

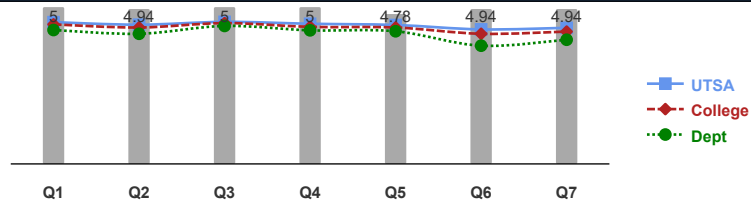
# The University of Texas at San Antonio

## UTSA Course Evaluations - Spring 2025 - 16 week (1/X)

**Course:** BCH-4313-001-202520: BCH-4313-001-Spring 2025-Biochemistry II  
**Instructor:** Aimin Liu \*  
**Response Rate:** 18/20 (90.00 %)



### At A Glance: Mean Ratings

**Strongly Agree**  
**Agree**  
**Neutral**  
**Disagree**  
**Strongly Disagree**



Q1 - 1. The instructor, Aimin Liu, clearly defined and explained the course objective and expectations.  
 Q2 - 2. The instructor, Aimin Liu, communicated information effectively.  
 Q3 - 3. The instructor, Aimin Liu, was prepared to teach for each instructional period.  
 Q4 - 4. The instructor, Aimin Liu, encouraged me to take an active role in my own learning.  
 Q5 - 5. The instructor, Aimin Liu, was available outside of class either electronically or in person.  
 Q6 - 6. My overall rating of the course is:  
 Q7 - 7. My overall rating of the teaching (Aimin Liu) of this course is:



### 1 - 1. The instructor, Aimin Liu, clearly defined and explained the course objective and expectations. -

| Response Option   |  |      |      | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses   |      | Means   |         |    |      |      |          |      |      |      |         |        |      |  |
|-------------------|--|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|---|------|---|---------|----|------|------|----------|------|------|------|---------|--------|------|--|
| Strongly Agree    |  |      |      | (5)    | 18        | 100.00% |  |      |  |         |    |      |      |          |      |      |      |         |        |      |  |
| Agree             |  |      |      | (4)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |   |         |    |      |      |          |      |      |      |         |        |      |  |
| Neutral           |  |      |      | (3)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |   |         |    |      |      |          |      |      |      |         |        |      |  |
| Disagree          |  |      |      | (2)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |   |         |    |      |      |          |      |      |      |         |        |      |  |
| Strongly Disagree |  |      |      | (1)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |   |         |    |      |      |          |      |      |      |         |        |      |  |
|                   |  |      |      |        |           |         |   |      |   | 0       | 25 | 50   | 100  | Question |      | UTSA |      | College |        | Dept |  |
| Response Rate     |  | Mean | STD  | Median | UTSA      |         | Mean  | STD  | Median  | College |    | Mean | STD  | Median   | Dept |      | Mean | STD     | Median |      |  |
| 18/20 (90.00%)    |  | 5.00 | 0.00 | 5.00   | 96619     |         | 4.52  | 0.80 | 5.00  | 25246   |    | 4.45 | 0.85 | 5.00     | 3523 |      | 4.27 | 0.98    | 5.00   |      |  |

### 2 - 2. The instructor, Aimin Liu, communicated information effectively. -






| Response Option   |  |      |      | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses |      | Means  |         |    |      |      |          |      |      |      |         |        |      |  |
|-------------------|--|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|-------------------|------|--------|---------|----|------|------|----------|------|------|------|---------|--------|------|--|
| Strongly Agree    |  |      |      | (5)    | 17        | 94.44%  |                   |      |        |         |    |      |      |          |      |      |      |         |        |      |  |
| Agree             |  |      |      | (4)    | 1         | 5.56%   |                   |      |        |         |    |      |      |          |      |      |      |         |        |      |  |
| Neutral           |  |      |      | (3)    | 0         | 0.00%   |                   |      |        |         |    |      |      |          |      |      |      |         |        |      |  |
| Disagree          |  |      |      | (2)    | 0         | 0.00%   |                   |      |        |         |    |      |      |          |      |      |      |         |        |      |  |
| Strongly Disagree |  |      |      | (1)    | 0         | 0.00%   |                   |      |        |         |    |      |      |          |      |      |      |         |        |      |  |
|                   |  |      |      |        |           |         |                   |      |        | 0       | 25 | 50   | 100  | Question |      | UTSA |      | College |        | Dept |  |
| Response Rate     |  | Mean | STD  | Median | UTSA      |         | Mean              | STD  | Median | College |    | Mean | STD  | Median   | Dept |      | Mean | STD     | Median |      |  |
| 18/20 (90.00%)    |  | 4.94 | 0.24 | 5.00   | 96619     |         | 4.44              | 0.88 | 5.00   | 25246   |    | 4.35 | 0.95 | 5.00     | 3523 |      | 4.15 | 1.07    | 5.00   |      |  |

### 3 - 3. The instructor, Aimin Liu, was prepared to teach for each instructional period. -

| Response Option   |  |      |      | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses   |      | Means   |         |          |      |      |        |         |  |      |      |        |
|-------------------|--|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|---|------|---|---------|----------|------|------|--------|---------|--|------|------|--------|
| Strongly Agree    |  |      |      | (5)    | 18        | 100.00% |  |      |  |         |          |      |      |        |         |  |      |      |        |
| Agree             |  |      |      | (4)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |   |         |          |      |      |        |         |  |      |      |        |
| Neutral           |  |      |      | (3)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |   |         |          |      |      |        |         |  |      |      |        |
| Disagree          |  |      |      | (2)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |   |         |          |      |      |        |         |  |      |      |        |
| Strongly Disagree |  |      |      | (1)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |   |         |          |      |      |        |         |  |      |      |        |
|                   |  |      |      |        |           |         | 0   | 25   | 50  | 100     | Question |      | UTSA |        | College |  | Dept |      |        |
| Response Rate     |  | Mean | STD  | Median | UTSA      |         | Mean  | STD  | Median  | College |          | Mean | STD  | Median | Dept    |  | Mean | STD  | Median |
| 18/20 (90.00%)    |  | 5.00 | 0.00 | 5.00   | 96619     |         | 4.53  | 0.79 | 5.00  | 25246   |          | 4.49 | 0.82 | 5.00   | 3523    |  | 4.40 | 0.91 | 5.00   |

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**Instructor:** Aimin Liu \*  
**Response Rate:** 18/20 (90.00 %)






**4 - 4. The instructor, Aimin Liu, encouraged me to take an active role in my own learning. -**

| Response Option   |  |      |      | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses   |      | Means   |         |   |      |   |        |   |  |      |      |        |
|-------------------|--|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|---|------|---|---------|---|------|---|--------|---|--|------|------|--------|
| Strongly Agree    |  |      |      | (5)    | 18        | 100.00% |  |      |  |         |  |      |  |        |  |  |      |      |        |
| Agree             |  |      |      | (4)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |   |         |   |      |   |        |   |  |      |      |        |
| Neutral           |  |      |      | (3)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |   |         |   |      |   |        |   |  |      |      |        |
| Disagree          |  |      |      | (2)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |   |         |   |      |   |        |   |  |      |      |        |
| Strongly Disagree |  |      |      | (1)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |   |         |   |      |   |        |   |  |      |      |        |
|                   |  |      |      |        |           |         | 0   | 25   | 50  | 100     | Question  |      | UTSA  |        | College   |  | Dept |      |        |
| Response Rate     |  | Mean | STD  | Median | UTSA      |         | Mean  | STD  | Median  | College |   | Mean | STD   | Median | Dept  |  | Mean | STD  | Median |
| 18/20 (90.00%)    |  | 5.00 | 0.00 | 5.00   | 96619     |         | 4.47  | 0.84 | 5.00  | 25246   |   | 4.37 | 0.90  | 5.00   | 3523  |  | 4.26 | 0.97 | 5.00   |

**5 - 5. The instructor, Aimin Liu, was available outside of class either electronically or in person. -**

| Response Option   |  |      |      | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses      |      | Means                      |         |                            |      |                            |        |                            |  |      |      |        |
|-------------------|--|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|------------------------|------|----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|------|----------------------------|--------|----------------------------|--|------|------|--------|
| Strongly Agree    |  |      |      | (5)    | 15        | 83.33%  | <div><div></div></div> |      | <div><div>4.78</div></div> |         | <div><div>4.43</div></div> |      | <div><div>4.35</div></div> |        | <div><div>4.23</div></div> |  |      |      |        |
| Agree             |  |      |      | (4)    | 2         | 11.11%  | <div><div></div></div> |      |                            |         |                            |      |                            |        |                            |  |      |      |        |
| Neutral           |  |      |      | (3)    | 1         | 5.56%   | <div><div></div></div> |      |                            |         |                            |      |                            |        |                            |  |      |      |        |
| Disagree          |  |      |      | (2)    | 0         | 0.00%   | <div><div></div></div> |      |                            |         |                            |      |                            |        |                            |  |      |      |        |
| Strongly Disagree |  |      |      | (1)    | 0         | 0.00%   | <div><div></div></div> |      |                            |         |                            |      |                            |        |                            |  |      |      |        |
|                   |  |      |      |        |           |         | 0                      | 25   | 50                         | 100     | Question                   |      | UTSA                       |        | College                    |  | Dept |      |        |
| Response Rate     |  | Mean | STD  | Median | UTSA      |         | Mean                   | STD  | Median                     | College |                            | Mean | STD                        | Median | Dept                       |  | Mean | STD  | Median |
| 18/20 (90.00%)    |  | 4.78 | 0.55 | 5.00   | 96619     |         | 4.43                   | 0.85 | 5.00                       | 25246   |                            | 4.35 | 0.89                       | 5.00   | 3523                       |  | 4.23 | 0.93 | 5.00   |

**6 - 6. My overall rating of the course is:**

| Response Option |  |      |      | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses   |      |        | Means   |   |   |   |        |         |  |      |      |        |
|-----------------|--|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|---|------|--------|---|---|---|---|--------|---------|--|------|------|--------|
| Excellent       |  |      |      | (5)    | 17        | 94.44%  |  |      |        |  |  |  |  |        |         |  |      |      |        |
| Above Average   |  |      |      | (4)    | 1         | 5.56%   |   |      |        |   |   |   |   |        |         |  |      |      |        |
| Average         |  |      |      | (3)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |        |   |   |   |   |        |         |  |      |      |        |
| Below Average   |  |      |      | (2)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |        |   |   |   |   |        |         |  |      |      |        |
| Poor            |  |      |      | (1)    | 0         | 0.00%   |   |      |        |   |   |   |   |        |         |  |      |      |        |
|                 |  |      |      |        |           |         | 0   | 25   | 50     | 100   | Question  |   | UTSA  |        | College |  | Dept |      |        |
| Response Rate   |  | Mean | STD  | Median | UTSA      |         | Mean  | STD  | Median | College   |   | Mean  | STD   | Median | Dept    |  | Mean | STD  | Median |
| 18/20 (90.00%)  |  | 4.94 | 0.24 | 5.00   | 93740     |         | 4.29  | 0.98 | 5.00   | 24064   |   | 4.15  | 1.05  | 5.00   | 3523    |  | 3.77 | 1.21 | 4.00   |

**7 - 7. My overall rating of the teaching (Aimin Liu) of this course is: -**

| Response Option |  |      |      | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses      |      | Means  |         |          |      |      |        |         |  |      |      |        |
|-----------------|--|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|------------------------|------|--------|---------|----------|------|------|--------|---------|--|------|------|--------|
| Excellent       |  |      |      | (5)    | 17        | 94.44%  | <div><div></div></div> |      | 4.94   |         | 4.34     |      | 4.22 |        | 3.96    |  |      |      |        |
| Above Average   |  |      |      | (4)    | 1         | 5.56%   | <div><div></div></div> |      |        |         |          |      |      |        |         |  |      |      |        |
| Average         |  |      |      | (3)    | 0         | 0.00%   | <div><div></div></div> |      |        |         |          |      |      |        |         |  |      |      |        |
| Below Average   |  |      |      | (2)    | 0         | 0.00%   | <div><div></div></div> |      |        |         |          |      |      |        |         |  |      |      |        |
| Poor            |  |      |      | (1)    | 0         | 0.00%   | <div><div></div></div> |      |        |         |          |      |      |        |         |  |      |      |        |
|                 |  |      |      |        |           |         | 0                      | 25   | 50     | 100     | Question |      | UTSA |        | College |  | Dept |      |        |
| Response Rate   |  | Mean | STD  | Median | UTSA      |         | Mean                   | STD  | Median | College |          | Mean | STD  | Median | Dept    |  | Mean | STD  | Median |
| 18/20 (90.00%)  |  | 4.94 | 0.24 | 5.00   | 96619     |         | 4.34                   | 0.97 | 5.00   | 25246   |          | 4.22 | 1.04 | 5.00   | 3523    |  | 3.96 | 1.17 | 4.00   |

Course: BCH-4313-001-202520: BCH-4313-001-Spring 2025-Biochemistry II

Instructor: Aimin Liu \*

Response Rate: 18/20 (90.00 %)

8 - Your written comments are an important part of your course and instructor evaluation. Please provide feedback in the box below on aspects of the course and/or the instructor that were most effective or need improvement. Student comments will be provided to your instructor only after course grades have been submitted. Aimin Liu -

| Response Rate | 15/20 (75%) |
|---------------|-------------|
|---------------|-------------|

• Dr. Liu is very responsible for every student in his biochemistry class, he cares about us and our grades, he makes biochemistry easy to understand. He is knowledgeable and professional as a professor and he is nice to his students. I used to misunderstand him but I do respect him and appreciate him that teaching me how to study and understand materials in an easier way now.

• He is a really good professor that gets the needed material across clearly

• Dr. Liu provides an excellent course to the continuation of Biochemistry I. He is passionate, and does more than every other professor by explaining how the content applies to our lives. His paradigms and examples to life helps a lot! UTSA is truly blessed to have a professor like Dr. Liu.

• It is hard to see a course delivered the way we experienced Biochemistry II. Dr. Liu made an incredible number of adjustments to the course due to factors outside his control, such as students arriving from Biochemistry I without a full understanding of the TCA cycle or other fundamental biochemical pathways. Despite these challenges, Dr. Liu did not leave us to figure things out on our own. Instead, he planned out sessions to complete the missing material, which was extremely beneficial to me as a student. I didn't have to sit alone trying to figure out what was important — Dr. Liu worked it out for us, and it helped me tremendously. The course was clearly outlined, and we had plenty of detailed presentations, with the information broken down thoughtfully. These presentations felt personal, as if the instructor knew exactly why every word was placed there, which is rare to see in courses at this level. I truly believe that my teaching in biochemistry could not have been any better. Exceptional, exceptional indeed. I also really appreciated the structure of the class from the beginning. The material was broken down clearly, and the use of open notes for some of the exams was something that, although it did not make the exams easier, made me feel more confident that if I understood the material well enough, I could search through my written notes to support my answers. This approach made the learning process more enjoyable, and it is something I deeply valued. On a personal note, Dr. Liu showed an incredible level of understanding during a difficult time in my life this semester. He worked with me to accommodate my situation, taking time from his busy schedule to help me succeed in the course. This act of kindness is something I will always be grateful for, especially during what I consider the most challenging semester of my academic career. Another thing I am forever grateful for is how passionate Dr. Liu is about biochemistry. He truly keeps the subject close to his heart, and that passion created a personal, engaging atmosphere in the classroom. I felt encouraged to participate, marveled at the beauty of the content, and was genuinely surprised by how enjoyable and inspiring the course was. Dr. Liu also provided plenty of review sessions throughout the semester and was thoughtful in giving students time off to study when needed. Although I personally did not find it necessary to attend office hours or request extra practice problems, the emphasis and clarity he brought to the lectures covered everything thoroughly. I would definitely recommend attending all lectures and making sure you have a reliable way to catch up if you ever need to miss a class. One suggestion I would make is that if it's possible, Dr. Liu could consider to please record his lectures and posting them online, such as on YouTube. Having a record of his explanations would not only benefit the students currently taking his class but also help many other students studying biochemistry elsewhere. His teaching is truly a gift that more people could learn from. I will strongly suggest that anyone who wants to deeply understand biologically relevant topics for their major, whether they are pre-med, research-oriented, or planning to go to graduate school, to take this class. Sitting in Dr. Liu's classroom will create a tremendous wealth of knowledge for you, and I encourage every student to soak up as much as they possibly can from what he has to teach. An absolutely outstanding course.

• Dr. Liu is the absolute best professor I have had in some time. I have never been so interested and motivated to attend a class until I started taking BioChem 2 with him. He even drives me/us to pursue Graduate school regularly. The external positive force he applies on my education is unparalleled. I hope that UTSA recognizes how lucky they are to have a Professor like him. I cannot convey how much I appreciate having Dr. Liu as a professor. I wish he taught every single one of my classes. I never fill these surveys out (I wish I did for previous professors...) but I felt compelled to share my experience with his class because of the overwhelming positive experience I have had this semester with him.

• Biochemistry II was an intellectually engaging course that provided a comprehensive exploration of advanced biochemical processes. The professor demonstrated a deep understanding of the subject matter and conveyed complex material in a clear, organized manner. Lectures consistently went beyond surface-level coverage, offering in-depth explanations that connected biochemical mechanisms to real-world biological systems. One of the most valuable aspects of the course was the professor's openness to student engagement; questions were encouraged, discussions were thoughtfully addressed, and a collaborative learning environment was fostered throughout the semester. This approach not only enhanced understanding but also made the material more accessible and meaningful. Overall, Biochemistry II was a challenging yet highly enriching course that strengthened my knowledge and appreciation of biochemical science.

• Dr. Liu made me feel confident in my knowledge of biochemistry. Even though he has an accent that did not hinder my learning experience. I thoroughly enjoyed my time in his class and would love to have him more in the future. Dr. Liu is truly passionate about his teaching and the work that he does and it is inspiring for me and helps me push further in my learning and soon career. The class was well taught and he even helped us as a class when it came to certain topics from biochemistry 1 that we all struggled one. Dr. Liu is what all teachers should aspire to, without him I don't think I would not be passing, let alone, thriving in his class.

• This was a great lecture and lecturer, Dr. Liu went above and beyond to make sure we got the information we needed and in a way that is more practical for use in the future. He learned that we had missing information from biochemistry 1 that was critical to understanding and success in biochemistry 2 and restructured our semesters learning to make sure we got that information. He also taught and tested in a way that wasn't just about regurgitating information, but understanding and applying them, which I believe allows for a better retention of information long term and allows us to think critically. Ultimately, this lecture not only taught me the information, but also taught me some critical thinking skills that will stay with me beyond this course and semester. This shows me that Dr. Liu is not only knowledgeable in the material, but also in transferring the material into a digestible, fair, and useful manner. I highly recommend taking courses with this professor.

• This was an amazing course taught by an amazing professor. I learned the most in this class just from going to the lectures, compared to my other classes where there was tons of busy work and assignments. This was probably my favorite class taken this semester. This class didn't stress me out and I feel like I learned the most from it. The instructor went above and beyond to meet the needs of his students and even taught material he didn't have to just so the class could have a solid foundation in biochemistry (which was faulty from past instructors, essentially). I have no suggestions because this was an amazing course and everyone I knew who took it with me felt the same. Keep doing what you're doing!

• I am so grateful to have taken Dr. Liu's biochem II course. It truly solidified my love for biochemistry and my sense of wonder at the beautiful order in the natural world. Dr. Liu's lecture slides presented the information in an organized way and included diagrams with detailed chemical reaction steps. I appreciated how Dr. Liu explained the most important reactions, step-by-step, during class: he taught us about intermediates, reactive side groups, and enzymatic active sites, focusing on chemical structures and atomic interactions. The topics of Dr. Liu's lectures were always incredibly interesting, explaining the chemistry of biologically-important compounds (very applicable for medical school studies). In addition, the pace of the lectures was good—it did not feel rushed. Dr. Liu even took the time to re-organize the syllabus to incorporate crucial topics that had been omitted from our biochemistry I course: he was clearly professional and conscientious about teaching well. The first two exams were closed-notes, but Dr. Liu verbally reviewed the topics we needed to focus on, which was very helpful. The last three exams were open-notes, which helped me focus on familiarizing myself with the concepts and key points rather than memorizing the lecture slides. Dr. Liu did not curve exam grades, but he was very optimistic about class performance on exams, assuring us that if we studied, we would earn an A—by the fourth exam, the entire class earned an A or B, which made Dr. Liu very happy. Dr. Liu was the first and only professor I've had at UTSA who told his students that we could accomplish great things in our career, that we had what it takes to be PhD students and do great research like any top university. Dr. Liu's optimism was heartwarming, and it encouraged me to study hard. On a practical note, the lecture slides with dark-background were very easy to study from, because the light did not make my eyes tired; however, adding a blank slide after detailed diagrams would be helpful, since I often ran out of space to take notes during lecture. I feel blessed to have learned biochemistry with Dr. Liu, who shares his own passion for the biochemistry field with his students.

• This course has reignited my interest in research and in graduate school. Through this course, I am more confident in my ability to study difficult and complex material. Dr. Liu intertwined the importance of each concept as he taught and made the class very interesting.

• Dr. Liu is a kind soul and loves what he does. I would only recommend having more in class engagement provided (practice problems) to better assist in studying and preparing for exams.

• "I really enjoyed this class and always looked forward to attending lectures and learning. The concepts were taught with a lot of intention, and it was clear that Dr. Liu cared about our understanding. He was very accommodating and understanding—willing to adjust the original syllabus to ensure we covered essential concepts for biochemistry majors. I truly appreciate his flexibility and dedication to our learning."

• Let me just say—this semester was incredibly tough for me, but this class was truly the bright spot. It was fun, unique, and engaging without being overloaded with tedious work. I actually learned more here than in my other classes that piled on unnecessary assignments. It really shows how powerful good teaching can be—it's not about how much work you give, but how you deliver the material. Please never change and keep being the amazing educator that you are!

• There's a reason why Dr. Liu has earned so much success and recognition, and one semester with him definitely proved that. As embarrassed as I may feel outing this information about myself, I failed this course last spring in 2024. I struggled a lot with the class format with the previous professor, and I found myself unable to grasp almost every single concept. I really felt like the last four years had been a waste, and I wasn't cut out for biochemistry. Fortunately, I failed, and I had to retake it with Dr. Liu this spring 2025. What a blessing in disguise! My faith in myself was restored. After the first two exams, I realized I knew so much more than I thought, and it refueled my passion for this field. Dr. Liu is everything everyone should look for in a professor, so thank you.