MERIDIAN UNIVERSITY

Office of Academic Excellence & Faculty Advancement

Formal Peer Classroom Observation & Evaluation Report

CONFIDENTIAL
Faculty Peer Review
AY 2025–2026

Instructor Evaluated:	Dr. Eleanor Vance	**Evaluation Date:**	October 14, 2025
Academic Title:	Associate Professor	**Observation Time:**	10:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Department:	Computer Science & Engineering	**Location / Room:**	Turing Hall, Room 204
Course Code & Name:	CS 342: Algorithms & Data Structures	**Students Present:**	42 / 45 Enrolled (93%)
Peer Observer:	Prof. Marcus Holloway (Dept. Chair)	**Session Topic:**	Graph Algorithms: Dijkstra & Heaps

Overall Performance Rating

4.85 / 5.0

★★★★★

Exemplary Performance
Exceeds departmental standards across all major evaluated metrics.

Dr. Vance demonstrated outstanding pedagogical clarity and classroom leadership during the 90-minute lecture on graph traversal and shortest-path optimization. The session combined rigorous theoretical foundations with interactive live-coding demonstrations and structured peer discussion. Students exhibited exceptionally high engagement, asking insightful questions that were adeptly integrated into the core lesson plan.

1. Detailed Classroom Observation Rubric

Domain / Metric	Specific Evaluation Criteria	Score	Rating Level
Part 1: Instructional Design & Content Mastery			
1.1 Learning Objectives	Clear, explicit statement of session goals connected to prior course modules and upcoming assignments.	5.0 / 5	Exemplary
1.2 Subject Mastery	Thorough, confident command of algorithm complexity, edge-case analysis, and data structure tradeoffs.	5.0 / 5	Exemplary
1.3 Structural Pacing	Logical progression from concept review to live pseudocode analysis and complexity proof.	4.7 / 5	High Proficiency
1.4 Clarity & Presentation	Precise verbal explanations, excellent whiteboard organization, and effective visual diagrams.	4.9 / 5	Exemplary
Part 2: Pedagogical Execution & Classroom Atmosphere			
2.1 Student Engagement	Proactively solicits input from diverse sections of the lecture hall; encourages student inquiry.	4.8 / 5	Exemplary
2.2 Question Handling	Validates student questions, redirects inquiries to test class comprehension, and clarifies misconceptions.	5.0 / 5	Exemplary
2.3 Educational Tech	Seamless integration of tablet annotations, IDE code execution, and dynamic graph visualizations.	4.6 / 5	High Proficiency
2.4 Inclusivity & Climate	Fosters a respectful, encouraging learning environment where students comfortably share partial solutions.	5.0 / 5	Exemplary

Continued on next page — Part 3 & Narrative Qualitative Feedback

2. Detailed Observation Notes & Narrative Analysis

2.1 1. Domain-Specific Pedagogical Strengths

Dr. Vance's instructional delivery represents a masterclass in computer science education. The following key observations were recorded during the 90-minute evaluation:

[1] **Dual-Channel Information Delivery:** Dr. Vance effectively paired theoretical proof work on the primary whiteboard with live algorithm tracing on a digitized tablet display. This allowed students to visualize both mathematical guarantees and practical data structure mutations concurrently.

[2] **Active Retrieval Practice:** At minute 25, Dr. Vance paused the lecture to launch a 4-minute pair-think-share exercise on heap operations. This technique successfully re-engaged the room and allowed her to gauge comprehension before transitioning to complex shortest-path edge cases.

[3] **Scaffolded Questioning Techniques:** When a student posed a question regarding negative edge weights in Dijkstra's algorithm, Dr. Vance guided the student to discover the failure condition independently through targeted, incremental prompts rather than simply supplying the answer.

Primary Observed Strengths

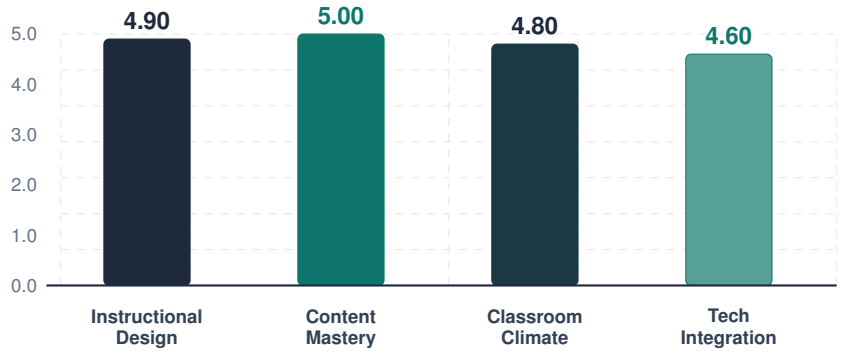
- ✔ Exceptional clarity in explaining algorithmic time complexity ($\mathcal{O}((V+E)\log V)$).
- ✔ Outstanding classroom presence and vocal modulation.
- ✔ Smooth transition between high-level theory and implementation details.
- ✔ Highly effective use of real-time polling to identify student misconceptions.

Areas for Growth & Development

- ! **Board Space Management:** The lower right panel of the whiteboard became cluttered during the final 10 minutes.
- ! **Time Allocation:** The final wrap-up summary was slightly rushed due to extended student discussion on priority queues.
- ! **Microphone Audio:** Minor volume drop when writing on the board away from the podium mic.

2.2 2. Quantitative Scoring Breakdown by Category

The chart below illustrates the peer evaluation scores across the four core dimensions assessed by the Faculty Evaluation Committee.



2.3 3. Student Engagement & Inclusivity Assessment

Observation confirmed that Dr. Vance creates an equitable and supportive atmosphere. Student participation was balanced across gender and seating rows. Of the 18 individual student contributions logged during the lecture:

- **11 responses** were student-initiated inquiries seeking deeper clarification on algorithm mechanics.
- **7 responses** were answers to instructor-prompted checking questions.
- Dr. Vance consistently validated all attempts before building upon them, reinforcing a growth-mindset environment.

Continued on next page — Post-Observation Action Plan & Formal Signatures

3. Post-Observation Conference & Action Plan

Following the classroom observation, Dr. Vance and Prof. Holloway met for a 45-minute debrief on October 16, 2025. The following mutually agreed-upon goals were established for further professional development:

Post-Observation Action Plan (AY 2025–2026)

#	Action Item / Growth Objective	Support / Resource	Target Date
1	**Lavalier Lapel Microphone Adoption:** Utilise wireless lapel mic to ensure consistent audio fidelity when moving across the lecture stage.	Campus AV Services	Immediate
2	**Board Layout Pre-Structuring:** Reserve the far-left panel strictly for persistent definitions and key notation to avoid end-of-class crowding.	Self-implementation	Next Module (Nov 2025)
3	**Peer Faculty Seminar Presentation:** Share active retrieval techniques and pair-think-share models with junior department faculty.	Center for Teaching Excellence	Spring 2026 Seminar

4. Evaluator Recommendations & Summary Statement

Recommendation for Reappointment / Promotion Status: STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

Dr. Eleanor Vance continues to exemplify high-impact university teaching. Her mastery of complex computer science pedagogy, combined with genuine enthusiasm and structured student engagement, places her among the top educators in the department. The minor recommendations noted above reflect opportunities for fine-tuning an already exceptional classroom methodology.

5. Formal Sign-off & Acknowledgments

By signing below, the evaluator and instructor acknowledge that the peer observation was conducted in accordance with Meridian University Faculty Handbook Section 4.2 (Peer Review Guidelines), and that a post-observation debrief was completed.

Prof. Marcus Holloway
Peer Observer / Department Chair
Department of Computer Science & Engineering
Date: October 17, 2025

Dr. Eleanor Vance
Evaluated Faculty Member
Associate Professor of Computer Science
Date: October 17, 2025

Institutional Assessment Seal
Form Ref: MU-PEER-2025-CS342
Archived in Faculty Performance Record

Dr. Harrison Sterling
Dean, College of Engineering & Information Technology
Meridian University
Date: October 20, 2025