

How do you learn?

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Problem

- Teaching styles of professors are often incompatible with students' learning preferences
- This issue can retard learning

Solution

Inform teachers about the discrepancies in the classroom

Goals

- Find trends within the class on learning preferences
- Show teacher these trends
- Encourage teachers to implement changes
- Open conversation between students and teachers

Methodology

- Three teachers distributed surveys to students
- Each classes responses were summarized
- Teachers were asked:
 - 1) Was the information helpful?
 - 2) Will the student information cause teaching to be changed in the classroom?

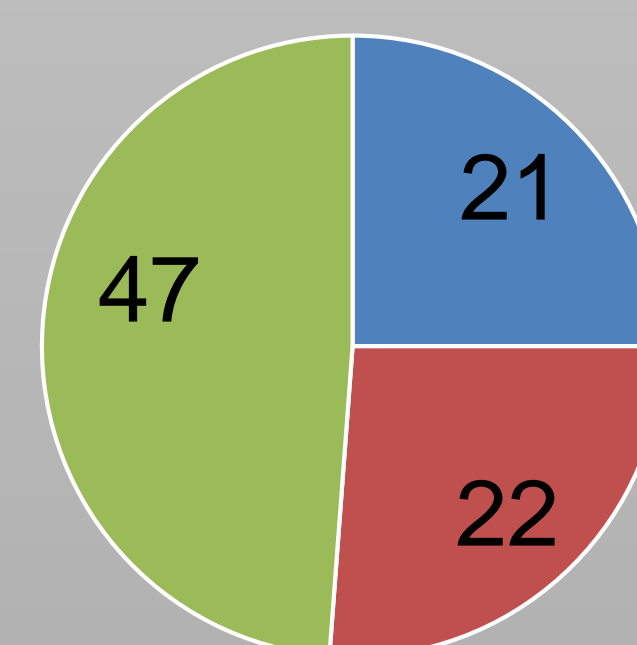
Survey Sample questions

- How do you like teacher office hours?
- What do you prefer for online homework?
- How do you prefer classroom interactions?
- When a teacher is absent, which do you prefer?



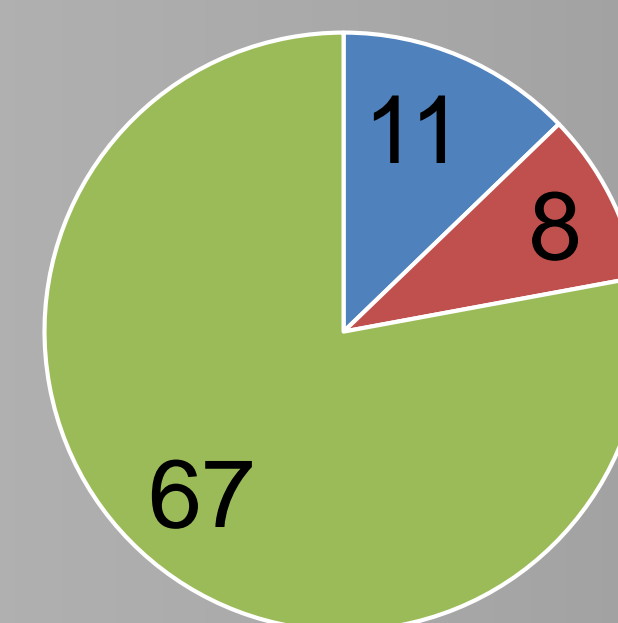
Data/Observations

Do you like it when teachers show proofs or derive solutions?



- Yes, I appreciate it because it is something that will be on the test
- No, just show me the formula to use and i'll memorize it
- Yes, I appreciate it even if we won't be asked to derive it on the test

For online homework, do you prefer:



- Easier questions with limited attempts
- Intermediate questions with a point deduction per attempt
- Harder questions with unlimited attempts

Conclusion

- Students do want change in the classroom
- Implementable student preferences would benefit WPI as a whole
- This project allowed for conversation between students and teachers to be formed

Long-term implementation

- According to some members of the WPI faculty, this project has potential for long-term implementation
- If the solution was implemented it would be on an opt-in basis by professors

Work Cited

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