

Duke University - Course Evaluations

Pratt EGRP Course Evaluations - Fall 2024

Course: EGRMGMT-512-03: PRODUCT MGMT IN HIGH-TECH COMP.EGRMGMT-512-03.

Instructor: James Mundell *

Response Rate: 17/20 (85.00 %)

Question		1	B1	Mean	Std	Median
Thank you for completing an evaluation. Your constructive comments and ratings will be helpful to the faculty for improving this course for future students, helpful to the Duke administration for faculty promotion and awarding teaching-based recognitions, and helpful to other students considering enrolling in this course.	n	16	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00
	%	100.00%				

Scale: 1 = I understand the purpose of course evaluations.

B1 = EGRP Overall

Question		1	B1	Mean	Std	Median
The goal of evaluations is to help instructors identify which aspects of the course are most effective and which aspects could be productively changed. Please do your best to focus on the course components and learning environment, and avoid superficial comments that are not relevant to the learning environment (for example, comments about the appearance of the instructors or personal attacks are not helpful or appropriate).	n	17	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00
	%	100.00%				

Scale: 1 = I will do my best to be constructive.

B1 = EGRP Overall

Question		1	B1	Mean	Std	Median
Prior research has identified biases in course evaluations related to instructor gender, age, race, ethnicity, sexuality, or other aspects of identity. Keep this in mind when reflecting on your course experience, and do your best to minimize the influence of any particular instructor identities on your evaluation.	n	17	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00
	%	100.00%				

Scale: 1 = I will do my best to avoid potential biases.

B1 = EGRP Overall

Question		1	B1	Mean	Std	Median
When answering questions that refer to "learning," please consider the relevant aspects of learning that are specific to this course (for example, acquisition of skills and methodology, retention of course content, new ways of thinking, or anything else that the course offered).	n	17	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00
	%	100.00%				

Scale: 1 = I understand.

B1 = EGRP Overall

Question		1	2	3	4	5	B1	Mean	Std	Median
Overall Appraisal Give an overall rating for the quality of this course (e.g., content, structure, approach, educational value).	n	0	1	1	5	10	4.20	4.41	0.87	5.00
	%	0.00%	5.88%	5.88%	29.41%	58.82%				

Scale: 1 = Very poor, 2 = Poor, 3 = Adequate, 4 = Good, 5 = Excellent

B1 = EGRP Overall

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Please elaborate on your impressions of the quality of the course.

- Did not learn much in terms for product frameworks or skills. It was more of an introductory course
- Professor Mundell has been an excellent mentor and professor, prioritizing student learning over assessment.
- The course teaches you how to "Think like a product manager" and takes you through the entire product development to launch process in detail.
- The course is amazing, its slightly theoretical- but I can understand why it is. Overall, it helps you with the foundations of PM.
- Nicely structured and covers a lot of aspects of PM
- The content was very basic
- Very good
- I enjoyed the product management course and learned a lot about PM thinking and how problems can be approached. Also, reading product launch news and providing recommendations weekly made me look at updates in a different way and be futuristic.
- Lots of learning. WOULD be helpful to include some product management frameworks as well
- Although the quality of the course was good, it could be better if the content was a bit more oriented towards how to become a junior product manager - the skills required, how to crack the interviews, how to adapt to working as a product manager in different companies. How to think like a PM while assessing tech news would have added a lot of value if taught in the class. We could have done breakdown of different digital/hardware products to understand the user journey, user personas, and what could be done for those products.
- It is a very good course to learn presentation skills and how to pitch a product. How things to include in ppt and how to make the best ppts

Question		1	2	3	4	5	B1	Mean	Std	Median
Give an overall rating for quality of the instructor, James Mundell (e.g., presentation, knowledge, fairness, responsiveness).	n	0	0	0	2	15	4.48	4.88	0.33	5.00
	%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.76%	88.24%				

Scale: 1 = Very poor, 2 = Poor, 3 = Adequate, 4 = Good, 5 = Excellent

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Please elaborate on your impressions of the quality of the instructor, James Mundell.

- Really good at teaching and making understand the basics of product management
- Professor Mundell has been an excellent mentor and professor, prioritizing student learning over assessment.
- James Mundell is an excellent professor. The thing I liked the most about him is that he got a lot of examples from his past experiences in each class and helped us draw parallels. He also tried to keep the classes very engaging.
- He is one of the sweetest professor I have come across, he has given his all to make this theoretical class more engaging with interactive assignments.
- A very brilliant mind and one of the kindest souls. learning from him was a smooth ride
- Excellent
- Amazing guy, with amazing experience
- An excellent professor
- The professor made the course excellent. I loved his way of communicating. His teaching style was never overwhelming, but we also learned much from and about him.
- Very knowledgeable and helpful
- The classes were very engaging and interesting.
- Prof Jim is the best professor to elaborate the concepts in a very approachable way

Question		1	2	B1	Mean	Std	Median
Would you recommend this faculty member, James Mundell, for a Pratt Teaching Award?	n	16	0	1.22	1.00	0.00	1.00
	%	100.00%	0.00%				

- Professor Mundell has been an excellent mentor and professor, prioritizing student learning over assessment.
- He has a great grasp over his learning material and keeps the classes engaging. He also pushes his students to deliver the best outputs.
- Yes, he is always there to help students whenever anyone needs him. He is very easy to talk to.
- One of the best human being in the world
- Supportive, very knowledgeable
- Because he understands every student is unique and caters to their style of learning

Scale: 1 = Yes, 2 = No

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Question		1	2	3	4	5	B1	Mean	Std	Median
Self-EvaluationHow many hours per week, on average, did you spend outside of scheduled class (including labs) on this course?	n	8	8	0	0	0	2.05	1.50	0.52	1.50
	%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%				

Scale: 1 = 3-6 hours per week, 2 = 6-9 hours per week, 3 = 9-12 hours per week, 4 = 12-15 hours per week, 5 = 15+ hours per week

B1 = EGRP Overall

Question		1	2	3	4	5	B1	Mean	Std	Median
How difficult was this course for you?	n	0	5	12	0	0	2.92	2.71	0.47	3.00
	%	0.00%	29.41%	70.59%	0.00%	0.00%				

Scale: 1 = Very low difficulty, 2 = Low difficulty, 3 = Moderate difficulty, 4 = High difficulty, 5 = Very high difficulty

B1 = EGRP Overall

Question		1	2	3	4	5	B1	Mean	Std	Median
What level of critical thinking did this course require?	n	0	2	6	6	2	3.63	3.50	0.89	3.50
	%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	37.50%	12.50%				
What was your interest level in this course topic at the beginning of the semester?	n	0	0	5	8	4	3.57	3.94	0.75	4.00
	%	0.00%	0.00%	29.41%	47.06%	23.53%				
What is your interest level in this course topic now?	n	0	1	1	5	10	3.76	4.41	0.87	5.00
	%	0.00%	5.88%	5.88%	29.41%	58.82%				

Scale: 1 = Very low, 2 = Low, 3 = Moderate, 4 = High, 5 = Very high

B1 = EGRP Overall

Question		1	2	3	4	5	B1	Mean	Std	Median
How often did you attend class (either live or asynchronously)?	n	16	0	1	0	0	1.26	1.12	0.49	1.00
	%	94.12%	0.00%	5.88%	0.00%	0.00%				

Scale: 1 = More than 95% of the time, 2 = 85-95% of the time, 3 = 75-85% of the time, 4 = 50-75% of the time, 5 = 0-50% of the time

B1 = EGRP Overall

Question		1	2	3	4	5	B1	Mean	Std	Median
What grade do you expect to receive in this class?	n	14	3	0	0	0	1.25	1.18	0.39	1.00
	%	82.35%	17.65%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%				

Scale: 1 = A, 2 = B, 3 = C, 4 = F, 5 = Other

B1 = EGRP Overall

Question		5	4	3	2	1	0	B1	Mean	Std	Median
Appraisal of Learning: The readings supported the objectives of this course.	n	11	5	1	0	0	0	4.42	4.59	0.62	5.00
	%	64.71%	29.41%	5.88%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%				
Appraisal of Learning: The assignments and projects supported the objectives of this course.	n	14	3	0	0	0	0	4.43	4.82	0.39	5.00
	%	82.35%	17.65%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%				
Appraisal of Learning: The class discussions and/or lectures supported the objectives of this course.	n	13	3	1	0	0	0	4.44	4.71	0.59	5.00
	%	76.47%	17.65%	5.88%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%				
Appraisal of Learning: I would recommend this course to future students.	n	12	1	3	1	0	0	4.31	4.41	1.00	5.00
	%	70.59%	5.88%	17.65%	5.88%	0.00%	0.00%				
Appraisal of Learning: The evaluation method (exams, homework, etc.) matched the objectives and content for the course.	n	14	2	1	0	0	0	4.32	4.76	0.56	5.00
	%	82.35%	11.76%	5.88%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%				
Appraisal of Learning: The evaluation method (exams, homework, etc.) for this course was fair.	n	13	2	1	0	0	0	4.32	4.75	0.58	5.00
	%	81.25%	12.50%	6.25%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%				

Scale: 5 = Strongly agree, 4 = Agree, 3 = Neutral, 2 = Disagree, 1 = Strongly disagree, 0 = N/A

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Open-Ended QuestionsWhat parts of the class were most useful for you? Why?

- Professor Jim's previous experiences and the life lesson associated with them were very insightful as it helped all of us to start thinking like a product manager.
- I like this class! Thank you prof!
- All
- The cases studies were extremely useful. Also the books that were suggested - Inspired and PM Desk - they are amazing resources. Also, James got amazing industry speakers who gave great insights.
- Assignments, candies & professor stories!!
- Case studies and presentations
- Many presentations helped to improve presentation skills
- Team working, presentations were great learning experiences.
- Final project & tech news It's a good idea to follow the news. When I was young I used to love magazines and newspapers. Now with booming internet I sometimes lack focus. I feel I really need some selected feed like the tech news I found for my class assignment. The certificate and bonding feeling of the class is really nice.
- Assignments and case studies
- High tech news, case presentations and simulations
- HBR case studies and simulations. It helped us to learn from real business cases. The simulations helped us learn how to change strategies to maintain the market share and remain profitable.
- The case competition presentations because it gave me confidence to be able to pitch which I really needed.

What parts of the class were least useful for you? Why?

- None
- The High Tech news writeups and presentations were not as impactful as the cases.
- I dont know to be honest, I would just say it a theoretical class; so dont expect a lot of things!
- high tech news assignment - the written submissions
- Course content was very basic
- Cases. Overlapping with marketing, and not helping my PM skills much I feel. The simulation also feels like strategy course. Though PM is a combination of everything, I hope it can be a bit more focused
- NA
- N/A

Please add any additional comments or suggestions for improving the learning experience in this course.

- I would suggest making this course client based where you actually get to act as a Product manager and help a client develop and launch new products.
- I think professor Jim has done his best to keep this engaging because of the engaging assignments
- It would have been more useful if the content was more tailored towards what product managers actually do, like knowing the frameworks for pain point evaluation, solution evaluation like RICE, CIRCLE ETC., different success metrics.
- Thank you, Jim. You are a great professor and mentor.
- 1. Provide a closer look / a mock of an everyday PM job, with real details involved — like how to coordinate with every functional team. need more real world practice; for example we can do role play, Prof giving out MRD, we convert to PRD and have mock conversations with engineering team. Mock real world PM scenario practice may be better than case (mkt) + simulation (strategy), which we have now. 2. Make the final project earlier in the semester, and get feedback on how we did as PM, (if evaluated in real world), and then we can improve. If everything is still student work and cannot get real industry-level feedback, we cannot become a real PM. I feel the prof's industry experience is very hardcore so I suggest him giving harsher comments on things while not impacting grades given out (these can be two separate things).
- The course content and structure felt more aligned with an undergraduate level rather than the rigor expected at a master's level program. For a course designed to prepare students for the demanding role of a product manager, it could benefit from increased depth and complexity. Incorporating more challenging components such as iterative product development cycles, stakeholder management simulations, or advanced problem-solving exercises could better reflect the multifaceted nature of a product manager's responsibilities. Additionally, the curriculum would be significantly enriched by integrating modern frameworks and methodologies currently used in the industry, such as Agile practices, Shape Up, The Hook Mode, RICE, PLG, etc. This would ensure that students are equipped with up-to-date tools and techniques relevant to real-world product management scenarios. That said, there are several strengths in the course that I appreciated. The case studies were engaging and provided valuable insights into real-world challenges. Similarly, the Harvard Business Review (HBR) simulations and individual assignments focusing on high-tech products were well-designed and contributed positively to my learning experience. These elements added practical value and helped contextualize theoretical concepts. Overall, while the course has strong foundational elements, it could be significantly improved by increasing its rigor, incorporating contemporary frameworks, and expanding practical applications. These changes would better align the course with the expectations of a master's level program and prepare students more effectively for the challenges of product management roles.
- As a PM we have to operate with not a lot of ownership, so if these skills would have been imparted in class, it would have been great.