

Allow me to start off by thanking Dr. Homer for being my professor in the years that I'd attended his courses and the fact he has never disappointed me in how much I can rely on both learning from and reflecting with him. Upon attending this university, I had to learn everything I know now about professors and the way they operate, from scratch. I've come to learn that professors' job doesn't strictly regard teaching, but with the assumption that I am apt to learn the material, at my will, the professor prompts critical thinking with the assertion that my judgment isn't lacking from what I haven't learned. On the latter perspective of what I've learned, I've seen a multitude of strengths as well as flaws in the variety of professors that ACU has to offer, but what Dr. Homer has to offer has become paramount to growth in my learning and growth as both a student and as a disciple in Christ. There are professors in this university that I cannot regret to have met, a few more so than the others, and if I hadn't have met Dr. Homer - praise God that I have - I couldn't consider my college journey whole, at least standing from where I am now. I could never have been more honored to be a student for such a professor who professes his knowledge and skills, as well as his discipleship, in such a powerful mixture. With that, let me evaluate:

Knowledge of the subject matter

In the wide range of what he knows regarding computer science, his knowledge of programming is just outstanding, as he always offers a mix of solutions when approaching not just every problem throughout each of his courses he teaches, but solutions innovative and invaluable for fruitful learning (if any course material needs to be provided to hone up to this quality, I have plenty of examples and I'd be glad to relay them as evidence), and his passion and interest in computer theory only sheds light of success for all of those learning under him. Others can vouch when I state, there is no other professor at this university, or any that I have seen, to teach the course material so full of energy and so full of passion, with both knowledge and interest in computer science than the way I know Dr. Homer does. If you ask me personally, I feel he is at the top of the university in highly exceptional professors; he is unmistakably talented and harbors opportunity for learning among all of his students, much more so than other professors.

Ability to communicate

Dr. Homer is very professional and intentional when communicating for both his assistance and office hours both during and out of class and I have never felt that I needed better justification for anything after an explanation, as I feel this is another strength of his. What makes Dr. Homer an excellent professor is his profound ability (an ability I find too praise-worthy to envy for, an ability that a mass of professors still try to achieve) to simplify exceptionally difficult concepts, problems, situations and any other relevant course-material in such a way that helps students understand and conceptualize, and with through experience with him, I always leave in contentment. I have been on the latter of student performance in SITC and have benefited greatly from his ability to communicate so excellently, and I believe that says enough in itself.

Self-reflection and improvement

I have much experience in how Dr. Homer works through his course material, especially after retaking one of his classes. Towards the end of his semester of teaching, Dr. Homer takes time to ask about the students thoughts and reflections over whichever course - as he has done this

in almost every class that I've had with him. If there happens to be a "bad" test (which in my experience there haven't been many) he will consider and address a few things: which in his case, no professor is perfect, but the actions he takes to recover and resolve is excellent. This showed a lot when I chose to retake a programming class for a better grade, that he changed up the course material in such a way that the organization and approach to the material was different, but understanding it was much easier: and I can point out that, in the programming course, with a certain concept that the vast majority of students had trouble understanding, was iterated and highly focused on in the reorganizing of the course, as well as material relative to the matter was also simplified and sequenced for the sake of stronger prior conceptualizing and pre-processing, if you will. This proves to me that if there is a problem where his students struggle, he actively aims to shift and move to augment the course as a high quality product of his efforts: in this I have much respect. There is always a self-reflection or alignment through his courses and even during chapel (which I will evaluate soon).

Invest in the student

This should be enough to call him an excellent professor, as even a professor's job isn't to "hold the student's hand" but to provide guidance even on relatively simple course-work, in efforts to help the students become more critically constructive in their understanding of the material. Dr. Homer does this undoubtedly and unrelenting effort to assert quality through his passion is quintessential to how any professor should operate or teach in providing for their classroom. I have mentioned how much effort he puts into changing the class according to performance in the last point, but with that Dr. Homer is willing to go out of his way in making the fruits of his efforts the best he can, and it reflects immensely through his love to teach and the success of his students.

Integration of faith and learning

Jumping into this point, Dr. Homer takes a noticeable amount of time preparing lessons for and running the Litany for Humility Chapel, which he started up years ago. There is nothing more rewarding at ACU chapel than to attend a chapel with your professor, weekly. Dr. Homer puts forth genuine effort to appreciate his students and workplace, as well as his alignment and place as a disciple of Christ, and the idea that I'm learning and running this race for Christ alongside such a talented professor boasts how blessed we are as students to partake in such an opportunity where we are a team: hence his exemplification as another valuable part of the body of Christ. His humility is seen throughout his day, wherever he is, from a simple hello to a well-prepared lesson in class, and it's just absolutely encouraging whenever I am graced with his presence. We all learn humility together, as a professor with his students, and he strives relentlessly to put forth such an effort for not only his students growth, but his own growth. I can't stress how much of a blessing Dr. Homer has been as an addition to this university, and it's clearly seen that him, being as talented as he is, when there is no other obligation to do anything but invest in his university in the way that he does, lives out Christ daily. He lives the ministry around his students, and this is something I cannot fathom any other professor doing, or at least in so much spiritual maturity and sobriety as Dr. Homer. We, as a university, have such a prodigious opportunity in being graced with a truly talented and diligent individual as Dr. Homer, and for him to become a leader through his servant-hood to the SITC department, through him, only shows how God plans for us all in our time to flourish.

In all deep sincerity,
Michael J. Isome