

# **Instructor Evaluation Report for Paul Bracher**

## **A&S Course Evaluations**

Total Enrollment 274 Responses Received 166 Response Rate 60.58%

Creation Date Fri, Dec 29, 2017



## **Intrepretation Guidelines**

Within this report instructors can view the aggregate of all student responses to Likert scale or multiple choice questions and individual responses to short answer questions for all courses taught by that instructor in the semester.

## I took this course (check all that apply)...

	UG Major	GR/Professional Program	UG Core/Gen. Ed.	Elective	Other
Overall	142	56	25	5	2
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	119	48	23	4	2
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	23	8	2	1	0

#### **Questions about the Student**

I believe my academic background was sufficient to succeed in this course.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average	Total Responses
Overall	55	82	25	4	3.13	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	38	70	25	4	3.04	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	17	12	0	0	3.59	29

The subject matter of this course was of interest to me before the course began.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average	Total Responses
Overall	46	66	45	9	2.90	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	32	55	41	9	2.80	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	14	11	4	0	3.34	29

## **Questions about the Student**

I came to each class session prepared.

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never	Average	Total Responses
Overall	55	80	26	5	3.11	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	40	67	25	5	3.04	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	15	13	1	0	3.48	29

I invested enough time and energy to meet the course requirements.

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never	Average	Total Responses
Overall	80	60	22	4	3.30	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	65	50	18	4	3.28	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	15	10	4	0	3.38	29

I asked the instructor for help when I needed it.

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never	Average	Total Responses
Overall	52	40	46	28	2.70	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	36	35	41	25	2.60	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	16	5	5	3	3.17	29

#### **Questions about the Course**

Expected learning outcomes for the course were clearly communicated.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average	Total Responses
Overall	101	58	5	2	3.55	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	81	50	4	2	3.53	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	20	8	1	0	3.66	29

Course requirements (attendance, participation, readings, assignments, exams, etc.) were clearly communicated.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average	Total Responses
Overall	125	36	4	1	3.72	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	101	31	4	1	3.69	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	24	5	0	0	3.83	29

The course design (timing of and relationships among readings, discussions, labs, assignments, exams, etc.) supported my achievement of the course learning outcomes.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average	Total Responses
Overall	85	52	21	8	3.29	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	64	48	19	6	3.24	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	21	4	2	2	3.52	29

The course required me to apply what I learned in new ways.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average	Total Responses
Overall	109	50	5	2	3.60	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	86	45	5	1	3.58	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	23	5	0	1	3.72	29

The course challenged me intellectually.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Average	Total Responses
Overall	149	17	0	0	3.90	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	123	14	0	0	3.90	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	26	3	0	0	3.90	29

### Please offer any comments and/or suggestions you wish to share about the course:

The system does not allow an instructor to connect ANY quantitative responses with an individual student. Unless a student identifies him or herself in the written comments, qualitative responses are similarly assured of confidentiality.

#### Comments

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Having my entire grade rest solely on my performance on quizzes and exams cause unnecessary stress. Homework assignments would be helpful in giving more grades and also more practice on the difficult material presented in class.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Clicker questions for points would be beneficial to many students. It would also be helpful if the discussion sections were more organized. Also, assigned homework (like Connect or Sapling) would be nice to factor into grading, and to give students some type of structured practice with

problems instead of letting us do problems on our own without feedback.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The syllabus made many changes, i.e. removing office hours for TAs, and also the changing of the quiz format proved not to be helpful for me. I didn't like to be the guinea pig and have the instructors try new methods on me and my learning. I was often taken aback by the difficulty of the exams since we never delved into certain material in much depth.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Overall, this course is extremely challenging. Over the course of the semester I "changed my approach" after each exam... just as the instructors advised if we weren't happy with our grade. Unfortunately, despite these changes, I still ended up with an undesirable grade.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: sds

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I honestly felt like the class content and the book questions did not assist in figuring out how to best prepare for the exam style questions. I tried many types of studying this semester and felt like I did not benefit from any of it. I wanted to learn organic and more understand it, but did not succeed. The course lecture needs to be more problem based.

NEED HOMEWORK. OR SOME KIND OF SOURCE TO GIVE US DIRECT AND IMMEDIATE FEEDBACK ON WHAT WERE ARE DOING. ITS NOT FOR THE POINTS BUT FOR A CHECK KNOWLEDGE

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I felt that the course was unexpectedly hard and we were expected to invest more than 20 hours a week to this class alone in order to do well. The course exams did not correlate in any way with the book work and were extremely difficult. If the average of the class exam is mostly in the 50s that should suggest the need for change to occur in the teaching style. It is difficult to learn anything when all we get is reading from slides for 75% of the course.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The course is definitely challenging. Discussions helped a lot to reinforce course material, but sometimes the tests felt unfair to the material taught or focused on in class. The quiz format was also messy and kept bouncing around throughout the semester.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: This course was very hard. Most of our test averages would be considered failing in any other class.

This class also needs to do more in-lecture practice problems to better prepare us for tests and quizes.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The course was dreadful. We are all aware that this is a purposely wiggled our class for med students, but what the curriculum enhancers need to realize is that not every student is a med student. The course is portrayed and designed way more harder than it needs to be, or even is. Many students from other institutions have taken the exact same course, but none of them have said it was anything this. The discussions were pointless, yet mandatory, the exams were unnnecessarily more difficult than what is taught in lecture and from the book. Again, I completely understand that this is a wiggle out class, but aren't professors suppose to be supporting students and want them to do good, rather than wanted them to drop the class and their careers over a course that 80% might not evenly even use again? Dr. Buckner taught Gen Chem amazingly! If anyone needs lessons on how to run a good Chem class, talk to Dr. Steven Buckner.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: This is a very intriguing class. It is obviously a difficult one, but not as bad as everyone makes it seem. Maybe there is just not a lot of people in the world who want to teach organic chemistry but I don't understand why you have only two professor for 500 students. That does not make sense.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: This class is suppose to be hard as it is chemistry but i feel like it was unnecessarily hard. One of my friends from another university is taking it and i could always help her and tell her what she did wrong on tests but yet i got 50 percents or lower on every test. I spend all my time on orgo and not on any of my other classes and i still fail. I do all the practice problems i can and old tests and still do awful. I treat this class like a full time job, i spend at least 3 hours every day studying. Sometimes i spend up to 40 hours a week and yet i still get no better. There is no way that this class should be this hard. If the averages on tests are in the 50 percents, there is no way that is the students' fault.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The course content was very interesting and presented in a logical manner. The instructors provided a wealth of resources to help me exceed.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I wish there was more problems in class. If we watched the tegirty before class and did application in class like Dr.s Russel and Bray Speth structure their intro bio class I feel we would learn more effectively.

It's unfortunate we don't have note sheets on the exams. I know the exams were made conceptually easier, but that doesn't lessen the load on memory required to know all the reactions, so how helpful is it really>

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher and Dr. Whitteck are great professors to have

for such a difficult subject, however, the exams often times stretched the expectations of what we should know to be successful in the course. Personally, I felt that some of the exam questions weren't there to see if we knew the material we had learned, but they were testing to see if we could use what we've learned to deduct an answer to a problem that we haven't necessarily seen before. For some, this comes easier than for others. Organic provides A LOT of different ways to do things and different variables of problems, making it very difficult to understand what will work in one circumstance but won't in another. Questions that rely upon mastery of this knowledge, in my opinion, are a little unfair. Our professors did a great job of teaching the material, but I think they are too intelligent to write exams for students that barely understand the material.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: the format of the quiz was set up in a way that i had to put more effort into it than was worth it for how much the quizzes are weighted. it also was not conducive of learning the material because of the collaboration aspect.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I think this course's structure was very well organized. The guidelines were clearly stated in the beginning of the semester. The course was also well structured in that, it allowed for students to have a bad exam and still have a good grade in the class. I would recommend the professors, to give out homework to the students to keep them on track with the material and also have more practice with test–style questions or concepts. The homework should be for completion, which will encourage students to do it, and the more serious students to actually focus on it as well. Overall, this course was set up very well and I think if you put in the time and effort you would receive a good grade.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: This course was very challenging but rewarding. Expectations were clearly communicated.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I think that, compared to other course, organic chemistry will naturally receive less—than—stellar evaluations. It is a difficult, difficult course that challenges students to think and prepare in ways they've never done before. That being said, if you put in enough time into it, anyone can do well. The problem is that quite a few people don't; they will usually blame the course rather than investing that energy into studying more than they're comfortable doing.

In short, organic chemistry is a hard course – but with the right mentality, it can be a valuable experience to help students grow.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The general learning outcomes were communicated, and the material covered was not surprising, but the questions on the exams were confusing and always a few logical "jumps" away from the practice problems covering the same material.

Course requirements were very clearly communicated.

The exams were either too difficult or the readings and/or the book problems were too easy. From the Organic Chemistry exams I have seen from other colleges, it is likely more of the former.

Through the readings and the practice problems (I did all of both) I did not learn some of the things that the course required me to apply.

The course was challenging intellectually, although the material itself was fairly straightforward.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Whitteck and Dr. Bracher did everything in their power to help me succeed in this course. The material was difficult, yet they set expectations at the beginning of the course and reminded us to keep up with the work throughout the semester. I appreciated their flexibility with the quizzes— the format changed midway through the semester to encourage collaboration and give our grades/confidence in the course a boost. Both professors held extra office hours when available and were patient with all questions. As a student, I take my coursework seriously, and I was still challenged in the course. However, the professors' encouragement and lightheartedness kept me engaged throughout the semester, and I feel accomplished after the completion of this semester! Thank you for all your work.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: An additional homework grade would have helped in the sense it would have allowed for the student to revisit content more often than not.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I believe sometimes the lectures were not as helpful as the books, but when we started doing more in class problems, they became much more helpful because more examples were great.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Organic Chemistry is generally a difficult course, but I enjoyed the structure of it as well as the material

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I believe if a standardized final is required than I think there should be more incorporation of the ACS style questions in lectures or within the exams. I know chemistry major's Exam 4 was written in ACS style form to help prepare them and I think this would be good to incorporate this. I think that

would better prepare for the final. While the ACS guide purchased was useful I think learning and applying the knowledge in the written exams by the professor was different than the ACS guide questions. While obviously the information is the same, I thought more preparation throughout the semester or leading up would be more reasonable if the ACS final is mandated.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: It's organic chemistry, so of course it is hard. I, along with a lot of other people, struggled quite a lot. I know it's a challenging subject but perhaps it can be a little bit easier in the future?

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: It is just too hard. You could make the exams more straightforward

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: although very difficult, the course is manageable if enough time is available to study. As a full time student, this can become close very hard to achieve. The slides are very clear most of the time, but we are tested on some reactions where the reagents and method are loosely implied/not explicitly stated. There are many small caveats that add to the difficulty and quickly reduce test scores. This might be for a reason, but unless clearly stated on the slides, I don't see a need to be tricked on the test.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I think people complain about this class way more than it deserves. I think it was structured and organized very well, and the professors' enthusiasm for the course made it very enjoyable as well.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The plethora of office hours was helpful especially near test time and the fun, enthusiastic way in which the material was taught made the class engaging. As difficult as it was, I thoroughly enjoyed the challenge.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: – Practice problems were very helpful in lecture (clicker questions, etc.) but it seemed that sometimes a big portion of time was spent on walking through every detail when that same portion of time could have been used for more practice problems.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I thought this course was incredibly difficult, and the tests definitely challenged my understanding of the material. I think the way quizzes are done should be modified, because I don't feel they helped me learn the material better.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I had a very positive experience and finished the class with a good grade. This was due to attending office hours, SI sessions, and doing practice problems. I thought the instructors were fantastic! They explained the material very clearly and were always available to help. I thought their tests were very fair and covered the material we covered in class.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: This course was very well structured. I feel as though we moved quick enough to get through all of the information we needed to, but we also had time to ask questions. I was in the smaller section, so asking questions was very easy and they were always answered thoroughly.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: This course was difficult, but it was the most clearly communicated course I've ever taken at SLU.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: A large portion of this class was them teaching us these topics then giving us problems that incorporated literally at least 4 of them in one problem but we were given no signal as to what these 4 problems would be. Overall, I understand that there is value in challenging us, but for every question on every single test? I left feeling unconfident and unintelligent because I couldn't devote every waking moment to applying and memorizing every reaction, compound, and piece of equipment they discussed and I believe this class requires much more time than any other class I have ever taken. Again, I understand the professors want to challenge us, but having such a skewed grading scale is part of the problems. Are you seriously telling me that more than half of the class getting below a 50% on an exam taught us anything? I fail to comprehend why they continue to make the class so difficult when we literally cannot even get half of the questions right. I just feel like its a difficult topic and they should be challenging us, but the degree to which they do so doesn't actually allow us to learn any of the material.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Need to better coordinate exams between this course and Biochemistry/Molecular Biology.

Large room for improvement in reference to exams. Exam averages should never be as low as 49%.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I think that this course is structured well and was very enjoyable. The tests were just immensely difficult and finding a way to study that was effective was difficult.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The exams were really hard and tricky. I felt like once we started doing more practice problems in class, it helped a lot. However, it was very frustrating for me to study day and night, go to SI sessions, go to tutoring sessions, and spend so much of my time (when I am taking 18 credit hours) on this class, and still have a C average. I admire Dr. Bracher and Dr. Whitteck, for they are incredibly smart, but I can't be

expected to be held up to their level of intellectuality when I am only a sophomore in college. I gave everything I had and put as much effort as I could into this class, and I hope they take this into consideration when presenting final grades.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: should completely change structure. instead of spending class time reiterating what the book says (we can all read, just so you know), spend class only doing practice problems and then discussion should be a time to review content from the book if people don't understand it on their own.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Very tough

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The course was challenging and moved at a quick pace. It was sometimes hard to keep up with. I feel as though if they assigned homework problems to do, that would have helped me to prepare better for exams. We were really left on our own and weren't quite sure where to start when it came to studying for exams.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The course was hard, but fair. The tests challenged the material, requiring a greater understanding of the material than most students were used to, while still being lenient and fair.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I think the course was taught amazingly well, with the professors making it clear that we were always able to speak with them about things. With that, I think the course itself does not benefit from the recitation sessions, especially ones at such inconvenient times.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The course was very well structured, in fact the best structured class I have seen. There are plenty of ways to get help, the syllabus and all class information is very thorough. Great course, rough subject.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: This course was extremely difficult however the instructors made learning the material engaging and more interesting. This helped me to focus in class better and to learn more of the material.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The course was very well structured and organized, I especially appreciated the discussion board

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The worst class I've ever taken at SLU. The material was gone over way too fast and not explained well at all.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I would have preferred if the class was structured in way where we were expected to read the book on our own and learn the topics then when we came to class we only discussed the non difficult concepts and practiced harder problems. I felt as though the problems in class did not reflect he difficulty level of the problems we were asked on the exams. I would have found this very beneficial.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: A difficult class, but I have learned more in this class than any other

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: This course was a lot more challenging than ones at several different schools. I know many people that have gone through organic chemistry at other universities, and they have not been as hard at the program here. We are not taking a more advanced class than people at other Universities, so I dont understand why the class has to be so much more difficult than other classes. I enjoy the challenge of Organic Chemistry, but it doesnt have to be this mentally exhausting.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Loved the class, really. I found that the textbook was the most helpful tool in really learning and understanding the material.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Would prefer having homework problems that could be added towards final grade or in class clicker points that can go towards grade. Maybe curving the grade so that the second highest grade becomes a 100 and the difference is bonus for everyone else, similar to MCB.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I really liked how this class was formatted. I think we had enough time for each topic, but I would try and incorporate more practice problems into lecture. I know we did that towards the end of the semester, but it really helped to see how we should approach problems in class.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Very difficult course. I had a hard time grasping some of the concepts. There was ample opportunity for reaching out and getting help (SI, Office hours, etc.). The only resource I had difficulty using was tutoring. There need to be more tutors for this course. More than once I've checked two weeks in advance (before a test) and there were no open spots (this happened to me more than once).

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Fun course, would do away with the mandatory discussions, however. Would also rather have in–class quizzes, though I guess the other students are to blame for that.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: There are a lot of exams in this class, and they're needed

for the amount of material, but they without fail fall during the same week as the exams for other material heavy courses which makes it that much more difficult. That's really my only complaint, and I understand that with timing exams may not be able to be moved in the future, just something to take note of.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The book is not very helpful

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: A difficult course, but taught a lot. My only complaint was I thought the lectures could have aligned with what was actually on the test better.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The course is very well structured and I admire how the slides get posted before we actually go over the lecture. I honestly don't feel that Orgo is as hard as people make it out to be, especially if you put in the work. It is definitely a defining course, though, for pre–meds.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Anyone that tells future students that organic chemistry is hard needs to put it into context. Organic chemistry is as hard as you make it out to be. Having a positive mindset is the the most important thing when coming into this class. The course provides so many different ways to help students when they have questions. Time management is another big key to success. We all have to make some sacrifices to do well in this class, whether it be sleep or watching our favorite TV show. The course doesn't supply "trick" questions. The professors provided substantial information during lectures and office hours to key students in on the topics to learn. If the professors are telling us how to get to Point A, but the student decides to venture off to Point B, it is not the professors fault. I have thoroughly enjoyed taking this course and I have very excited to take Organic Chemistry II.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The class overall was very well done. There were a lot of resources to help us succeed including the exam archive and the discussion board, as well as office hours which were always very helpful. The discussion board was by far my favorite resource because I got my questions answered in a very timely manner and the responses were extremely helpful as well as reading the questions and responses from my classmates, which is something we don't have access to in office hours.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Instead of reading off the powerpoints during class maybe the time can be used to do practice problems. Also instead of just saying do practice problems out the book maybe specific problems can be assigned. The practice should line up with the kind of problems that will be on quizzes and tests. I think that the class should also use the point system instead of all the material being a percentage of the grade.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I always felt like the exams we had were first of all not representative of everything we had learned in class, and second were harder than previous exams from past semesters. I took practice exams from previous years for every exam, however, I never felt like the exams we took this semester were of the same difficulty. I would have liked to see more practice problems in class that are representative of what will be on the exams.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I feel like sometimes you guys ask test and quiz questions that are hard just to be hard. I don't really understand that type of teaching. Teach us what we should know and test us on the concepts we needed to learn. Why have "trick" questions? All it does is frustrate people.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Braucher was very fun and interesting to learn from. Dr Whitteck did a lot of examples! Both contributed in a positive manner to my Organic Chemistry experience.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Honestly, after taking this class, I realized that chemistry is just not for me. I would rather major in music, to be honest. I have never cried because of a class in my entire life, but this was the first time I did. I don't think that grading is fair at all; especially when small mistakes are assigned HUGE points! Finally, I hate orgo! hate it hate it.

Also, more videos please and more practice problems during lecture

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I often or completely forgot to do some practice problems after each lecture. If it was a requirement, it would help me a lot. (even if just look at the solution book to answer the problems)

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The exams were often scheduled within two days of MCB exams which made it difficult to devote adequate time to one test or the other.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Discussion sections were not very helpful, especially if the GTA was wrong and had to email us a real explanation afterwards. The class had too many structural changes, which was not helpful. The textbook problems are too easy in comparison to tests, so they are a weak source to use.

#### Questions about the Instructor Paul Bracher

The instructor communicated ideas and information clearly.

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never	Average	Total Responses
Overall	114	42	10	0	3.63	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	89	38	10	0	3.58	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	25	4	0	0	3.86	29

The instructor demonstrated enthusiasm for the subject matter.

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never	Average	Total Responses
Overall	155	9	2	0	3.92	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	128	7	2	0	3.92	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	27	2	0	0	3.93	29

The instructor provided feedback/critique that helped me with subsequent work in the course.

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never	Average	Total Responses
Overall	119	25	19	3	3.57	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	94	21	19	3	3.50	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	25	4	0	0	3.86	29

The instructor treated students with respect.

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never	Average	Total Responses
Overall	148	14	4	0	3.87	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	122	11	4	0	3.86	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	26	3	0	0	3.90	29

The instructor was available for assistance when needed.

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never	Average	Total Responses
Overall	139	21	6	0	3.80	166
FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1	114	17	6	0	3.79	137
FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1	25	4	0	0	3.86	29

# Please offer any comments and/or suggestions you wish to share about the instructor Paul Bracher:

The system does not allow an instructor to connect ANY quantitative responses with an individual student. Unless a student identifies him or herself in the written comments, qualitative responses are similarly assured of confidentiality.

#### **Comments**

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: He is very passionate about what he is teaching, which makes class a little enjoyable. He is approachable and helpful.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: felt like expectations were too high for first time organic students. a little too much humor and not enough explanations of difficult material.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher kindly assisted students during office hours, and he was willing to go out of his way to help students in need. I greatly appreciated this.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher is honestly the most enthusiastic professor I have ever had. He genuinely enjoys the subject material and I appreciate that a lot.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher is a little too smart to teach, and has very high expectations for his students, expectations that are not met all the time. He can be condescending at times, and even a little uncompassionate. I would wish that he put himself in the shoes of an average student, not pursuing a career in organic chemistry, and not be under the impression that each and every one of his students has 20 hours a week to dedicate organic chemistry. He is undoubtedly a great person and has a wonderful personality, but I did not enjoy his class due to my performance as a result of his methods to teach. He was very traditional and preferred lecturing every session, even though he himself stated that organic chemistry requires practicing problems to master the material, so I don't know why he contradicted himself almost every day he taught by doing few problems. However, Dr. Bracher did improve and started bringing more and more problems through out the semester, and I really learned to love his orthodox teaching style and his passion for a subject.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I actually really enjoy Bracher's enthusiasm for Organic Chemistry. It really did "pump me up" for the class for the most part.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Very passionate and his passion is contagious

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: great professor

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher is a fantastic professor who has an obvious passion for the subject. Sometimes, his genius gets in the way of his lecturing though and he sometimes glosses over subjects that, though simple to him, are new to the students.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Tried to make very hard material more interesting by showing us the real world applications, which I found very interesting.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher is a great instructor of organic chemistry.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Very intelligent person, which is why he might not have explained things in the best way. Things that he knew by heart, he believed we should understand right away. Honestly, I stopped going to class after the first few weeks because the professors were confusing me even more.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Paul Bracher is one of the smartest humans I have ever met. He cares about his students and always makes times to meet with them and is always hosting extra office hours. However, I think this man often writes the test in ways that make the student stress to the max. Overall though I would recommend this professor to anyone. I am personally not too happy with my grade, but that is on me because Bracher always made himself available for help and explains things guite well.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Love him and his sense of humor. but often times he spoke in ways that were hard for me to understand.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher gave very interesting lectures and kept students engaged with his great sense of humor. One time before an exam I went to his office hours that were scheduled to last an hour and a half and he stayed an extra hour to help students with the material. He went above any beyond to give students the help that they needed and even held office hours on Sundays. He also was very responsive on the class discussion board. His level of involvement inspired me to study often. Overall, he is very kind and a great instructor.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Your humor makes me come back to class even when I don't want to. Please never lose your enthusiasm for orgo.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Awesome teacher. Extremely intelligent and helpful. In courses of this level of difficulty, it is a blessing to have such an instructor that truly wants to help students succeed.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher was always willing to answer questions and spend extra time providing office hours to students. He was also very enthusiastic about the material, and clearly enjoys teaching. His class was always engaging and he always provided real—world applications, which was helpful.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Awesome - enough said.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher was a great instructor

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher, I appreciate the life you brought to class. I never imagined organic chemistry could be "fun", yet you managed to make it one of my favorite courses this semester. I appreciate how you make the material applicable to everyday life. I'm looking forward to learning more from you next semester!

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher was very enjoyable as a professor. He was

good at engaging students during lecture and knew how to grab our attentions. He always gave great examples and was always willing to help out. Especially around exam time, he had extra office hours for students to come meet him.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Amazing professor. Always there to help, support, and motivate, please never change.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Great teacher but he does put in questions on quizzes and tests that could be tricky. The class is way too hard if you're taking the class with MCB. tests are usually in the same week which makes it almost impossible to study for both. 75% of the class has failed 2/4 tests and the instructors did not care. When that large of a number of students are failing it's not the students it the instructors. The change the format of the class way too often they think it is for the benefit of the students but its really just to make there lives easier.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: A great asset to the University.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher offers a vault of resources for extra practice for organic chemistry. He is really good at explaining mechanisms.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher is a great teacher. He is funny and clearly knows what he's doing. Perhaps it's my own way of learning, but I personally wished we could have done more in class problems where we actually get to see the step—by—step process in solving problems.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Best professor at SLU hands down no question

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Very well-spoken and loves his work.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I felt that he was an effective teacher, however sometimes I felt like he just read off of the powerpoint slides, and it was not very helpful. However, I liked how passionate he was and it made me want to learn more.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher was probably one of the best professors I've had so far in Chemistry. His enthusiasm for the subject material makes the class much more enjoyable! Orgo is a very hard subject, but with Dr. Bracher teaching it, I've had more fun learning about how to not ever make Texas Carbons and to complete and synthesize reactions I'd never thought I'd make! His Exams can be on the tougher side, but his goal is to challenge us and make sure we understand the course material. I'm glad this isn't another class of memorization and regurgitation of factual information. His daughter is adorable, and he just found out about 1738, which was quite hilarious when didn't know what was going on.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher is a very funny guy and is great at challenging students to find out what they know. I enjoyed his jokes and his dedication to making students see problems from a different point of view.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: –Office hours on the weekend were SO helpful!!! –Some of the explanation portions during lecture were hard to follow, and it would be nice to get a visual drawing out of the concept instead of just explaining it in words.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher is a phenomenal professor and it was a pleasure to be in his class. He explained information very clearly and provided examples that applied to our daily lives. He was always available for questions and worked well with Dr. Whitteck.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: His sense of humor made it much easier to pay attention in class. He was thorough when lecturing and open to helping.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher's enthusiasm was something we desperately needed or such a difficult class. He also was incredibly knowledgeable of the material, and communicated with us very well

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Super relatable. Approaches such a hard subject for students in a great way.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: He is an insanely smart man who used amazing analogies to try to explain some difficult topics to us, but I really feel like he expects us all to be much better at organic chemistry. Many of us are not nearly as smart as he is and so when he gives us such challenging problems, it feels more condescending and degrading than helpful. I think he does a great job at teaching but when it comes to asking questions that are so complex, it feels like hes using his intelligence against us. I don't think I actually learned anything useful in this class because we were asked impossible questions for the caliber we are supposed to be at.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Great professor. Often is too intelligent and doesn't "dumb things down" enough for the students. I am concerned that he was not happy that the exam 1 average was so high.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher is one of the best instructors that I have had.

He really takes the time in class to explain things thoroughly. My sister who is a chemistry major at the University of Illinois sat in on lecture one day and commented about how well Dr. Bracher explained things and took time on each topic rather than rushing through like her professor.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Both orgo professors are fantastic! Very passionate and it shows.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Awesome teacher, went through the material slowly, made it easier to understand

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: very good at explaining things

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Never let this man leave SLU. He is the best teacher I have ever had and made me interested in Chemistry.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: He was an outstanding instructor. He was also very interactive with the students and kept us attentive. The way he taught was a way I believe many of us could follow and understand. He would throw jokes in every once in a while which kept us paying attention.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Bracher is a fantastic professor. I was lucky to have the privilege to be in his class, and take his challenging exams. Though he is tough, he is also fair, and wishes to challenge the students who are gifted, and have never really had a challenge in their educational lives.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I love this man, literally just a delight to have as a teacher and a good human.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher and Dr. Whitteck are without a doubt two of the hardest working and best professors at SLU. Having them together was at some points hard, because it meant switching back and forth between teaching styles, however they balance each other out quite well. Their devotion to the class was remarkable. From the discussion board to office hours, they really wanted their students to succeed. They connected course material to real life, and most of all they were personable. SLU is quite lucky to have two amazing professors like them.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I wish that we had homework for this class because it's helpful and helps prioritize. For MCB there is homework so I think that made it more of a necessary practice, whereas in Orgo it is self-directed which I believe has pros and cons. I also wish that in general we would spend more time doing examples that are challenging because oftentimes I fins the exam to be much harder than class problems. The discussions could address this issue if only they had better construction, maybe work old exam problems or work problems that closely mirror exam problems because right now it seems like a waste of time. I don't feel as I did as well this semester as I could because of pressure from MCB and finding a balance, but that really isn't a problem you all can address. But you are a good professor and I feel as though you want us to succeed so i will come to office hours next semester.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher really made the class "fun" well as fun as an organic chemistry class can be. He really tried hard to present the material in different ways and to explain the application of the material we were learning in class. He made organic chemistry less of a mandatory class you have to take and made it more of hey this is a very hard class, but it is very interesting. He really showed that organic chem is an interesting field of study. He helped me to change my view of organic chemistry that instead of this super hard class that was impossible to do, I know think of organic chemistry as a very tough field that has many applications in the real world.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher was extremely enthusiastic about organic chemistry and made me want to come to class and put in my best effort to the class. Additionally, Dr. Bracher made himself very available to students and often hosted extra office hours on the weekend.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher is not only extremely intelligent, he does a remarkable job in explaining concepts too.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: You could tell he enjoys orgo. Not very good at explaining material, and went too fast through the notes at times.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher is an amazing professor, and when he is teaching in lecture, he makes organic chemistry very simple to understand. I think he really knows what he is doing and is overall a very intelligent professor who really cares about teaching us. However, I feel as though Dr. Bracher's exam questions seem to try to lead you to a different answer. This is a good way to test knowledge of Organic Chemistry, but it is also very difficult because I feel like every question is trying to trick me.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Sometimes it appeared Dr. Bracher wasn't over enthused

about some of the more basic organic topics, which makes total sense considering he has a PhD. Luckily, even if the material was a bit more dull, he would spice things up with some fun jokes or just obscure references. Always up to give a good pep talk too.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I really like how you made class interesting with examples of outside material. I would like to have done more practice problems in class during your lectures though.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Super enthusiastic about organic chemistry. I had a good experience with Dr. Bracher and feel that I learned from him.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Paul Bracher is a fantastic professor who defeats the stigma of chemistry professors being boring and condescending. He makes organic chemistry very enjoyable and also helps us find ways to succeed in this very difficult subject

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr.Bracher truly understands the course being taught and reflects that in the way he teaches the course. His enthusiasm for the course is highly contagious.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I feel that sometimes ideas were rushed through so fast that it made it seem like they weren't important, so they were not studied as hard later. I also feel like a lot of the concepts were not explained clearly, so I had to turn to outside methods (friends explaining it, Khan Academy)

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Amazing person and professor. Really made the class enjoyable and wanting to attend lectures. Very challenging with test questions and had high expectations of us, but did all he could to help obtain our goals. He is definitely one the best professors at the school and is very respected, despite teaching such a challenging course.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The video key for the practice final was very helpful and I think that although they do take time that they would be very helpful for the exam keys.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-02-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Awesome professor. Truly cares about the subject matter and the students. Knows what he is talking about. I can't wait for him to write his own textbook.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: He is a great and approachable guy. I enjoy going to his lectures and he explains things really well.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I heard a variety of things about Dr. Bracher prior to coming to Organic Chemistry. Some students said he was a kind man who knew Organic Chemistry like the back of his hand. Others said he was out to "destroy your GPA." After learning about Dr. Bracher's teaching style and how he organizes tests, I found the former to be more true than the latter. Honestly, the only one who "destroys your GPA" is the student himself/herself. When asking questions to Dr. Bracher he supplies answers in a manner that we should understand at that moment. He does not belittle us nor does he try to go overboard when explaining where one went wrong on a problem. He has a level of expectation for us that is easily achievable. I enjoyed his jokes in class as they provide a sense of humor in Organic Chemistry. Dr. Bracher said at the beginning of the semester that Organic Chemistry is fun. After taking just one semester, I wholeheartedly believe that Organic Chemistry is fun and has been one of my favorite classes here at SLU.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: It was clear that Dr. Bracher has a mastery of organic chemistry and is passionate about it and it brings him genuine excitement to teach us the subject material. Sometimes he sped through the lecture material too quickly for my personal speed, however that was not very often. He was always helpful in office hours and prepared us very well for our exams and quizzes, even though they were challenging.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Dr. Bracher is an amazing professor who makes a notoriously difficult class entertaining and helps explain. He is hands down one of the smartest individuals I have crossed paths with in life, but he is extremely humble and never talks down to anyone. He truly loves what he does which makes taking this class so much more enjoyable. Even on the tough questions that you miss, you have to respect the detail and thought he put into writing them. His exam solutions guide are an amazing tool to learn from your mistakes, and his synthesis guide compiles the countless mechanisms into one place. His extra office hours on the weekend before exams are an amazing resource especially because he doesn't have to do that. SLU is very fortunate to have a professor the quality of Dr. Bracher, and I know that all of his students appreciate him.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Super funny, sometimes went over things too fast or didn't invest enough time explaining things he considered 'basic knowledge' which really weren't, but he made class fun and interesting

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: I like how you explain the material, that helps me understand it better. Maybe add one or two problem at the end of the lecture, give a minus or so, then solve the problem, that will help me reinforce everything just learn.

#### Instructor Evaluation Report for Paul Bracher

#### **Comments**

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: The exam archive was very helpful in providing practice problems. I think more time could be spent in class going over exam—style problems. The detailed key posted after each exam with explanations for each question was very helpful. If possible, I'd also appreciate a list of book problems that you think correlate best with topics on the exam.

FL2017 CHEM-2410-01-Organic Chemistry 1 - Paul Bracher: Command of the subject matter is clear, but explanations sometimes were not very applicable/understandable to students with less background in chemistry. The class time was somewhat wasted by giving some stories which are entertaining but not always helpful.