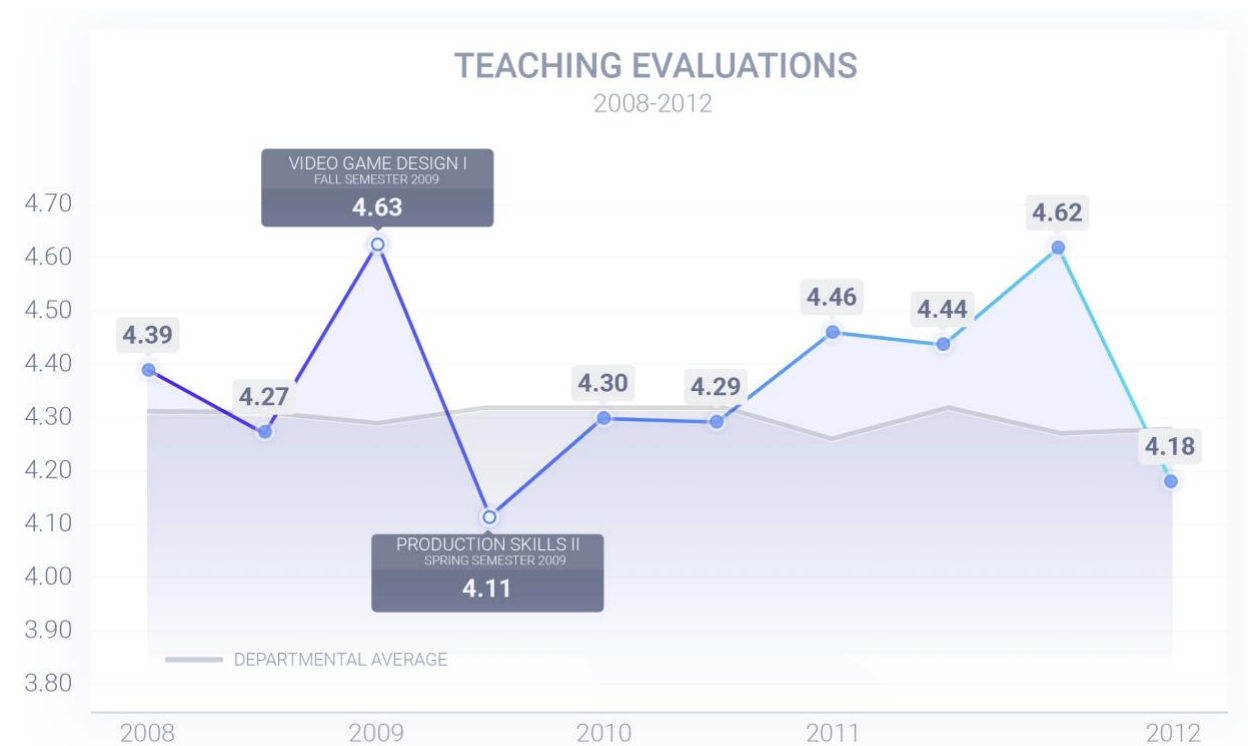
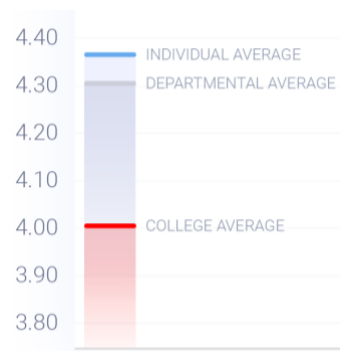
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I've spent the bulk of my career in the Undergraduate and Graduate Computer Arts department at School of Visual Arts, teaching everything from pre-college to graduate thesis. I began with HTML and After Effects Continuing Education night classes before moving into the core faculty in 2002.

The very rigorous standards at School of Visual Arts were set by the department chair, John McIntosh, and included mandatory 10 hours of homework a week, per class, with grades that did not include D. Students either passed with at least an average grade or failed and found alternate programs.

Teaching evaluations at SVA are scored across a 5-point scale, aggregated across a series of 19 questions. Formal evaluations occurred at the end of the semester and a higher number generally meant a better classroom experience. My average of **4.37** was higher than the Computer Arts departmental average of **4.3**, which was higher than the School's total average for all programs at **4.0**. Put simply, I taught with better student outcomes in the best program at SVA, and well above the average college instructor.

My evaluations had a few significant peaks, usually around courses that the students were especially passionate about.



One notable learning experience occurred in the Spring of 2009 with a class average of **4.11** for Production Skills II. Still above the college average, this result came about after a conversation with the Chair where we decided to

push a more technically challenging curriculum in the senior year. It was tough work for our students and the class ended up not supporting students effectively. Instead, we had just created another hurdle for our exceptionally talented students to overcome. We quickly learned from this deviation and, in the senior year, my primary goal remained to support students with classwork that directly enabled their thesis.

CLASSROOM ADMINISTRATION

There are a variety of questions on the SVA questionnaire. Some explored administering a class while others dealt with the qualitative experience of teaching.

Question 2, 6, 13, and 19 deal with the basics of class preparations.

2	This course started and ended on time.
6	The instructor was well prepared for each class meeting.
13	The instructor's expectations for students was made clear at the beginning of the semester.
19	The Course Syllabus clearly explained course objectives, requirements, attendance, and grading policy.



2008 - 2013 AVERAGES

I take teaching seriously and planned a scope and sequence for the entire year, for each class. I'm a conscientious person and believe that preparation is key to high quality results.

QUALITATIVE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Question 1, 3, 15, 16, and the ever-so-important Question 18 are about the quality of the student experience.

1	The instructor made the course material come alive.
3	I received useful feedback on my work from my instructor.
15	The instructor was serious about student learning.
16	Overall, this course met or exceeded my expectations.
18	If given the opportunity, I would take another course with this instructor.



2008 - 2013 AVERAGES

Teaching can feel like theater. Our job is to mentor students, provide a framework for learning, and employ tactics that make the process engaging and entertaining. I've been lucky to teach subject matters that are inherently interesting but it's sometimes challenging to find ways to create engaging and exciting course materials.

I work hard to create excitement in my classes and took students seriously. Everyone has a story to tell and helping students develop their own personal aesthetic has been important work.

Question 18 is the simplest way to understand whether you've connected with your students. The dissatisfied student will not want to take another course with me and my average of **4.40**, even with tons of homework and challenging coursework, is notable.

Solving an artistic problem is very different from solving an equation with an exact, objective, definite, solution. Providing feedback and evaluating the subjective aspects of artmaking can be very difficult so it's not surprising that my lowest average response was for question 12.

12 The instructor's evaluation of my work was fair and constructive.

4.14

QUESTION 12

2008 - 2013 AVERAGES

APPENDIX 1- FULL EVALUATIONS 2008 - 2013

Term										
	08/FA	08/FA	09/FA	09/SP	09/SP	09/SP	11/FA	12/FA	12/SP	13/SP
Section										
Q1	4.20	4.20	4.71	4.00	4.30	4.75	4.57	4.44	4.67	4.50
Q2	4.90	4.20	4.43	4.13	4.20	4.25	4.29	4.56	4.50	4.20
Q3	4.50	4.20	4.71	4.25	4.40	4.50	4.43	4.44	4.67	4.20
Q4	4.50	4.20	4.43	4.38	4.10	4.00	4.43	4.67	4.50	4.20
Q5	4.60	3.60	4.71	4.00	4.60	4.25	4.43	4.33	4.83	4.10
Q6	4.40	4.40	4.29	3.63	4.30	3.75	4.43	4.11	4.67	4.20
Q7	4.50	4.60	5.00	4.25	4.30	4.75	4.43	4.44	4.67	4.00

Q8	4.50	4.40	4.86	4.00	4.50	4.00	4.57	4.56	4.50	3.80
Q9	4.30	4.40	4.86	4.13	4.40	4.75	4.29	4.33	4.67	4.20
Q10	4.50	4.40	4.86	4.38	4.50	4.25	4.71	4.44	4.50	4.40
Q11	4.10	4.80	4.57	4.13	4.50	5.00	4.57	4.78	4.67	4.40
Q12	4.40	3.60	4.43	3.88	3.90	3.75	4.29	4.11	4.83	4.20
Q13	4.40	4.20	4.57	4.00	4.10	4.25	4.29	4.22	4.67	4.20
Q14	4.50	4.25	4.86	4.00	4.30	4.00	4.29	4.33	4.33	4.30
Q15	4.20	4.40	4.57	4.25	3.80	4.00	4.57	4.56	4.50	4.00
Q16	4.30	4.00	4.86	4.38	4.20	4.00	4.29	4.44	4.67	4.30
Q17	4.10	4.20	4.43	4.13	4.30	4.50	4.57	4.56	4.67	3.80
Q18	4.20	4.40	4.14	4.13	4.40	4.50	4.57	4.67	4.67	4.30
Q19	4.30	4.60	4.71	4.00	4.60	4.25	4.71	4.33	4.67	4.20
Class AVG	4.39	4.27	4.63	4.11	4.30	4.29	4.46	4.44	4.62	4.18
Department Avg	4.31	4.31	4.29	4.32	4.32	4.32	4.26	4.32	4.27	4.27
Homework AVG	10.60	14.25	7.20	11.13	8.40	13.33	14.29	11.89	10.20	13.60

	Course Questionnaire	
Q1	<i>The instructor made the course material come alive.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q2	<i>This course started and ended on time.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q3	<i>I received useful feedback on my work from my instructor.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q4	<i>Feedback on my work was provided in a timely fashion.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q5	<i>The instructor communicated her/his knowledge in a style conducive to learning.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q6	<i>The instructor was well prepared for each class meeting.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q7	<i>I was challenged intellectually and creatively by this instructor.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q8	<i>The instructor demonstrated a firm grasp of the subject matter taught.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q9	<i>This course challenged me to do my best work.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q10	<i>The instructor gave students ample opportunity to express themselves.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q11	<i>Required course materials (tests, supplemental readings) were relevant and useful.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q12	<i>The instructor's evaluation of my work was fair and constructive.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q13	<i>The instructor's expectations for students was made clear at the beginning of the semester.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q14	<i>I was given sufficient time to complete all required assignments.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q15	<i>The instructor was serious about student learning.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q16	<i>Overall, this course met or exceeded my expectations.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q17	<i>The instructor listened to and responded helpfully to student's questions, ideas, and opinions.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q18	<i>If given the opportunity, I would take another course with this instructor.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A
Q19	<i>The Syllabus clearly explained course objectives, requirements, attendance, and grading policy.</i>	1 2 3 4 5 N/A

APPENDIX 2- STUDENT COMMENTS

What advice, if any, would you give the instructor to improve the class?

Great Class! Teacher was very patient
and Good at explaining

What advice, if any, would you give the instructor to improve the class?

~~MAYBE GIVE MORE HOMEWORK ... MAYBE NOT - I DUNNO.~~
I LIKED HOW IT WAS.

What advice, if any, would you give the instructor to improve the class?

NOTHING GREAT CLASS!

What advice, if any, would you give the instructor to improve the class?

Just keep the way it is! Best class I have ever had
@ SVA.