Classroom Observation Report (Scaled)

Instructor _Christina Reppucci, PhD_____   Observer __Alexa Veenema, PhD_____

Course _PSY209: Brain & Behavior_____   Number of students present __115_____

Date/time of observation _03/21/2018_____   Location __Hubbard Hall 132, MSU____

NOTE:
This form may be used by the observer to report feedback from the classroom observation. Please consider each item carefully and assign the highest scores only for unusually effective performance. Questions 12 and 13 have been left blank, so that the instructor can include additional items if necessary. It is suggested that the observer and instructor arrange both pre- and post-visit meetings.

Outstanding	Well-Demonstrated	Satisfactory	Merits Further Development	Not Demonstrated	Not Applicable
5	4	3	2	1	N/A

__5___ 1. Defines objectives for the class presentation.

__5___ 2. Effectively organizes learning situations to meet the objectives of the class presentation.

__4___ 3. Uses instructional methods encouraging relevant student participation in the learning process.

__5___ 4. Uses class time effectively.

__5__ 5. Demonstrates enthusiasm for the subject matter.

__5___ 6. Communicates clearly and effectively to the level of the students.

__5___ 7. Explains important ideas simply and clearly.

__5___ 8. Demonstrates command of subject matter.

__5___ 9. Responds appropriately to student questions and comments.

__3___ 10. Encourages critical thinking and analysis.

__5___ 11. Considering the previous items, how would you rate this instructor in comparison to others in the department?

__5___ 12. Overall rating

What overall impact do you think this lesson had on students and their learning outcomes?

> The topic was highly complex, yet Christina presented the material in a very effective way so that students could easily follow the distinct mechanisms and steps involved. Overall impact is very positive and the way the material was presented will help in positive learning outcomes.

What were the instructor's major strengths as demonstrated in this observation?

- Very well organized ppt slides and effective use of animations, images, and laser pointer
- Christina went beyond the textbook to find better images to explain the material
- Christina has a captivated way of explaining the material by including bigger picture thinking and providing real life examples, among others
- Christina has a clear voice and good pace of talking
- Christina showed great enthusiasm about topic
- Christina was highly knowledgeable about topic
- The use of TopHat questions was a nice way to engage students with the material

What suggestions do you have for the instructor for improving their teaching skills?

- Because some of the material was complicated, it may be helpful to try to use the blackboard to explain some of the material a second time, but in other words and in a slow pace
- Although pointer was used very well in most cases, some more focused use of the pointer might be helpful as well as indicating the location of an image rather than pointing in the case some students might not see where the pointer is aiming at.
- Although tophat is used for class engagement in a very nice way, perhaps Christina could further engage the class by asking a few questions to the class. Even if the class is not responding, it might be a good way to get attention back to the topic.
- I gave a 3 for "Encourages critical thinking and analysis" because this class overall is more about explaining principles and mechanisms and includes the introduction of a lot of new words and terms, which is highly challenging. Thus, the class is more about broader understanding than going into depth. But it might be possible to try to include some questions or statements or quizzes that will encourage students to critically think and/or analyze some of the material covered in class.

Did you have a pre-visit conference? ___yes_____

A post-visit conference? _____yes_____