



HUMA 12300 5 - Human Being and Citizen I - Instructor(s): Samantha Fenno

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2023**

Number Enrolled: **18**

Number of Responses: **13**

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
I learned about how humans have evolved in both knowledge, ideals and morals thought the centuries we have been present though literary works.
i learned how to make thematic connections between books from different time periods
I learned the importance of analyzing characters given their circumstances in literature and how external and internal occurrences shift perspectives and motives of the characters. I am able to apply this to the modern world as well, maintaining that human behavior is somewhat consistent from the times of the literature creation and present day.
Analyzing philosophical texts, writing essays using the Toulmin Model
I've gotten better at analyzing text and the significance of language in text. I've also really improved in articulating my ideas and writing them.
Claims, Grounds, and Warrants when it comes to writing. Analyzing thinks that are on the harder side of the spectrum. Especially these classic books. Close reading was particularly helpful.
I learned about how humans interact within a society
I learned how to make contestable arguments that remain grounded by the text and how to think through certain questions around the literature that can be transformed into bigger-picture conepts.
I learned how to critically analyze interesting texts and extract meanings through literary devices. I learned about the core elements and ideas shared by different ancient texts, like the Illiad, Epic of Gilgamesh, Genesis, etc. I also learned the basics of academic writing.
close-reading many parts of the text in order to complete a broader analysis.
How to analyze the texts we read in class and contribute our ideas to a class discussion effectively
Writing, and analyzing.

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

Comments
Seminars were pretty student led which allowed us to come up with our own ideas about a texts and forced us to look for evidence to back our (scholarly) arguments against classmates.
discussions were the most beneficial, the writing boards were the least helpful
The discussions in this class definitely stretch thought on the analysis of what an author might be communicating through a specific plot point or themes that a character embodies. The assignments also ask the students to think beyond the concrete finding possible implications that apply to an ancient world but also speak truths to the present. One succeeds by finding this balance between old and new humanity.
discussion
The discussions were the most helpful to summarize the content of the readings, although I wish that the students had more chances to discuss with one another instead of the professor tending towards lecturing.
The discussions that we have had helped me to practice developing my ideas and communicating them.
Assignments were helpful with dissecting the texts and making different ideas within the text clearer. Group homework was also interesting, I really enjoyed learning from my classmates and how they each thought about the same texts. Discussions in class were also great. Lot of great ideas from classmates that I at times wouldn't have thought of.
Classes were discussion based which I think is a good structure for the class, however I feel like often our discussions were kind of meaningless. I feel like we never really had interesting discussions, it was just a lot of rambling and people trying to get participation credit.
Lectres were helpful to increase comprehension of some of the harder texts and learn different viewpoints, however could sometimes stay fixated on one point or specific scene that could get a bit repetitive. Homework and essays were helpful practice and further helped me with comprehension.
The readings were usually manageable. Professor Fenno does an amazing job moderating class discussions. She makes everyone feel like their contributions are welcome and encourages them to point back to the text. We got to collaborate with other students on group assignments and writing boards.
discussions were a great way of analyzing the texts we read
Lectures and writing seminars
Discussion, office hours, assignments based off of the reading, and open-ended essay prompts.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.15	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	69.23%	23.08%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.23	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	46.15%	38.46%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.08	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	61.54%	23.08%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.23	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	46.15%	38.46%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.31	5.00	0.00%	7.69%	7.69%	30.77%	53.85%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.23	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	46.15%	38.46%
I felt respected in this class.	4.38	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	61.54%	38.46%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.08	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	23.08%	46.15%	30.77%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
N/A
Professor Fenno is very welcoming in her class. I would say she is very fair with grading and gives lots of feedback on the Argument Exercise and the essays that are assigned.
This was an amazing course and the topics were very interesting. The readings and assignments were manageable along with my other core classes. The writing assignments were not too difficult and had super detailed instructions. The expectations of the class are very clear. I would strongly recommend it to anyone wanting an interesting and manageable Hum course.
great continuity between all the texts we read—lots of connections and overlapping analyses.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	7.69%	92.31%
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
The instructor was very passionate about the subject which made it easier to be intrigued by the novels and develop our own responses to the text.
her ability to keep the conversation flowing and broadening
The instructor's commitment to discussing the text and its deep meanings along with students keeps the ideas presented in the class title (existence as both a human being and citizen) in the forefront of everyone's mind.
The homework assignments, such as the writing boards and group homeworks, helped with the understanding of the reading and framing the class discussions.
The range of readings allowed me to practice text analysis with a variety of different topics and ideas to work with.
Professor Fenno is very passionate about what she teaches which I think is really helpful for any class. The majority of the class discussion is led by students which is a great method of teaching that I've noticed in both the seminar and writing seminar. Questions are welcomes, and Fenno is always willing to explain any confusion.
Fenno was genuinely interested in all of our discussions and assigned work that was helpful in starting discussions.
Professor Fenno's thought-provoking questions and encouragement for us to dig deeper in our analysis was very helpful, and I liked the way she mapped out ideas and character relationships on the board to keep our ideas unified.
Professor Fenno is an awesome professor and is super passionate about the material. She brings a great energy to the class that makes you excited to discuss the books. She is very open and available to meet for office hours, which is super helpful for papers. She often draws on the chalkboard to illustrate the concepts. She purposefully tries to get us to find the hidden details ourselves and points out the ones we miss. She encourages everyone in the class to participate in the discussions.
intensive discussion about each part of the book makes comprehensive analyses later much easier.
Feedback on essays
Fenno was very engaged with the class and passionate about many of the topics.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
A more consistent assignment schedule would help me stay on top of my assignments more. There was a lot of delay in when assignments were supposed to be posted as opposed to when they actually were.
more in-class instruction on expectations for writing assignments
The instructor could add more group work in which we interact with other students' processing of the text and interweaving thoughts into a message that transcends what can be extracted from text alone.
Publishing assignments on time and allowing students to speak more in class.
I would like to receive essay prompts in a timelier manner so that I do not always feel like I am rushing to finish essays on time. They have not always been released along with the syllabus release date.
Nothing. Amazing.
I think a lot of the discussions just circled the same few thoughts . Some more guidance and structure might have made the conversations more interesting. Felt a bit sporadic.
Increase the range of topics we would focus on per discussion, because discussions could get stuck on one topic for a while and become a bit redundant.
Maybe if there was more spacing between the assignments/readings, sometimes it feels like it happens in clusters.
maybe to give more specific feedback on essays
More discussion on how to go about the assignments
Nothing

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	3.85	4.00	0.00%	7.69%	23.08%	46.15%	23.08%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	53.85%	30.77%	7.69%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.23	4.00	0.00%	7.69%	7.69%	38.46%	46.15%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.23	4.00	0.00%	7.69%	7.69%	38.46%	46.15%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.31	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	38.46%	46.15%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.31	4.00	0.00%	7.69%	0.00%	46.15%	46.15%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.15	4.00	0.00%	7.69%	15.38%	30.77%	46.15%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.15	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	53.85%	30.77%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.69	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.77%	69.23%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.31	5.00	0.00%	7.69%	7.69%	30.77%	53.85%	0.00%

Please include the name of the TA/CA/Intern you are evaluating. What aspects of the TA's teaching contributed most to your learning? What could the TA modify to help you learn more? Please include any additional feedback for the TA/CA/Intern.

Comments
Writing Specialist Marshall Cunningham guides students through writing workshops in expressing, executing, and constructing essays in a way that most closely align with what the writer conjures up mentally. There's nothing specifically that could be done better, the help is sufficient.
The writing instructor for this course was Marshall Cunningham. While he was helpful outside of class, the writing seminars themselves were not extremely useful in terms of getting essay feedback, mainly because there just wasn't enough time to go over everybody's essays.
Marshall Cunningham – Writing Instructor. Marshall was a great writing instructor. He would also join us in class at times and his thoughts always brought more discussion in the class. He is great at explaining different aspects of our writing and how to implement better methods. Great instructor. Very helpful.
Marshall Cunningham. He is crazy knowledgeable on all the subject matter. It's really cool. It's very helpful when you don't have background context during analyzation of a text. He gives supportive and helpful feedback on the draft papers.
Marshall was super helpful, especially with essay review/planning! Super accessible outside of class and very friendly.

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	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%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%

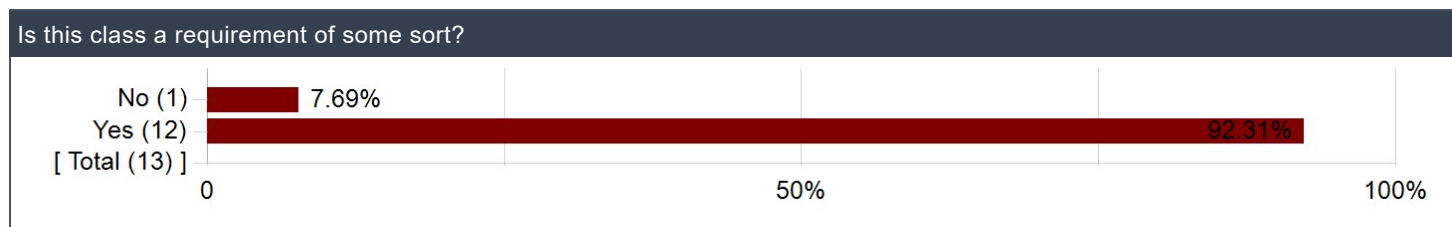
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Field Trips	3.83	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	25.00%	8.33%	50.00%
Library Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	3.75	4.00	8.33%	16.67%	0.00%	41.67%	33.33%	0.00%

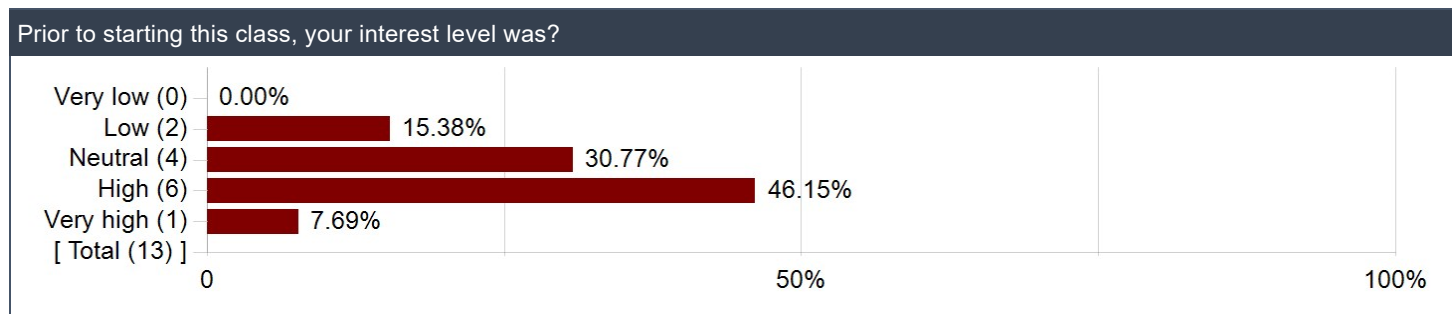
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
n/a
There was a required HBC for all the sections which required us to visit the ISAC museum. It was a great trip. It is worth the trip to ISAC.

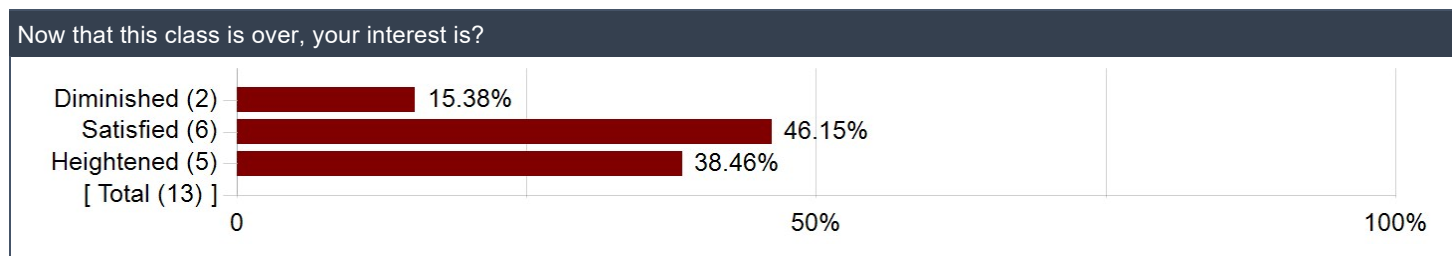
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



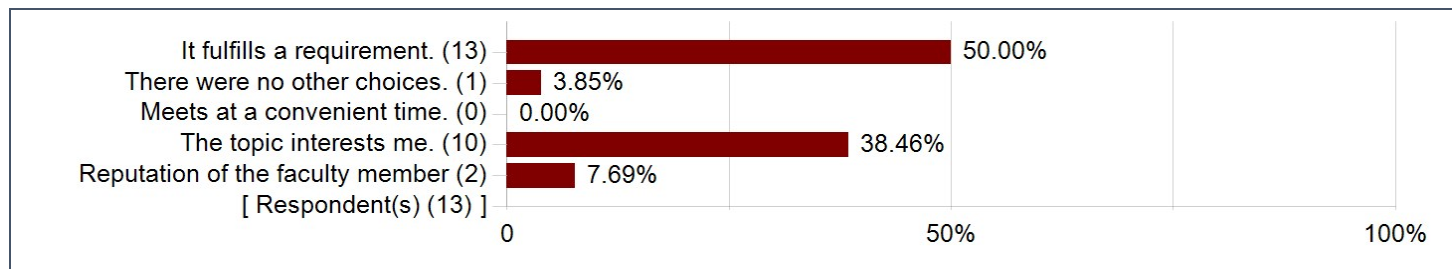
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



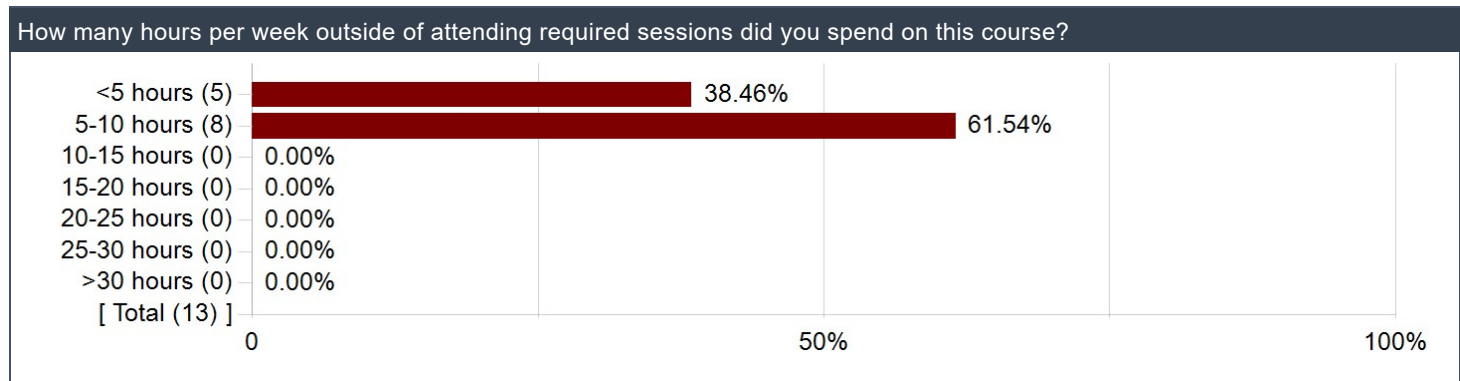
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



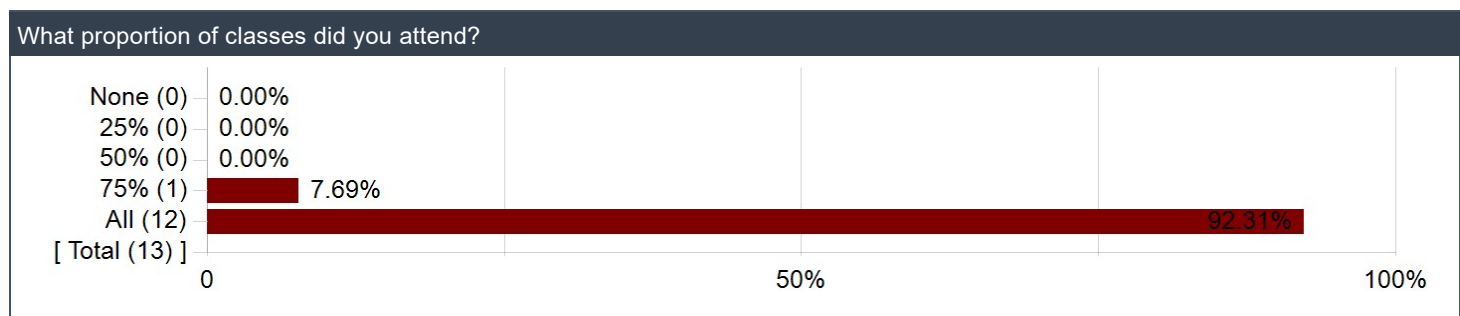
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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.

Comments
As someone who has taken both AP Lit and Lang, this course was very similar. It is very discussion based with a couple of group assignments and essays. As such, it was not very difficult and concepts and theories about the texts were easy to understand.
not difficult
The course is great for any student to take to discover the history of finding interpersonal and intrapersonal identity amongst humans.
As someone who is not a humanities person but enjoyed and did well in English in high school, this course definitely improved my critical thinking and essay skills. I found it to be fairly manageable.
I've taken an English class before. This is way more discussion-based, however.
The course isn't very difficult when it comes to discussion and the assignments. For me, the essays and argument exercise were challenging. I wasn't used to this type of writing but with time improvement was seen. Although I do admit more could have been done on my part. The course is worth taking though.
The readings are not too difficult or time consuming. Writing assignments were a little more difficult because at times it was hard to understand what was expected.
This class was more difficult than typical high school english classes, however felt very manageable for the average student, even if humanities or writing is not their strong suit.
Not too difficult. The standard for academic writing is higher than high school, which is to be expected from a college course. GO TO OFFICE HOURS! Super helpful for talking through paper ideas.
Not super difficult as long as you read the texts. you definitely don't need any prior understanding of the topic
moderate
Not very difficult