

You will soon receive an email from the university asking you to complete an evaluation form of me and this course. Please take the time to complete it. Here are some additional questions that pertain specifically to this course. You have until Reading Day to complete and submit the online form.

8.1. You have worked in groups this both in and out of class. How effective is this strategy for getting you focused on the material, and learning it? (0 = not at all effective, don't bother with it; 1 = mildly effective, but no better than lecture; 2 = somewhat effective; 3 = very effective, definitely adds to lecture format; 4 = super, should incorporate much more of it)

8.2. Did you get enough training how to use your calculator? (0 = not at all, 1 = not enough, 2 = neutral, 3 = enough, 4 = I can do things with ease I never dreamed of doing before)

8.3. Did the use of the calculator help you *understand* the material better (not just calculate easier)? (0 = not at all, 1 = not much, 2 = somewhat, 3 = pretty much, 4 = a whole lot)

8.4. Was (were) the project(s) a worthwhile learning experience? (0 = not at all, waste of time; 1 = not much, 2 = somewhat, 3 = pretty much, 4 = very much so, should make them a more important part of the course)

8.5. How well did the material that we covered mesh with the biology that you have been learning (past and present, future if you have some idea what is coming up) and enhance your understanding *of the biology*? (0 = not at all, 1 = not much, 2 = somewhat, 3 = pretty much, 4 = a great deal)

I find the free response sections quite informative, and welcome comments on anything at all. Here are a few questions that doesn't lend themselves well to multiple choice: (1) most of our models were not truly realistic; should we have used more parameter values and models taken from real biological studies? (2) most of our models were in the context of population dynamics; should we have incorporated more biochemical, molecular, or genetic processes (which were in the book after all)? (3) if presented with a mathematical model in the future, how would you react (from freaking out to moderately calmly thinking "I can make some sense of this"?) Many thanks for your time, thoughtful consideration, and (I hope, constructive) criticism.