



Western Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies

April 5, 2019

Sergio,

Thank you for inviting me to attend your guest lecture on March 19, 2019, entitled *Euler's Formula and Platonic Solids*. Please feel free to use this unsolicited review as part of your teaching dossier, if you wish.

First, your lecture was well structured and had a clear organization. You began your lecture with a 'hook' to capture the audience's attention by posing a thought-provoking question, "could we identify how many polygons were in a soccer ball?" You proceeded by explaining the purpose behind the question and showing a slide of lecture outcomes. You also used a variety of tables and charts that summarized key points at the end of each section in the lecture. As well, you ended your presentation with an effective summary slide with the main takeaways from your lecture. This was very helpful to your audience as it emphasized the key points that may have been forgotten since they were discussed earlier in the lecture. As a minor suggestion, consider including more simplified explanations of the purpose behind the formula as this was, at first, unclear to some students.

Secondly, you had an astute ability to explain complex concepts to your audience by deconstructing big ideas into smaller ones. When introducing the topic, you began by asking your students very simple questions, such as "what is a polygon?" and subsequently asking students to identify the correct polygons out of a variety of mixed shapes. This provided students with not only a clear definition but an opportunity to practice applying their knowledge. You continuously utilized interactive exercises with the class with handouts and gave the class adequate time to practice on their own. By taking up the worksheets after with the class, students were able to identify their own knowledge gaps and develop a clearer understanding of the content.

You also handled class disruptions very well. Some students entered the class late or received a phone call during your lecture, but you continued to teach the class as if there were no interruptions. This kept your audience attentive and fully focused on you as opposed to becoming distracted by other disruptions.

Finally, you utilized a variety of teaching methods throughout your lecture. Your use of PowerPoint provided clear and colourful visuals to follow along with your explanations of mathematical formulas. You also utilized the whiteboard to write out mathematical relationships and solve problems. Your handouts provided the class with the opportunity to practice the newly taught concepts on their own, and your overall enthusiasm kept the class very engaged.

Overall, this was a great lecture and good luck with your future teaching!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hannah Roberts".

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