

**Student IA Evaluation for Channing J. Prend  
SIO Department**

SIOC 210 - Physical Oceanography (Purkey, Sarah Michelle G.)  
Fall 2020

**Number of Evaluations Submitted: 40**  
**Number of Students Enrolled: 61**

1. How clearly did your Instructional Assistant present material?

38 (95.0%): Extremely clearly  
2 (5.0%): Very clearly  
0 (0.0%): Moderately clearly  
0 (0.0%): Slightly clearly  
0 (0.0%): Not at all clearly

2. How clearly did your Instructional Assistant answer questions, in terms of explaining content?

37 (92.5%): Extremely clearly  
3 (7.5%): Very clearly  
0 (0.0%): Moderately clearly  
0 (0.0%): Slightly clearly  
0 (0.0%): Not at all clearly

3. The Instructional Assistant graded fairly and consistently.

36 (90.0%): Strongly Agree  
4 (10.0%): Agree  
0 (0.0%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree  
0 (0.0%): Disagree  
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree  
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

4. What did you particularly like about this section?

- Channing did a really great job clearly explaining complex class topics.

- Channing led some very very helpful math sessions and review sessions that he was super prepared for and that were some of the best instruction I've received this term. He would make his own ppt presentations for these and was always happy to answer questions.
- Channing presented material clearly and concisely. He was able to distill many of the complex topics down and connect the many concepts in the class.
- Channing really made sure each student truly understood the material. He was extremely clear in his presentation of the material, and was patient with the students he was helping.
- Channing was always accessible inside and outside of class.
- Channing was amazing. Super clear descriptions, always willing to help, very patient with students.
- Channing was an invaluable member of the teaching staff for this class. He explained concepts very clearly during office hours and stepped through practice problems to help us with the homeworks. He also adapted his office hours to address the needs of the class as the quarter progressed which was super helpful.
- Channing was awesome.
- Channing was extremely clear with his explanations of the material. He made the material accessible and understandable for someone outside the field.
- Channing was very knowledgeable and very good at explaining difficult concepts. He took the time to lead math tutorial sessions which I found immensely helpful.
- Channing was very willing to help in all aspects of the course, and made sure to tailor material to individual students depending on needs.
- Channing went above and beyond in providing material, office hours and extra problems for students. He was very clear in explanations, well-versed in the material and cared about student progress
- Channing's office hours and help were so key to my success in this class. I often found his instruction and clarification on topics more clear than the actual professor. He was also very patient and went above and beyond in responding to emails quickly. You could tell that he loves teaching, and he's great at it.
- Channing's office hours were extremely helpful - the way he broke down problems for us and worked through them was totally invaluable and extremely useful. There were many instances when I wouldn't have thought to break it down the way he did and would have gotten it wrong. We're all appreciative of all the work he put in above and beyond in the class to help us be able to really dig into problems with a practical understanding.
- Channing's sound really makes you focus XD
- Clear and concise expression of material in a digestible manner.
- He was always willing to help me understand concepts and help me learn from the homework.
- He was extremely helpful.
- I liked the practice problems and I loved that the section was recorded because I had a scheduling conflict during office hours.
- loved the extra math review and the review session during office hours

- The flipped classroom format and the ability to do activities/labs despite being away from a physical lab.
- The structure of office hours and review sessions were set up in a way that efficiently over viewed important topics and examples of the material. Attending these sessions helped me the most in learning the material of the course.
- Very clear explanations both in lecture and through emails.
- Very clear explanations. He had a good understanding of the material and how it could be applied to different areas of oceanography. A lot of patience and compassion for students and really tried to meet everyone where they were, especially students who felt confused or behind.

5. What did you particularly dislike about this section?

- because there was a review session during office hours it was sometimes hard to ask other questions but the review sessions were really useful
- N
- No dislikes!
- Nope
- Nothing
- Nothing - great job!
- Nothing!
- Nothing.
- Sometimes Channing would be less willing to answer questions that went beyond the scope of the course even though I think he could have elaborated on them. I appreciated that he was clear about what we needed to know for this course, but would have liked longer answers to some of my questions that went beyond the scope of the course for the purpose of learning.

6. What is your overall rating of the Instructional Assistant?

40 (100.0%): Excellent  
 0 (0.0%): Above Average  
 0 (0.0%): Average  
 0 (0.0%): Below Average  
 0 (0.0%): Poor

7. Would you recommend this Instructional Assistant to other students?

39 (97.5%): Strongly Agree  
1 (2.5%): Agree  
0 (0.0%): Neither Agree Nor Disagree  
0 (0.0%): Disagree  
0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree

8. Each quarter, SIO Department recognizes students who excel in their teaching services and provide a valuable contribution to teaching in SIO Department by conferring the "Teaching Excellence Awards". Would you recommend this Instructional Assistant for the SIO Department Teaching Excellence Award? If yes, please explain why they deserve the award.

- Absolutely. Channing went above and beyond to ensure that all the students understood the material. He held many supplemental sessions outside of his office hours to help us understand the material and added extra office hours before the exam to go over topics and practice problems. Every question he answered when we were in breakout rooms for homework questions or virtual labs was extremely clear and he would email our group later with any further explanation he thought would be helpful. As someone who does not apply this course material to their work, the extra help in understanding the topics from Channing honestly had a huge impact on my understanding, my grade, and my enjoyment of the course. He had a huge impact on my impression of the course.
- Channing has gone above and beyond to help everyone, been really attentive to what students have expressed they need and generally been very fun to be around. It's exactly what you want a TA to be like and it's an inspiration for how I want to be as a TA.
- Channing spent hours and hours and hours explaining concepts to us, preparing review sessions and going over material that was extra difficult or extra important. He really helped me excel in this course
- Channing was always available and willing to meet with students. His office hours were very insightful, and he did his best to uphold academic integrity while also really helping out the students. He made sure the shift the structure of his office hours depending on students needs, and was very good at answering questions in and out of class in a clear and concise matter.
- Channing was really helpful in that he is always available to answer questions. His explanations were complete and easy to understand for students with different backgrounds. He helped many students understand the material through the problem solving session, math review session, and midterm/final review sessions he hosted.
- Clear understanding of material, relatable disposition during interactions.
- I could not think of a more deserving TA to award this to. Channing was one of the only reasons I understood the material in Physical Oceanography. I continually relied on office hours and his tutoring sessions to reinforce class material. I firmly believe he is the reason I excelled in PO.
- I would 100% recommend Channing. Channing is very good at explaining concepts, and he really went above and beyond by scheduling a midterm review session and creating practice problems and going over them during his office hours. He really makes an effort to explain concepts in different ways and to ensure that everyone understands. Channing is literally the best TA I have ever had, and he is one of the contributors to my success in this course.
- I would recommend Channing for the award. He went above and beyond assisting students with this course, providing exam review sessions and extra problem set sessions. On one occasion,

he even followed up via email to further clarify an answer to a question asked in office hours to all who were present. Channing is a generous and knowledgeable TA who genuinely wants students to succeed.

- I would recommend Channing for the SIO Department Teaching Excellence Award. During in class activities he was patient, clear, and helpful, but also made sure that students had a deep understanding and could come to conclusions independently. He held numerous additional tutorials and help sessions and genuinely wanted to see everyone succeed.
- Never failed to be available or offer great assistance while allowing students to figure things out themselves
- Went above and beyond with weekly review sessions, made and planned out his own mini course in math alongside the larger themes of the main course. Was always helpful during lectures and responsive outside of classtime. I felt that he cared about how we were doing in the class and wanted us to succeed, and cared about how we felt as first years outside of the class.
- YES! Channing is the reason I passed this class. He went above and beyond to prepare for his office hours to make them the best possible use of time. When he noticed many students were struggling, he starting preparing problem packets to go over in office hours to walk through examples which has been SUPER helpful! He was never a passive TA that was just sitting observing - he was always interacting, moving through breakout rooms, explaining and elaborating on concepts. He explained information in a way that was easily digestible for someone with no physical oceanography background. His knowledge about and passion for the topic is evident and I am so thankful that he was our TA!
- Yes! Channing is truly the hero of all of us taking PO remotely this year. He went above and beyond for all of his students in making sure evryone understands concepts and felt that they had the tools to exceed. He is also incredibly kind and responsive to emails. His instruction often held more clarity than the actual professor of the course. He is a star!!
- Yes! I owe much of my understanding to this teaching assistant. He really tried to explain things in the most straightforward way, was always available for questions, even via email, never judged a question, and was really just always helpful and kind. It shows he knows what he is doing and is passionate about what he does!
- Yes! In undergrad, I never felt comfortable to go to office hours or to ask TA questions because I preferred to try to figure things out myself. After having Channing as a TA this quarter, I learned how important it is to speak up and not be afraid to reach out for help. He was always accessible inside and outside of class, answered emails quickly, and adapted his office hours to what we felt like we needed the most help on. He seriously listened to our concerns and made sure to explain things as clearly and effectively as possible. Channing did not discourage participation, even if we may have given wrong answers; instead, he encouraged the learning process through participation. Also, he tried his best to make sure we were well-prepared for our problem sets and exams.  
I truly hope everyone gets a chance to come across Channing and his assistance or at least someone at his level of helpfulness; it really changed my outlook on my learning process and being okay with needing help.
- Yes, because he was extremely helpful and willing to answer questions through email throughout the week and responded quickly. It felt like he was an additional professor because he was very knowledgeable and consistently helped.
- Yes, Channing deserves this award. He makes himself very available for students if we need help on example problems, and delivers answers with clarity. His responses are easy to follow, and he does a good job working students through the steps of a given problem.

- Yes, Channing was the best teacher I had this term. He put a tremendous amount of effort into his TAing that went above and beyond the requirements of the position. He even presented on some of his research about Taylor Columns, which was really cool. I think he will be a wonderful professor someday should he choose to be one.
- Yes, he is the best teaching assistant I've ever had. He went above and beyond to help out and is an amazing teacher and explains things super clearly. I was extremely grateful for his help and impressed by his teaching.
- Yes, I believe Channing went above and beyond while TA'ing for Physical Oceanography. Channing began the quarter with calculus review sessions to bring everyone up to speed on the required math for the class. He then reacted when many of the students in the class were struggling with learning the complex concepts on their own and provided review sessions and practice problems that he went over during his office hours. He gave ample opportunity for questions during these sessions and provided clear and concise answers. Sometimes going through a difficult question multiple different ways to reach different students.
- Yes, I would HIGHLY recommend Channing for this award - he put in time above and beyond the normal expectations to help all of us succeed. Channing gathered extra problems for us to practice on, then went over them in detail with his approach during his office hours and supplemental sessions. Getting to see his approach to problems helped us deal with problems we otherwise would have made mistakes on through our limited intuition. He took the time to answer any and all questions during office hours, practice sessions, and class discussion boards, as well as through personal email. He could not have helped more than he did.
- Yes, I would recommend this IA for the Teaching Excellence Award. Channing always went above and beyond for his students and genuinely wanted to help us excel in the course. He responded to emails immediately and took the time to explain concepts clearly. He always made sure we understand the material and he deserves this award. If I do well in the course it is because of him!
- Yes, very much so. Channing routinely made extra time for us, and was incredibly patient and clear when describing concepts. Really fantastic TA.
- Yes. Channing explains the course material very well. And most importantly, he replies students' emails really really fast, with thorough explanations. I've never met an TA like him during college. Channing works very hard and he obviously is good at teaching, so I think he deserves the award.
- Yes. Channing has enough understanding and knowledge to teach courses, not just be an instructional assistant. His explanations and use of real world examples helped my learning immensely in this course. He's honestly one of the best IAs I've ever had and I would gladly take another course that he is a part of.
- Yes. Channing was an exceptional TA for 210. He went above and beyond to offer extra math help and office hours with extra practice problems. He was often the first person students went to for help because he was exceptional at breaking down complicated problems into simple steps. Channing also was very attentive at grading, providing timely and thorough feedback.
- Yes. Channing was extremely helpful and responsive the entire quarter, even responding after hours and taking initiative to follow up on questions if he thought of a more helpful answer.
- Yes. He responds to emails very quickly and provides very thorough explanations. Confusing topics in lecture were always clarified by him. He also responds in a friendly manner.

9. Do you have any other comments to add to your evaluation?

*Please keep your comments constructive and professional, abiding by the Principles of Community*

- Channing is amazing. He made Physical Oceanography more enjoyable, even though this subject is something I am not super comfortable or knowledgeable in. I hope he receives the recognition he deserves!
- Channing is the boi
- Nope
- Thank you Channing!
- Thank you so much.

Please note that any responses or comments submitted by evaluators do not necessarily reflect the opinions of instructors, SIO Department, Academic Affairs, or UC San Diego. Responses and comments are made available without auditing or editing, and they may not be modified or deleted, to ensure that each evaluator has an opportunity to express his or her opinion.