

GREK 20100 1, GREK 20100 1 - Intermediate Greek I: - Instructor(s): Nathan Katkin

Project Title: College Course Feedback - Autumn 2023

Number Enrolled: 6 Number of Responses: 4

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: Friday, February 2, 2024



What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments

In this course, I deepened my knowledge of the intricacies of Attic Greek language, culture, and especially Plato's Republic (Book I). I learned how to form concrete and specific questions and not to become frustrated with a difficulty/uninviting bit of prose.

We primarily worked on reading comprehension and working on getting better at the more complicated aspects of Greek grammar.

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments

Each class meeting consists of a live (if prepared) translation exercise, which helped identify weak points in my own understanding, whether parsing verbs, unknown principal parts, or generally how each part of a sentence was functioning.

The most helpful parts of the course were the group reading sessions which, besides homework and quizzes were the entire class. They were extremely helpful to get feedback on passages we had tried to figure out on our own and receive help with the grammatically—tougher sections. The Reading Greek homework was the least useful for expanding my Greek ability, but was good practice. The quizzes were helpful review.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
I felt respected in this class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments

Nathan was a brilliant and excellent instructor, walking us through the intricacies of the language and narrating his own methods and means for intuiting what the text is doing. His robust grasp not only of the source text/its infelicities but also of teaching made the course enjoyable and useful in my own development as a reader. His characteristic smile and thorough explanation of grammar concepts, usually by making up new examples or referring to Latin/English/other familiar languages was incredibly useful.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	0.00%	100.00%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments

Nathan's patience and willingness to provide individualized feedback over email and in office hours was especially helpful! He was always willing to meet extra and provided practical and useful tips for developing my Greek 'ear.'

Nathan was very good at explaining the often times random problems we encountered while reading the text. While translating in to the rest of the class, if a student came to a section they couldn't figure out, Nathan was very knowledgable and clear at explaining what was going on with the language.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

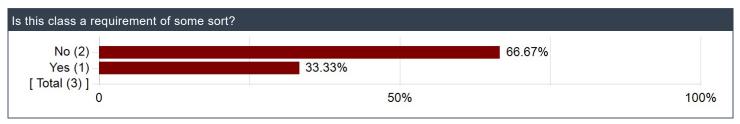
Comments

Halfway through the course we switched from a person translating long sections at once to people translating shorter sections so that more people translated over the course of the class. Starting the class this way would be good.

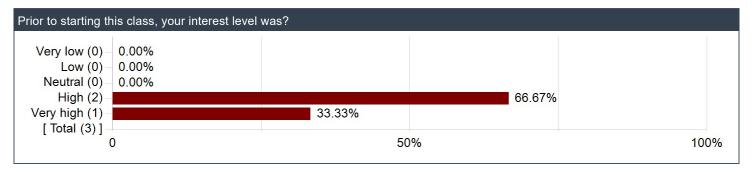
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%

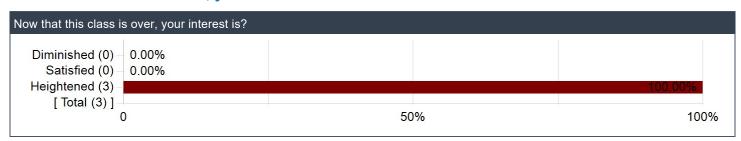
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



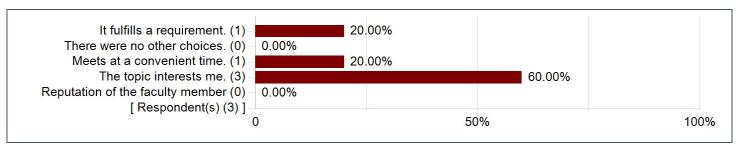
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



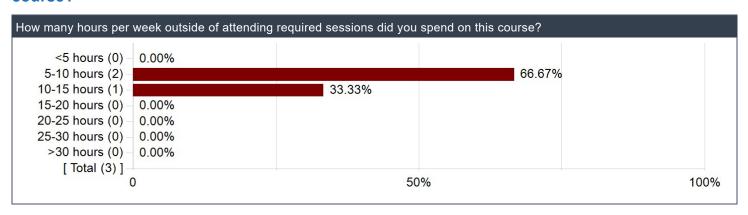
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



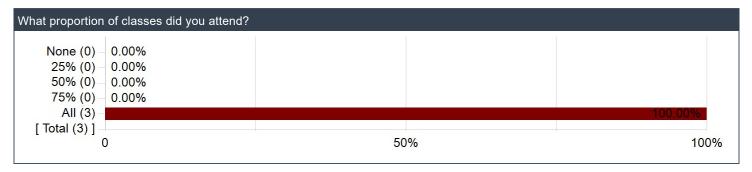
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



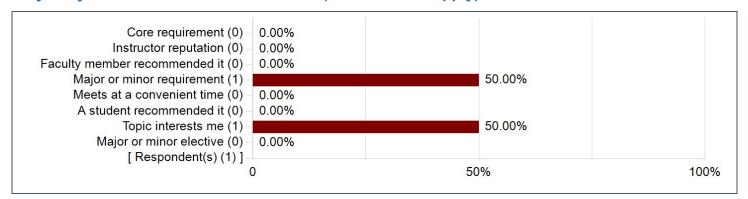
What proportion of classes did you attend?



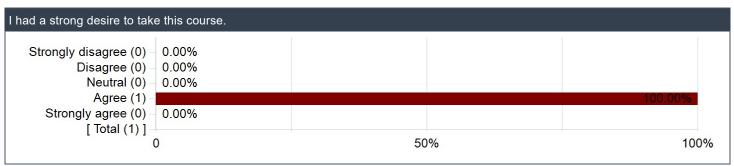
Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

fair I was definitely challenged by the course, coming out of summer Greek. But it was a pace that inspired me to spend more time on readings/preparing for class. I took the summer intensive intro Greek course this last summer, and I felt very capable in the course.

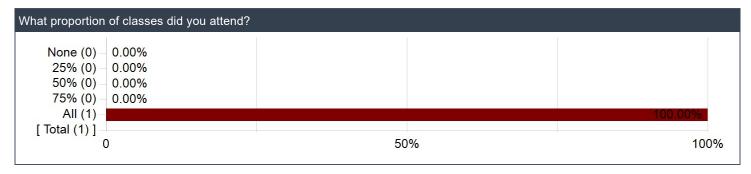
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



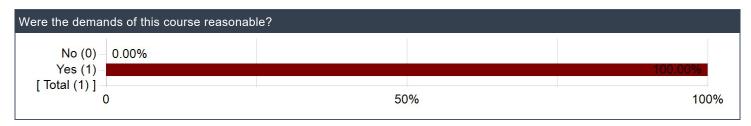
I had a strong desire to take this course.



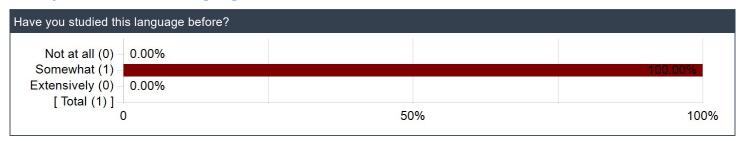
What proportion of classes did you attend?



Were the demands of this course reasonable?



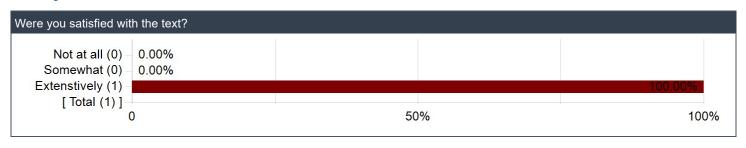
Have you studied this language before?



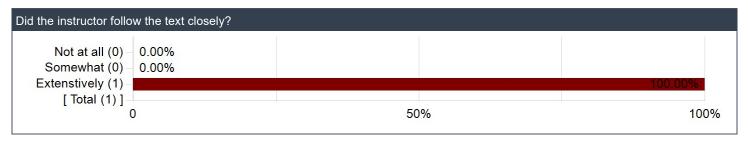
Rate the extent to which different aspects of the language were stressed:

	Mean	Median	Not At All	A Little	Some	A Lot	Extremely	Vigorously
Speaking	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Spelling	3.00	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Reading	6.00	6.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing	3.00	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Grammar	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Vocabulary	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%

Were you satisfied with the text?



Did the instructor follow the text closely?

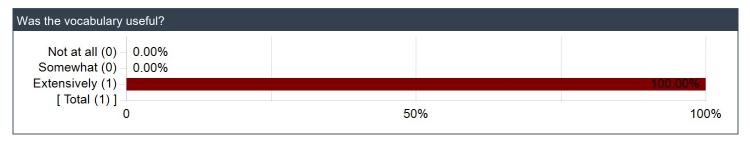


Explain:

Comments

I think we did decently on looking at the text closely and providing some occasional extra—text notes to some idiomatic or cultural stuff. We had some interesting argument on how parts of the text worked. Overall it was great. I myself would always like more cultural notes and explanations (I assume you know who I am now), such as when we talked about Euripides. Those were great and actually quite important in understanding the text as well, so I would like to see how we could interpret the text based on some knowledge of Greek society. For example, I don't think I immediately understood the point of the joke that Socrates loved to talk to very old men. But overall I think we had decent pace and a great environment.

Was the vocabulary useful?



Why?

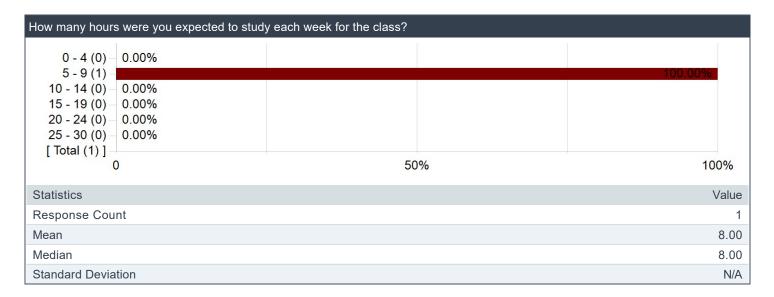
Comments

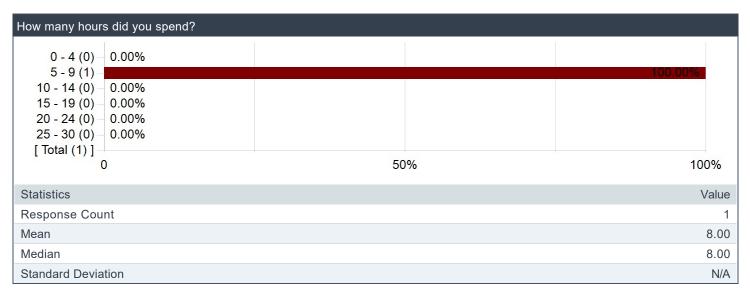
This question itself is confusing, but I just like to think of acquiring vocabulary as a natural process while reading. I hate reciting them very much since I was young, so I like the vocabulary requirement of this class quite a lot.

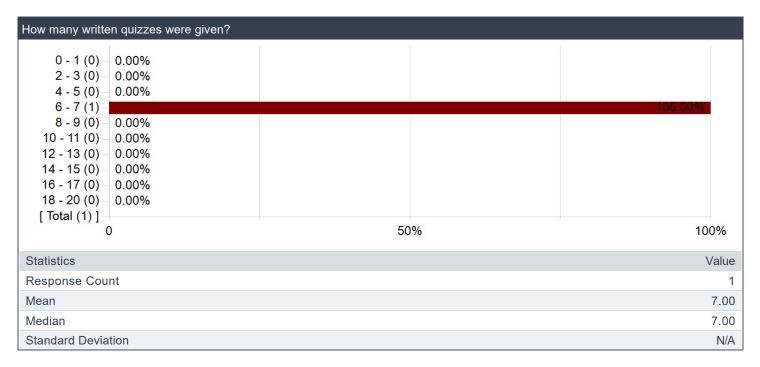
Describe the format of the class (lecture, drills, etc.). Was this format productive? Please be specific.

Comments

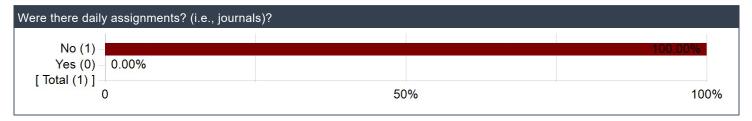
Well, kind of. I think a little bit more conversation between students is perhaps good, but I don't know what to say myself. So, I don't have any problems with our format. Everything was good.







Were there daily assignments? (i.e., journals)?



If there were required outside activities (i.e. foreign films or SCOLA), describe your experience.



Was your instructor organized?

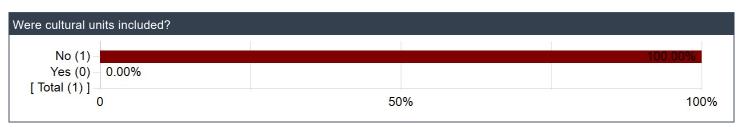
Mean	Median	Very Unorganized	Somewhat Unorganized	Fairly Organized	Somewhat Organized	Very Organized
5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

Explain

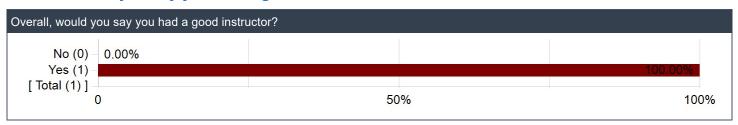
Comments

This is a confusing question, but I'll say that the instructor did well overall. We have some inconveniences, but not very serious ones.

Were cultural units included?



Overall, would you say you had a good instructor?

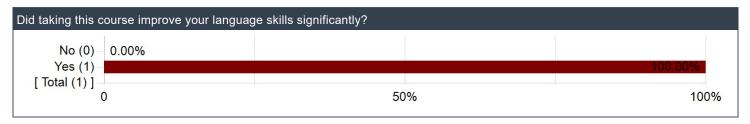


Why?

Comments

The instructor is very helpful inside and outside of class, and clearly described the points in class. I don't have anything to complain.

Did taking this course improve your language skills significantly?



In what way?

Comments

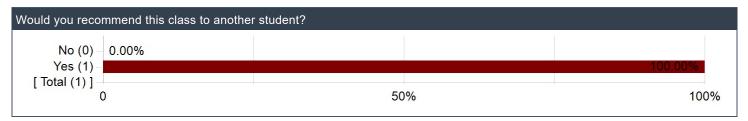
Reading, most likely. Also, familiarity with texts, which is naturally acquired while reading.

How would you improve this course?

Comments

I've explained this in the first comment, but I don't think it's an issue. I personally would like to engage with the text more, such as thinking about culture, comparison with our experience, or assessment of the arguments, but we followed the text closely and I think it's fair enough.

Would you recommend this class to another student?



Why?

Comments

Because people should learn Greek?