

# Assessing the **IMPACT** of Our Teaching

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## What to assess?

- Teaching content
  - Syllabus, objectives, teaching materials, workload, assignments, projects, resources, etc.
- Teaching process
  - Lecturing, interaction, feedback, coaching, etc.
- Learning outcome
  - Mastering of the subject content, interest in the subject or program, problem-solving skills, etc.
- Identify good practices and learning obstacles.
- Lecturers
- Effectiveness of new teaching approaches

## **What is the impact of my teaching?**

- Does my teaching
  - Equip students with solid subject knowledge?
  - Excite students with the subject content?
  - Help turn around some non-motivated students?
  - Change students' attitude and approaches toward learning?
  - Help students observe integrity and professionalism in their studies?

## **Measuring the “short-term” impact**

- Pre-teaching and post-teaching surveys
- Four classes of questions:
  - Interests in the subject
  - Group study patterns
  - Integrity and professionalism
  - Internal-error checking

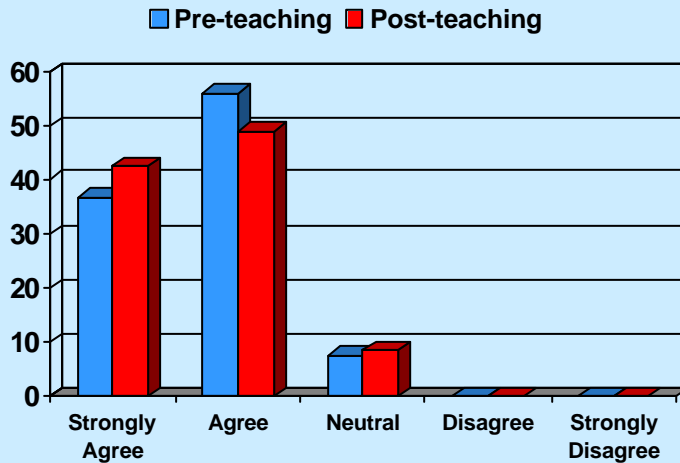
## **Group studies**

- Formed study groups in the first week.
- Each study group attended tutorials and labs together.
- A mutual assessment scheme in the group project
  - Evaluated my own contribution.
  - Evaluated other members' contributions.
  - An overall project grade plus a possible upgrade/downgrade based on the mutual assessment results

## **Integrity and professionalism**

- Spelled out the consequences of plagiarism and copyright violation.
  - 200% mark deduction for plagiarism
- The first assignment was to find out the IEEE Code of Ethics and state how to apply them as students.
- “Open” assignments
- Open-book tests and examination

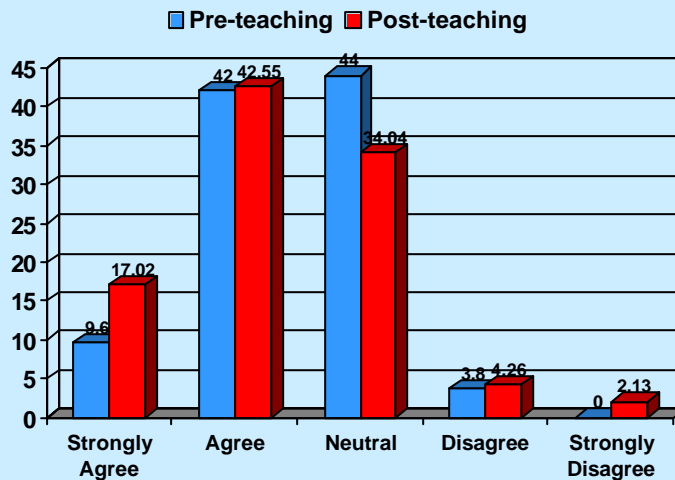
## Computer Networking is an important subject area in the course curriculum.



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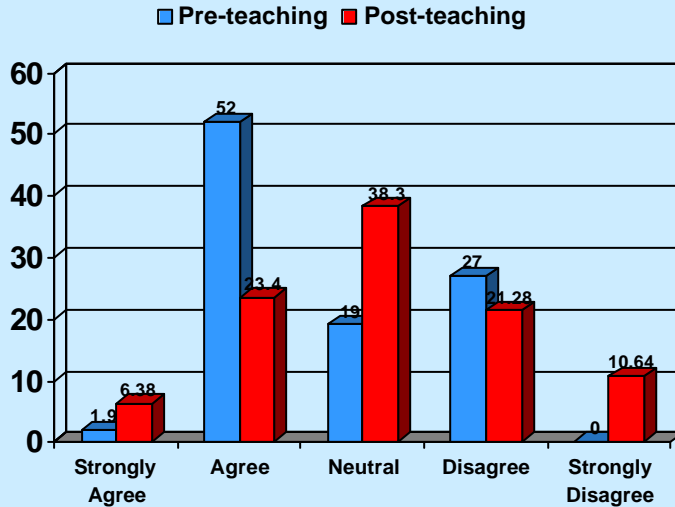
## You usually study with other classmates.



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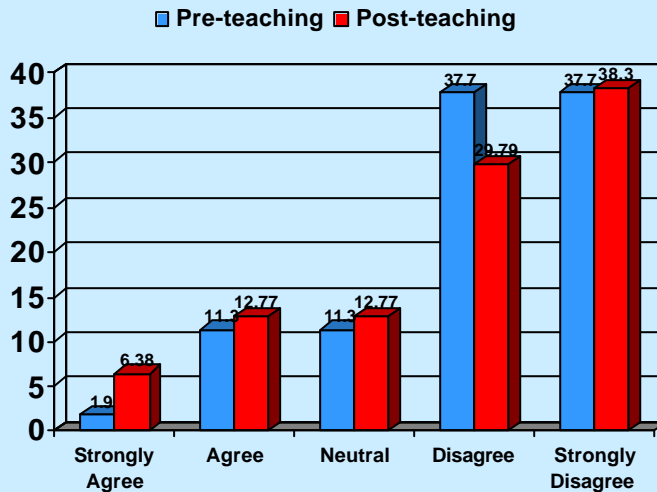
## You will copy other classmates' assignments "if necessary."



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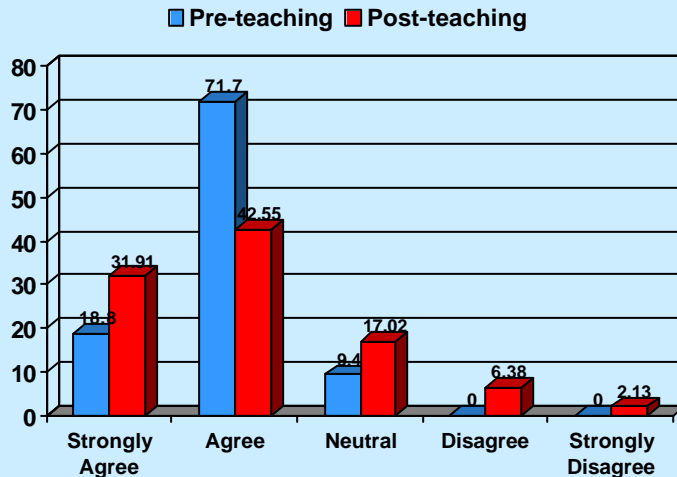
## You will cheat on tests and/or examinations "if necessary."



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## You are interested in Computer Networking.



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## To summarize,

- The ultimate goal of teaching is to make an impact on our students.
- The impact usually cannot be assessed adequately using SFQ-like surveys.
- The impact cannot be simply measured based on a majority vote.
- The impact, by definition, must have a long-term effect.
- The impact made in a single subject is sometimes limited.

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A teacher affects eternity,  
no one can tell where his  
influence stops.

-- Henry Adams