

**Courses with available student evaluation responses:**

- GEOG 150C1: Environment and Society, *fall 2013*  
Teaching assistant leading 4 discussion sections, total responses: 46 (61.3% response rate, only quantitative data available)
- GEOG 240: Our Dynamic Landscape, *fall 2018*  
Instructor, total responses: 23 (59.0% response rate)
- GEOG 302: Introduction to Sustainable Development, *summer 2017*  
Instructor, total responses: 4 (44.4% response rate)
- GEOG 303: Field Study in Environmental Geography, *summer 2015*  
Instructor, total responses: 12 (85.7% response rate)

**Quantitative Teaching Evaluations****Q: What is your overall rating of this instructor's teaching effectiveness?**

Course	Almost always effective	Usually effective	Sometimes effective	Rarely effective	Almost never effective	No response
GEOG 150C1	67.4%	28.2%	2.2%	0%	2.2%	0%
GEOG 240	78.26%	21.74%	0%	0%	0%	0%
GEOG 302	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
GEOG 303	83.3%	8.3%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**Q: What is your overall rating of this instructor compared with other instructors you have had?**

Course	One of the most effective	More effective than usual	About as effective as usual	Less effective than usual	One of the least effective	No response
GEOG 150C1	Question not asked in this evaluation					
GEOG 240	47.83%	39.13%	13.04%	0%	0%	0%
GEOG 302	75%	25%	0%	0%	0%	0%
GEOG 303	75%	16.7%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**Q: How much have you learned in this course?**

Course	An exceptional amount / much more than usual	More than usual	About as much as usual	Less than usual	Almost nothing / much less than usual	No response
GEOG 150C1	41.3%	36.9%	17.4%	2.2%	2.2%	0%
GEOG 240	47.83%	21.74%	26.09%	0%	0%	4.35%
GEOG 302	50%	25%	25%	0%	0%	0%
GEOG 303	58.3%	16.7%	8.3%	0%	0%	16.7%

**Q: What is your overall rating of this course?**

Course	One of the best	Better than usual	About average / about the same as usual	Worse than usual	One of the worst	No response
GEOG 150C1	47.8%	34.8%	15.2%	2.2%	0%	0%
GEOG 240	39.13%	47.83%	13.04%	0%	0%	0%
GEOG 302	75%	0%	25%	0%	0%	0%
GEOG 303	83.33%	8.33%	0%	0%	0%	8.33%

**Qualitative Teaching Evaluations**

**GEOG 240**

Q: What did you especially like about this course?

- “I liked how our Professor was personable with the class and wasn't just preaching to us as a professor.”
- “I liked how much the course related to everyday life rather than just being a boring geography course. I really enjoyed the unit on the built environment and how our contributions to the environment both good and bad are geography and landscape forming in itself.”
- “Broad range of topics covered”
- “Everything, it captured my interest in every topic we discussed.”
- “Friendly teacher”
- “Great topics, useful for daily life”
- “I enjoyed the in-class assignments that were provided.”
- “I had learned a lot about our landscapes and Professor was very nice and very passionate about the topic. also was very organized”
- “I liked how the class was structured. We went over a variety of subjects and they all culminated in a unit on climate change. All the information built off of previous instruction.”
- “I liked how the teacher helped understand the areas that we were learning about.”
- “I liked how this course was relatable to our every day lives and environment around us”
- “I liked how we were able to discuss and go over why certain landscape things occur, for example earthquakes, because I've only had a generalized overview of how they occur until this class.”
- “I liked learning more about the earth and its systems and rethinking human impacts on the earth”
- “I liked the topics that were covered. They were interesting that applied to everyday life”
- “I loved the partner tests. I was very worried about them but my partner worked very well with me”
- “It was interesting to understand the different changes and effect we have with the environment.”
- “Nice overview of topics related to landscapes and physical geography.”
- “term paper set up”
- “The group assignments were really fun and a good way to understand concepts.”

- “The in-class exercises.”
- “The way the course developed/evolved alongside with the research paper assignment was really unique and helpful.”
- “useful knowledge about earth's natural trends.”

Q: What did you especially like about the way this instructor taught the course?

- “I liked how much experience she had in various projects and organizations around the world that related to the material which made it a lot more interesting being that she had first-hand experience.”
- “She is always respectful and willing to answer any question and never makes you feel dumb for asking a question or throwing out a wrong answer. She's also a very fair grader.”
- “She had a strong passion for what she was teaching.”
- “She knew her stuff and she was clear”
- “She was honest and she knew exactly what she was talking about and it showed when a student asked a question she almost always had an answer and if she didn't she would find the answer and talked about it in the following class.”
- “enthusiasm”
- “Enthusiastic about teaching this course”
- “I liked how the professor had the students right down the important facts of the lecture helping them understand the material better”
- “I liked how you were able to go in-depth about certain things and clarify any misconceptions that are common about landscape occurrences.”
- “I liked that Professor vonHedemann had us do in-class activities and exams with a partner. Being able to work through problems with another person was useful.”
- “I liked the presentations and the fact that there were in-class assignments.”
- “I liked the structure of the class; slideshows, group activities, partner tests”
- “I love how she lectured slowly and we could take notes”
- “Lots of labs and time to work with others”
- “Not slow”
- “She posted the slides on D2L.”
- “she was very nice and understanding. posting the slides to d2l which was very helpful because it was a lot of information”
- “she was very passionate about the topic and made class interesting”
- “She would ask if we understood what was going on in our class, and if some of us felt like we missed somethings she would always go over things from the previous class.”
- “used many visual examples to explain processes.”
- “Was always concise and straight to the point; never went off-topic.”

Q: Please write any additional comments you may have below.

- “Class was amazing I've never learned this much science in college so far, and I extremely enjoyed it.”
- “Great class, Great teacher”
- “great teacher. understanding and very helpful. one of my favorite parts of class was the first day when she made sure that everyone inform her of their preferred pronouns and name.”

- “I learned a lot of applicable earth science.”
- “Loved the class would recommend to others”
- “Niki is an awesome instructor and really tries hard to make class time worth it! She is a great instructor!”
- “Thank you for being an understanding professor and working with me to get my work turned in”
- “very much enjoyed this course. instructor made it fun and was very caring about students.”

### **GEOG 302**

Q: What did you especially like about this course?

- “Everything”
- “It covered all areas of sustainable development.”
- “Lots of discussion and interaction. And there is a field trip!”
- “The casualness of the class made for easy engagement and participation”

Q: What did you especially like about the way this instructor taught the course?

- “It was taught more as a seminar; open discussion, and field trips”
- “She was very engaged with the class which made the lectures more interesting.”
- “The lectures”
- “We have more interaction than lecturing.”

Q: Please write any additional comments you may have below.

- “Great Class!”
- “Great professor!”
- “Niki is very kind and interesting, overall a good teacher!”

### **GEOG 303**

Q: What did you especially like about this course?

- “Mt Lemmon course/trip and the instructor”
- “Field work. Hands on activity.”
- “Our professor really took time to get to know us and share her own experiences with the material. One of my favorite classes at UA so far.”
- “I enjoyed everything about this course, labs, quizzes, class time. Great class and great teacher!”
- “Everything”
- “Loved learning how to use equipment/techniques. Loved that it’s never boring, and we always go outside and work with different groups.”
- “Great class Niki”
- “Hands on activities every day”

Q: Please write any additional comments you may have below.

- “Instructor is passionate about the material. It helps in her teaching process.”
- “Great class, great teacher!”
- “Learned way more than other classes even though it was very condensed in 3 weeks”
- “Great teacher!!!”

**Feedback from Dr. Jesse Minor, instructor of GEOG 230 Our Changing Climate:  
(teaching assistant, fall 2017)**

Niki communicates very clearly with students and with me; she maintains very professional but friendly communications with students. Niki is obviously very approachable; many more students came to her office hours than to mine.

Niki is a very dedicated teacher, and she was careful to be fair and to treat all students the same in terms of grading. If anything, she was too generous with her time, and allowed students to extend deadlines if she was not finished grading an assignment.

Despite not having a strong background in climate, Niki did outside reading and research to help the students and to ensure she understood the assignments (even assignments she wasn't grading). Niki's participation in this course improved the learning outcomes for many students and improved the student experience.

Niki should absolutely be considered for TA funding again. She is finishing a Certificate in College Teaching, and her teaching training and prior experience really show in terms of her preparedness, her assessment techniques, and her contact with students. Niki helped me out a tremendous amount in terms of taking several class periods and running group discussions when I was out of town or had a conflict that couldn't be moved. Niki was a real asset in this class, and I think she learned a fair amount of material as well.