

Physics 231 SCALE-UP Course Evaluation

What was the best thing(s) about the SCALE-UP teaching method?

You are able to work in groups and analyze things together. It makes it easier to learn.

It was a lot more interactive and a lot easier to stay awake.

Not having to sit through a lecture actually working out problems in class

Having group mates/table members to help on problems, rather than solve on your own and possibly get stuck on a problem plus helpful TA's.

I feel that the concepts were explained better.

I feel like the material was covered better and since it was a smaller class my questions were able to be answered right away

Working with other students to work on problems. You have a team that can help you out when you don't understand something or are having trouble.

Smaller class size made it more personal & easier to get specific questions answered.

The groups were the best. Having to work problems and discuss the solutions with the other group members was very helpful in learning the material.

It made it so everyone could be involved in class activities

I got a much better understanding of all the concepts and how they're applied to everyday life w/ this class as opposed to the lecture class b/c its smaller & we did a lot of clicker questions that made me think & apply what I'd learned & the in-class examples helped a lot as well by that I mean the demonstrations.

It gives you time to practice what you've learned. Solving problems is the best way of learning physics

It allows us to interact with our peers.

The best part was we were able to see real life examples when first being introduced to the material. Much easier to understand and was much easier to retain.

Small class, in class demonstrations, group work

Group work helps learning. It was also nice not having to do a lab every week

Seems fun

Small group discussions about problems

We were able to work together in groups. If anyone had any trouble with anything then you could first ask some of your group members before going to the professor. Also the explanation using the lab materials helped a lot.

I liked the smaller class size and the presence of so many TA's also doing homework on Web assign is preferable to the other program

The demonstrations are cool.

The smaller class size & groups made it much easier to ask questions during class.

Having class participating grades (clicker) Real life examples. Get to use projector.

The partner teaching method I liked group interaction and interaction with the TA.

It allowed for all of us to work in a group. Whenever one of us were stuck, someone else in our group could help us.

I enjoyed the group style of working through problems together. I found it much easier to learn compared to a lecture.

Get friends

What was the worst things(s) about the SCALE-UP teaching method?

Our professor gave us problems to solve without explaining it first, making it very difficult especially in problems when it's okay to make things up

Sometimes it felt like we didn't get to go over stuff that was on the homework. Often graded on stuff we didn't talk about.

The programming on the computers

Sometimes I felt topics weren't explained in great detail, and the book would offer little to no guidance.

The book and the homework. They both didn't go with the class. The book was hard to learn from and didn't give enough example problems to do HW. The HW seemed to assume a lot of information.

The homework was a lot harder and sometimes felt like we never covered the material.

You have less lecture time because there is so much team work. It is more you teaching yourself.

Didn't seem like much info was given from the book. Class time was basically a number of questions.

We focus too much on figuring out problems that actually learning the material.

The homework on Webassign was sometimes much more in depth & difficult than anything that was done or gone over in class.

It seemed like the professor expected more out of us at times.

Felt unorganized at times, didn't know when lab reports were needed etc.

That h/w was 15% & reading assignments were 5% b/c even when I read sometimes I still couldn't answer the reading assignments questions

What was the worst things(s) about the SCALE-UP teaching method?

There wasn't enough theory being lectured. Thus the pressure was mainly on the student (pressure to understand the theory behind each chapter).

To many ????? examples

No in depth lecture, explanation of material, we are expected to learn everything by ourselves.

Using Mac was annoying. The Constant attn to webassign. I felt like we had too many hw assignments. Group roles were discouraging.. only manager can ask questions but really other ppl who don't understand the material should be able to speak up.

Not enough examples of problems in class that we'll see on test & quizzes homework was difficult.

It did not go into great detail about each different topic we covered. I could not get a good grasp on the information.

With the teacher so close to you and the class being small he knows when you are absent or asleep.

There was a lot of demonstrations which helped but there were not a lot of examples done in class. The homework assignments are sometimes hard.

Not enough class time on Lab days

Did not like staying in the same group for a long time. Didn't get to choose groups. Webassing HW was too difficult. HW was much harder than class (Class didn't prepare for HW)

The Homework, test, and what we were exploring in class did not like up and was a definite cause in some failing grades. Homework was ahead of class and test behind class.

Boring – Get not much knowledge. Some class we get only 2 questions. Waste of time. Some class, feel I don't want to learn.

I really wish that the system was a little more relaxed. I think that the group roles and contracts were something that you would do in high school. The group should have that decision.

I felt that the TA's weren't always aware of what the teacher was doing; at east for the scale-up class method were groups are asking specific and detailed question.

What should we change for next time?

I'm not sure if every teacher went through training, but if not some should. We had Sukenik for a week and he helped in greater way than my teacher does, he speaks as if he what he's talking about.

Do much more example problems in class so that students know what to do when it comes to the homework.

Skip the programming part. Do more problems in class.

WEBASSING have it set to say if it is a sing error. Off by 10%, sig fig, instead of a giant RED X.

Find a book that gives more problem examples or do more problem examples.

What should we change for next time?

I think the homework should be gone over a little more.

More lecturing.

Offer more time to teach the theories we are to learn and less time practicing them.

On the homework, if you could either assign more add problems or turn on the hints for Webassign. This way, we will know what we hade done wrong. Since the numbers change in the problems anyway I think this is fair.

More instructions time with fewer problems.

No clicker created too much time for class to sit and do nothing.

Make h/w 10% and reading assignments a participation grade.

A bit more time should be spend on lecturing. Not a lot, so it turns into a lecture class, but just enough to clarify the main points in a chapter.

Work out examples on slides online not just the question

More in class lectures, not so many clicker questions, or clicker questions after a mini-lecture

For important equations, the teacher should work through them on the board or with the student instead of just showing it. Explain how to apply calculus.

No rolling dice and no group roles for explanation PC.. not MAC. Practice exams similar to exam.

You should explain things in depth more so that we will understand the material. Spend more time reviewing for test and quizzes to ensure that you are covering each section well enough before moving on to something new

Try and let web assign give us hints when we mess up.

Go through more examples in class

More written examples

The size of class is great but the positions of the tables in reference to the white boards does not give everyone adequate viewing of the work being done on the white boards. A possible remedy would be to have the work projected onto the screens on either end of the room.

Link the homework, class lecture and test better. Also, more interaction with the teacher to explain formulas reasonably.

Make webassign easier. Less Frequent HW due to dates.

What should we change for next time?

As I stated above, I wish that the system put more responsibility to the students. The teacher shouldn't have to decide the group roles for us. Also I feel that whether you get an extra 5 points on a test should be up to the group. That should be on an individual basis.

What should we change for next time?

Of course I recommend it should be lecture class.

How can we improve the group structures?

It took my third group to find a group that helped me learn. I'm not sure how groups are put together but I think people that understand should be placed w/ ??? that are struggling. It's very helpful.

I'm not sure but it seemed like the groups worked fine.

The group roles never really worked. Despite that, my groups have usually cooperated & got things done so I don't think the roles are that important

Remove the group roles. Useless IMO.

Switching groups so much isn't needed unless someone in a group doesn't like it.

Groups were fine.

Good

Let the students decide on the groups & rolls of each member

4 people to a group

The structure is fine

Make the kids that fool around all class work together.

Good as is

Grouping was just about right

I'm fine with the group structures, they worked out well.

No group roles. Pick one group.

We can have groups, but not group roles because only a specific person could ask the professor questions and we never really knew what each roles should do.

They seem good to me

They were okay, don't know how they could've been improved. Maybe encouraging attendance more forcefully so that groups were more constant.

Group activities are good.

Let us choose groups

Good as is.

Allow for the students to pick the groups. What harm does that do?

How can we improve the group structures?

The groups were fine.

I disagree with learning with groups

Do you have any other comments?

The class would have been horrible if it had not been for the groups.

I prefer this teaching method MUCH more than the boring lecture halls.

We should have more HW tries.

NO

No

No

Scale up was a good change

I'm so glad somebody thought to have this class in this format

I like the class the way it is, only thing is I believe I need a little more lecturing myself.

Give us more time on the exams, more than 50 min

Good class. Text book was bad

Name tags are needed.

The choice of textbook: Not very impressed with it. Explanations left much to be desired. The instructor's answer keys to HW were very helpful.

I would choose this class instead of the other type

Overall I enjoyed the program, though I could not get into the class again and wanted to. I would have done well in the next session

I feel that scale-up could become successful. I have learned an awful lot during this semester. I hope that for next semester that some of the lessons should be more individualized

Change to be "lecture" I want to hand in homework with date not random