



## 202408-AOSC375-0101-INTRO TO THE BLUE OCEAN (James Carton) - Preliminary Instructor Report - Fall 2024

Project Title: **University of Maryland Course Experiences Fall 2024**

Number of Students Invited: **33**

Number of Evaluations Submitted: **15**

Response Rate: **45%**

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### Report Comments

This report presents feedback received from students for the course **INTRO TO THE BLUE OCEAN** and for the Instructor **James Carton** in that course. Course means are calculated from all responses by all students in the unit (i.e., course section/lecture) on that item and exclude N/A (not applicable) responses.

Indication is provided below for the Report Group if there is one affiliated with this course section, otherwise it is blank. The Report Group will be the lead section of a grouped course (i.e. multi-section lecture) and/or the primary of cross-listed courses.

**Semester: Fall 2024**

**College: CMNS-College of Computer, Math & Natural Sciences**

**Department: CMNS-Atmospheric & Oceanic Science**

**Course #: AOSC375**

**Section #: 0101**

**Course Title: INTRO TO THE BLUE OCEAN**

**Report Group: 202408-AOSC375-0101**

**Instructor: James Carton**

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Creation Date: **Saturday, December 21, 2024**

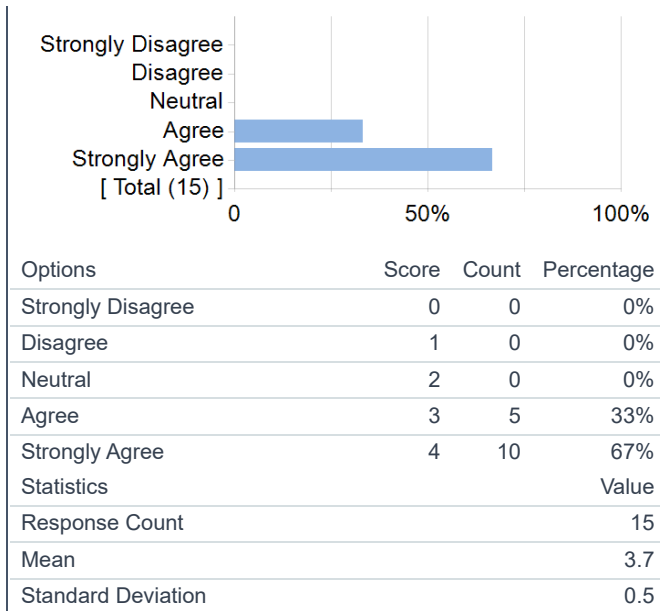
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### University-Wide Course Items Applied to All Section Instructors

N/A responses have been excluded from the following calculations.

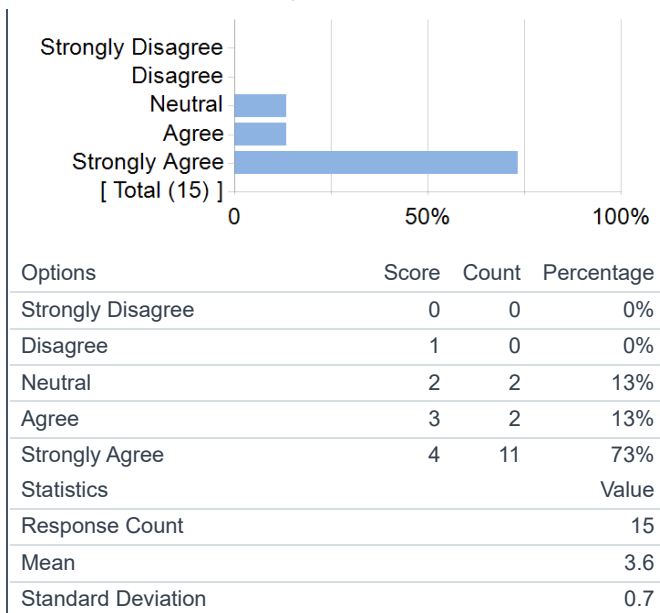
#### The content covered in the course was directly related to the course goals and objectives.

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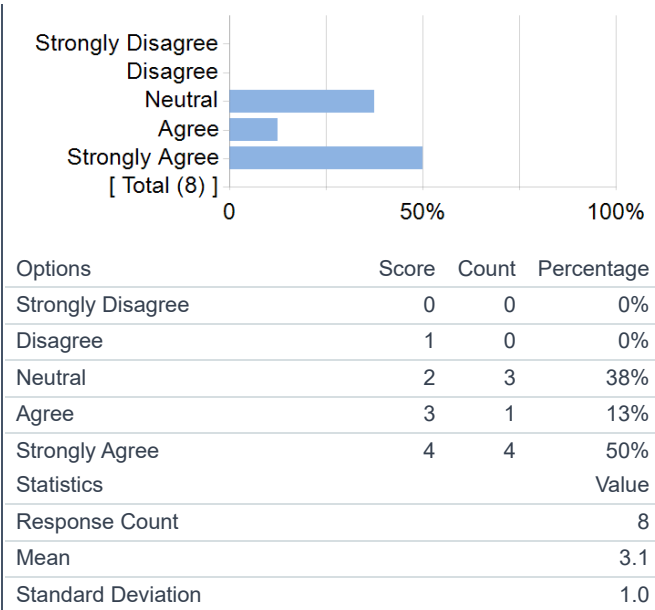
#### The assessments (e.g., tests, quizzes, papers) were directly related to what was covered/practiced in the course.

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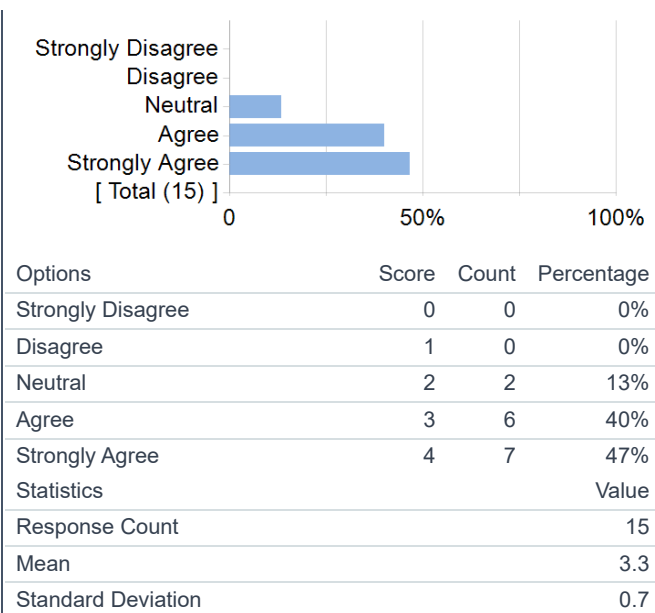
**The required texts (e.g., books, course packs, online resources) helped me learn course material.**

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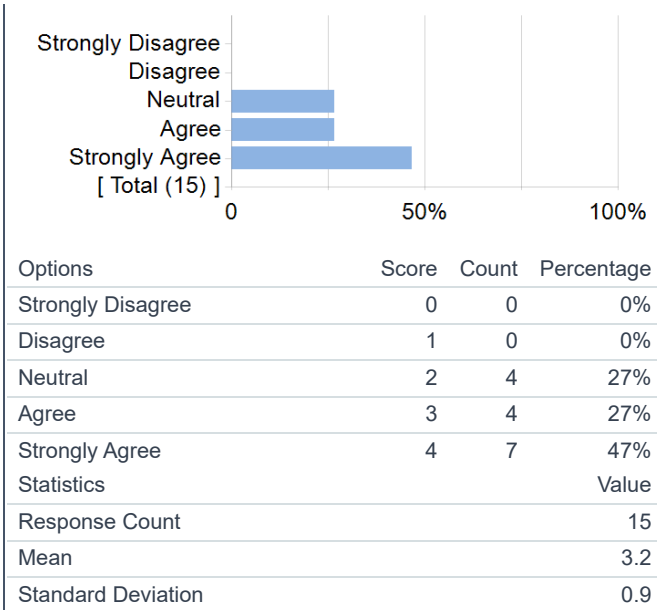
**This course pushed and expanded my ability to think deeply about the subject.**

This course pushed and expanded my ability to think deeply about the subject.



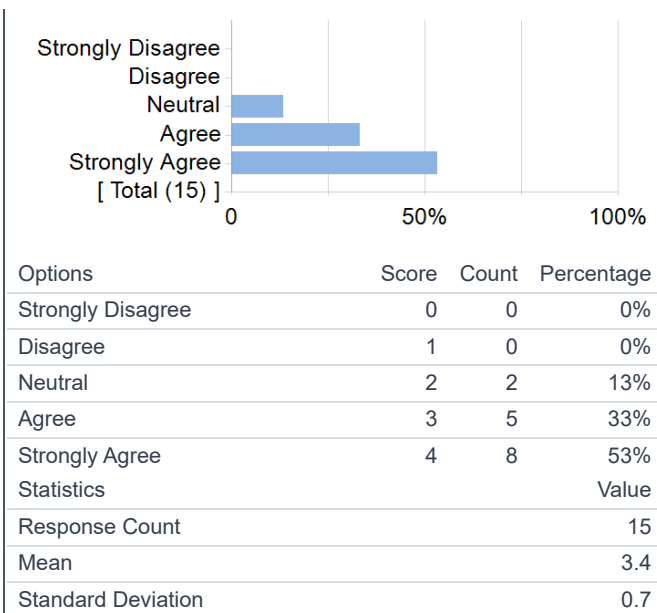
### I believe the content of this course was a valuable part of my education.

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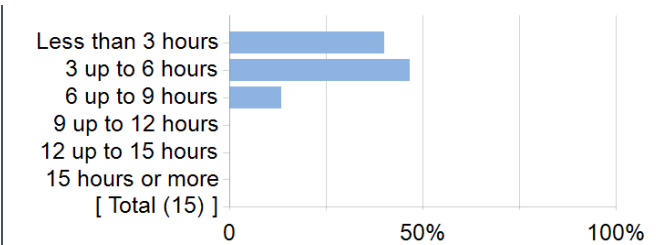
### I believe I learned a lot from this course.

I believe I learned a lot from this course.



**On average, how many hours each week did you spend on this course (e.g., attending class, doing homework, studying, completing assignments)?**

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Options	Count	Percentage
Less than 3 hours	6	40%
3 up to 6 hours	7	47%
6 up to 9 hours	2	13%
9 up to 12 hours	0	0%
12 up to 15 hours	0	0%
15 hours or more	0	0%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		15

**How did this course fit into your academic plan and/or educational goals?**

Options	Count
Required for program/major/minor/certificate, or as a prerequisite	4
Elective for program/major/minor/certificate	6
To satisfy an undergraduate General Education requirement	4
In preparation for research, employment, or future program/degree	1
Personal interest in content	7
Other/It doesn't	0

**Comment Items Applied to All Section Instructors**

## What about the course and/or instruction most enhanced your learning?

Comments
I absolutely loved this course. I loved Prof Carton's style of teaching and exams. He makes it enjoyable and encourages talking in class. I liked his exam prep and his ability to simplify hard topics into concise sentences. A great class for a more math oriented brain
Very gentle and well rounded introduction to Ocean Sciences and related concepts. Instructor was topical and interesting.
I believe the lecture slides enhanced my learning the most. This is because I had a previous class with a professor who always went over time.
The slideshows in this course were incredibly helpful, especially with their clear graphics and maps for ocean-related topics like temperature and locations, which complemented the material perfectly. Additionally, the instructor's straightforward explanations made complex concepts easy to understand. Professor Carton was an amazing professor who genuinely cared about his students. He posts lectures for us to review, provides helpful practice exams, and always ensures everyone is on the same page by filling in latecomers and asking questions to check the pace of the class. Allowing the TA to teach some classes added a fun and engaging dynamic, and he even went above and beyond by celebrating the TA with pizza for the class!
Dr. Carton always made sure to stop and make sure we are understanding, even if people walking in late, Dr. Carton will take a quick second to catch recap what he is lecturing on. He will answer everyone's questions in depth, even if it is a little off topic. He really shows that he wants students to understand and enjoying learning. The lectures are a perfect level of difficulty and not overwhelming. As long as you show up to the classes and take notes, it is easy to pass the exams. I learned a lot from this course and Dr. Carton is the best professor for it. As a ENSP marine and coastal management concentration, I would really like to take more courses like this.
The final group project at the end of the course helped me to most engage with the content learned.
Being able to review the posted slides was very helpful. The posted lecture notes also helped, especially for some of the more complex topics, like those related to fluid dynamics. Presentation in lecture itself was handed very well.
The information isn't widely taught and very fascinating.
Assignments
Attention to detail was amazing. The amount of resources was perfect. For example, access to previous exams from semesters past, and examples of projects from semesters past was helpful. Instruction was very clear and direct. The professor clearly wants everyone to succeed and is willing to do anything to help. I would recommend this class to everyone.
The lectures themselves were likely the most valuable as they were engaging and provided essentially all necessary information to thrive in the class.
The professor was a nice down to earth guy who made difficult content easy to understand
Gave me exposure to a field (oceanography) that is very rarely discussed in my major.
the fact that for the most part, the class content was pretty interesting

## What about the course and/or instruction can be improved the next time it is offered?

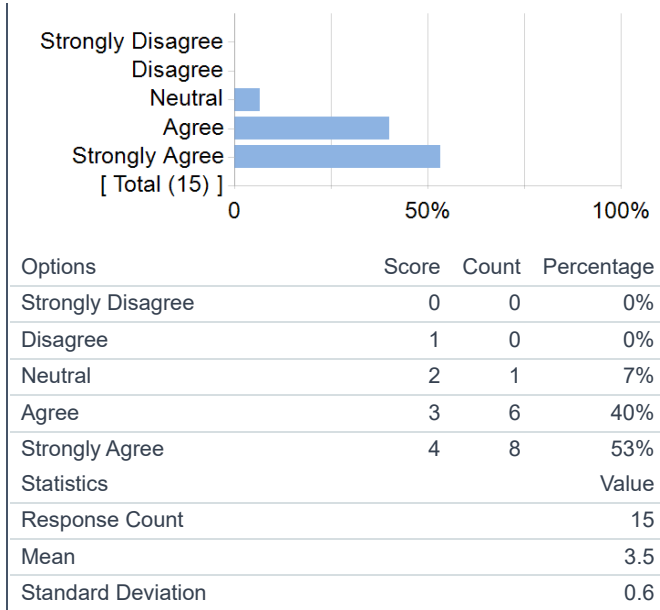
Comments
I can't even think of anything, I really liked this class so
Nothing comes to mind.
Since it's a short class, I would prefer if the full allotted time was utilized. Sometimes, the class would end early, and while that's usually a nice break in other courses, I often found myself eager to learn more and wished we could dive deeper into the topics during that time.
I wouldn't changing anything, I liked how the course was setup.
I had a hard time following the lecture content and then when trying to review on the own time, the slideshows were tricky to understand
Some of the slides have images or text hidden behind other images. In the pdf format we are unable to move these images out of the way. I was confused as to how the exams were graded. The rounding of exam grades in particular was not something I was used to. In particular I had the worry that something like an 82 or 72 on an exam was rounded to a 80 or 70 which was not something I was used to.
I would have liked to see more options for courses in the atmospheric science school.
The slides are from last year and are different from the things this year
I think it may help to focus in on some of the more complicated aspects of the concepts such as the math behind the physics as well as having more available help for homeworks and clarifying material.
Record lecture
Powerpoint slides on canvas were occasionally out of date.
the only thing that wasn't great about this course was that lectures were a bit disorganized. like the lecture slides covered in class were slightly different from the lecture slides posted on canvas which made it a bit hard to follow but not impossible.

### University-Wide Instructor **James Carton** Items

N/A responses have been excluded from the following calculations.

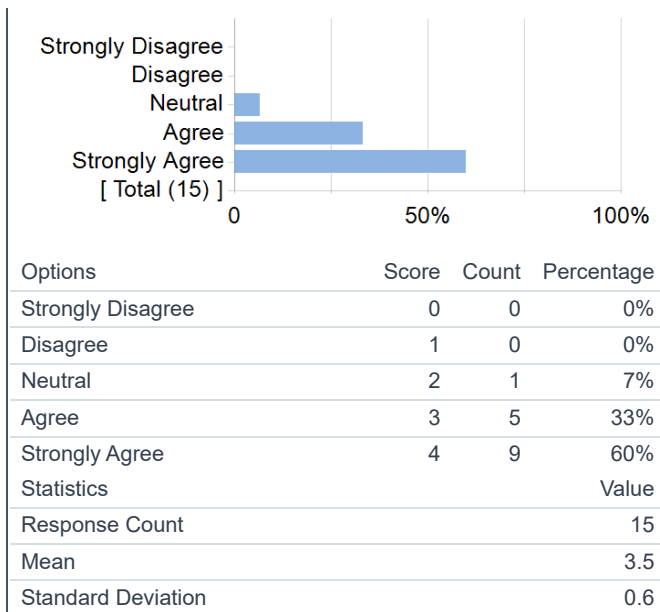
#### The instructor provided constructive feedback on my work that helped me to learn.

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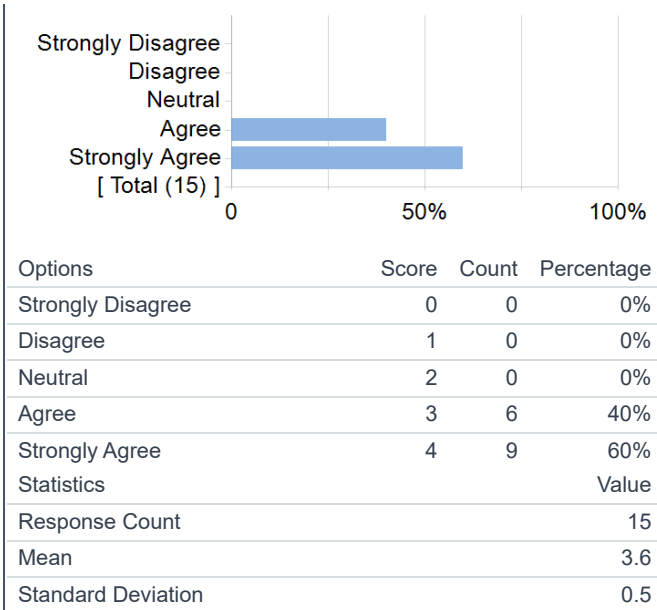
#### The instructor provided feedback in the course in time to apply it.

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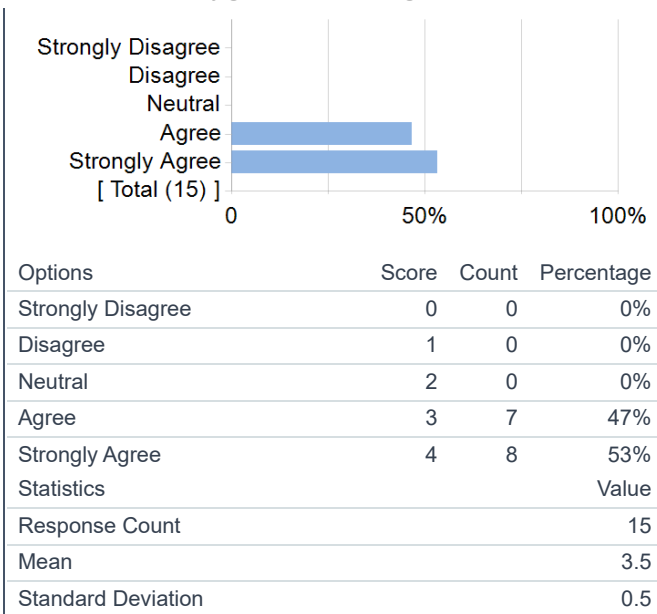
### The instructor clearly communicated grading criteria for my work throughout the course.

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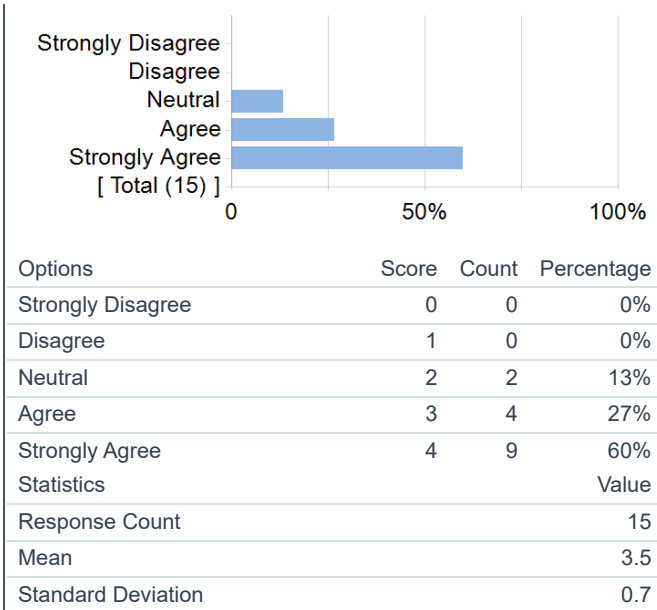
### The instructor clearly communicated the purpose, instructions, and deadlines for my graded work throughout the course.

The instructor clearly communicated the **purpose, instructions, and deadlines** for my graded work throughout the course.



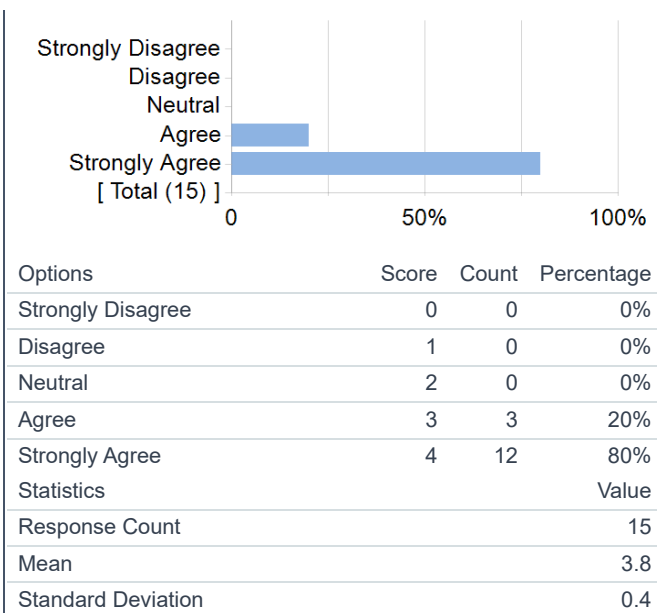
### The instructor helped me understand new content by connecting it to things I already knew.

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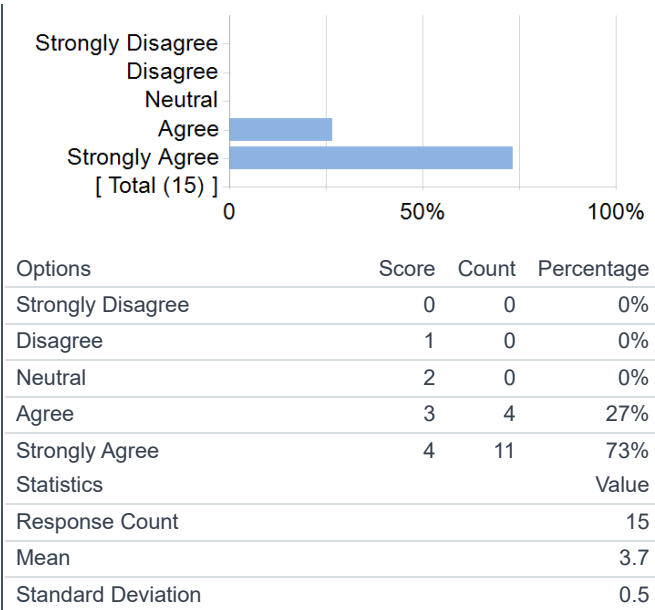
### The instructor created an inclusive environment where everyone belonged.

The instructor created an inclusive environment where **everyone** belonged.



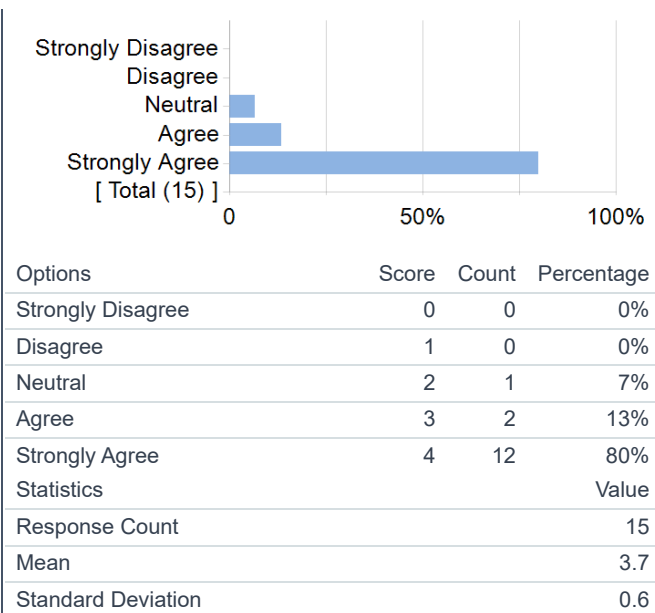
**The instructor demonstrated confidence in everyone's potential to succeed in the course.**

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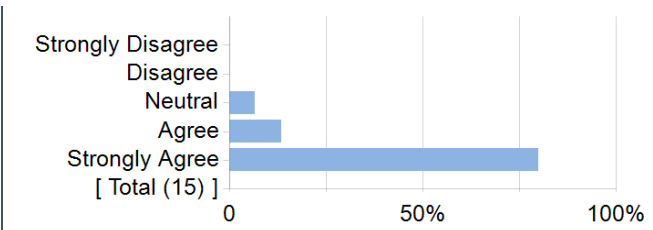
**I felt like the instructor cared about my learning in the course.**

I felt like the instructor cared about my learning in the course.



**I would recommend this instructor to other students for this course.**

I would recommend this instructor to other students for this course.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	0	0	0%
Disagree	1	0	0%
Neutral	2	1	7%
Agree	3	2	13%
Strongly Agree	4	12	80%
Statistics			Value
Response Count			15
Mean			3.7
Standard Deviation			0.6

**End of Report**