



HUMA 11100 10 - Readings in World Literature II - Instructor(s): Hoyt Long

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Winter 2024**

Number Enrolled: **18**

Number of Responses: **11**

Report Comments

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

Creation Date: **Thursday, March 28, 2024**

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

Comments
Structure of a close reading essay, how to look at autobiography critically
I learned a lot more about writing critically and analyzing literature.
Literature analysis, discussion skills, and essay writing.
I learned how to draw connections across time and space through literature and how to engage in and lead meaningful class discussions about challenging reads (Augustine).
I learned about autobiography as a genre. The breadth of what is considered an autobiography, why they are important, and how they can reflect so much about the culture of their time. How to read these texts and get into the minds and lives of their authors.
I feel like I gained a lot of skills as a writer, and I was exposed to a lot of material that I wouldn't have ordinarily sought out myself which I think was really good for me as a reader as well.
I learned how to analyze texts to understand the why of an author's writing. I also learned to locate and investigate certain themes an author uses and how those impact that author's greater work.
I learned about reading different autobiographies and about the different ways in which autobiographies can be written.
The focus for the quarter was autobiography, so I learned a lot about what stylistic and content-based choices authors use in making sense of their life stories. Since last quarter focused on epics, we had to stay a lot closer to the text and do much more close reading in this unit. I learned a lot about how to stay more text-oriented and less conjectural in my writing.

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

Comments
Discussions were really helpful in allowing ideas to marinate. Professor Long did some mini-lectures in order to give us some more context about the works we were reading, which was also really helpful in understanding the work's significance as a whole and the influences on the writer.
The discussions were very helpful.
The writing sessions were a complete and total waste of time.
The class lectures were well-done and provided a nice historical context to everything.
The discussions were interesting and engaging.
We were encouraged to participate in discussions and we were all assigned one class period in which we would lead the discussion in a group. This was a helpful exercise in critical thinking, collaboration, and analysis. Aside from readings, our assignments were mostly creative and I enjoyed them a lot. They allowed me to approach the readings from different perspectives (mapmaking or how Shonagon might feel about life at UChicago in 2024) which I found made sometimes mundane readings fun. The essays strengthened my writing skills and forced me to take different, more narrow, focused approaches to rhetorical analysis that I feel have made me a more flexible writer.
The discussion leader assignment helped me to understand a deeper way of preparing for the class and gave me an appreciation for Prof. Long's responsibility to come up with questions like that every week. Our group discussions were always interesting and made me keep learning about the authors and what their motivations could have been.
Professor Long encouraged great discussions, and in general the class was full of good people. We did mostly reading and discussion, but when there were other things mixed in they were very helpful.
The readings were all interesting (except for the Pillow Book) and discussions on those readings were engaging and informative. I also liked the extra assignments Long implemented to mix up the format. Good class.
I felt the class discussions were very useful in helping me to better interpret what the texts were saying and doing.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.27	4.00	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	45.45%	45.45%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.36	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	9.09%	18.18%	63.64%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.18	4.00	0.00%	9.09%	9.09%	36.36%	45.45%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.36	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	36.36%	54.55%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.36	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	9.09%	18.18%	63.64%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	18.18%	72.73%
I felt respected in this class.	4.82	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	81.82%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.55	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	18.18%	72.73%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I wish discussions were a little more free-form like they were last quarter rather than being directed at specific passages. I felt that free-form discussions with guidance from the professor helped me understand key points in the text and make connections better than just looking at a few selected passages. Also, autobiography seemed an odd choice for the second quarter of a class called "Readings in World Literature" – though we did read international authors, I wish this quarter were similarly focused on a more cultural lens.
I think it is definitely challenging to get through a lot of these books so quickly. You are not as able to think as deeply about due to the nature of the course.
Sophia Sherry does not care about writing seminar. She OFTEN skips writing seminar and offers no helpful advice.
Hoyt Long does a phenomenal job leading discussion and is a compassionate, kind teacher with a passion for global literature.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	9.09%	90.91%
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
Professor Long brought up a lot of really helpful points in discussion, and his mini–lectures about the context of the works were very informative and helpful in understanding the work as a whole.
Professor Long facilitated discussions quite well, but there were times where I think we should've dived deeper into writing structures, etc, because that ended up being a pretty big focus on the writing portion of the course.
I like how Professor Long let the students lead the discussion.
Professor Long would introduce discussion topics that we often used as a starting point and went on (related) tangents about the readings. I also really appreciated how he contextualized the historical context that was often glossed over in the readings.
His use of historical context for each author and their time period was very helpful. I liked the annotation assignment we did, could have done with more than one.
He was very good at guiding discussion in a helpful way.
The way Long led discussions was useful. He knows how to focus on what is really important in a text and make sure you understand it.
I felt that the instructor did a good job of involving everyone in class discussions and also providing good background on authors of the books we read.
Prof. Long was incredible, his insights on the historical and cultural contexts of the broad range of texts we read were always helpful in enhancing our understanding of the readings. He was definitely on the more cerebral side which might not have been everybody's thing, but I thought he offered an excellent chance to see how a scholar in the humanities approaches a text, and I appreciate that he was authentic to his intellectual background and didn't try to dumb anything down. He came across as well–read, insightful, and serious about literature.
N/A

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Like I mentioned before, allowing the discussions to be a little more free–form would be nice.
Professor Long does a great job with assigning readings, moderating discussions and evaluating essays.
Sophia Sherry does not care about her job. She skips our scheduled writing sessions more often than she attends, often with a rushed email thirty minutes later saying "Whoops, sorry!". She is not respectful of students' time or effort. She does not provide helpful feedback on essays, likely because she doesn't want to dedicate the time to doing it. Actually, her comments and feedback on essays is super late as well. I almost never see her do work of any kind at all. She skips scheduled writing seminar, almost never attends class, turns in essay comments super late, and even when she does give essay feedback it is unclear what she is trying to communicate. Furthermore, when she actually somehow attends her own seminar on time, she would rather spend the time talking about herself and vague ideas about education as a concept than rather on actual writing suggestions.
My Readings in World Lit in Fall Quarter had an essay that was ungraded but served to help us understand what was expected of us specifically given the new set of challenges of analyzing epics. That would have been helpful because writing about autobiography was new to me.
I enjoyed when he would go into the historical background or context of the authors life, I wish we did that just a little more.
Nothing comes to mind. Maybe more assignments outside of readings.
have more insightful perspective

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	18.18%	72.73%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	18.18%	63.64%	9.09%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.36	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	36.36%	54.55%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.27	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	9.09%	27.27%	54.55%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	9.09%	18.18%	36.36%	36.36%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.27	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	9.09%	27.27%	54.55%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.20	4.00	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	45.45%	36.36%	9.09%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.45	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	27.27%	63.64%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.55	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	18.18%	72.73%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.45	5.00	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	27.27%	63.64%	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
Sophia Sherry was our writing seminar person. She's a great person, but contributed absolutely nothing to my learning and success in this course. The writing seminars and the "feedback" (if it can be called that) she provided on my essays were absolutely useless.
My writing instructor was Sophia Sherry. She is super nice and I think really knows her stuff, but often came off as disorganized throughout writing seminars.
Sophia Sherry
Sofia Sherry (Writing Specialist) was really helpful and made it super clear where I could improve in my essays while being incredibly supportive.
The writing advisor for this class was Sophia Sherry

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	2.80	3.00	40.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	20.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	3.20	4.00	40.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	3.00	4.00	40.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	20.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	2.80	4.00	40.00%	0.00%	0.00%	60.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	3.00	3.00	40.00%	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	40.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	3.80	5.00	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	3.20	4.00	40.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%	0.00%

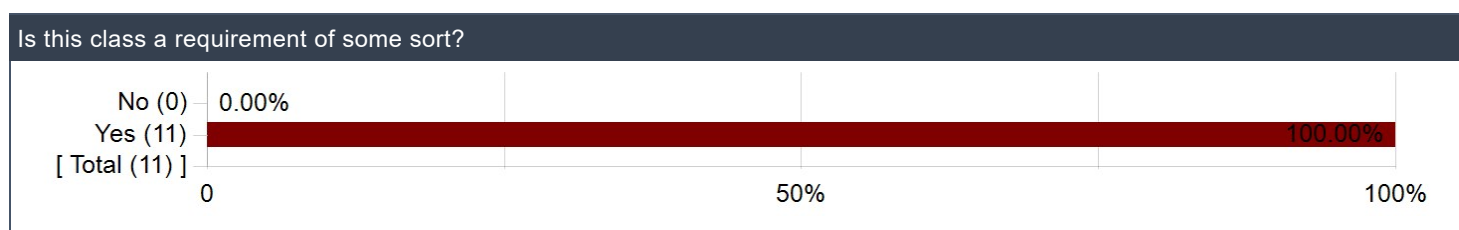
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
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	3.00	3.00	22.22%	11.11%	22.22%	33.33%	11.11%	0.00%

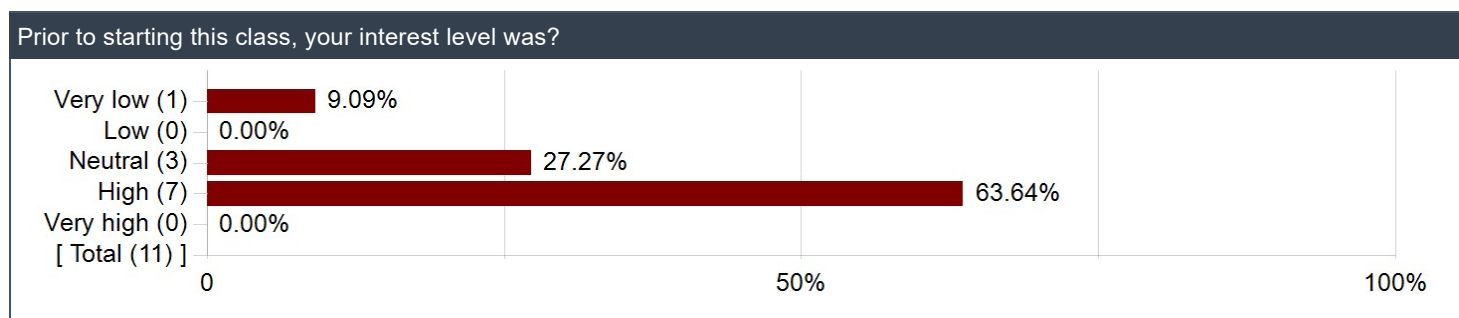
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
N/A

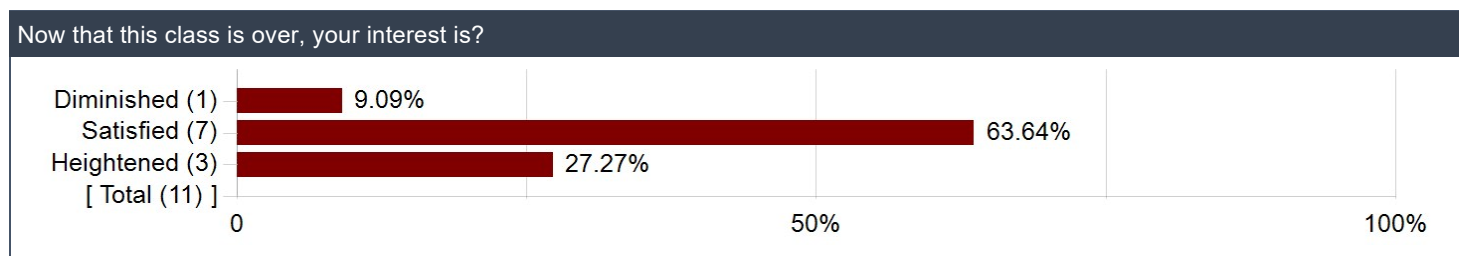
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



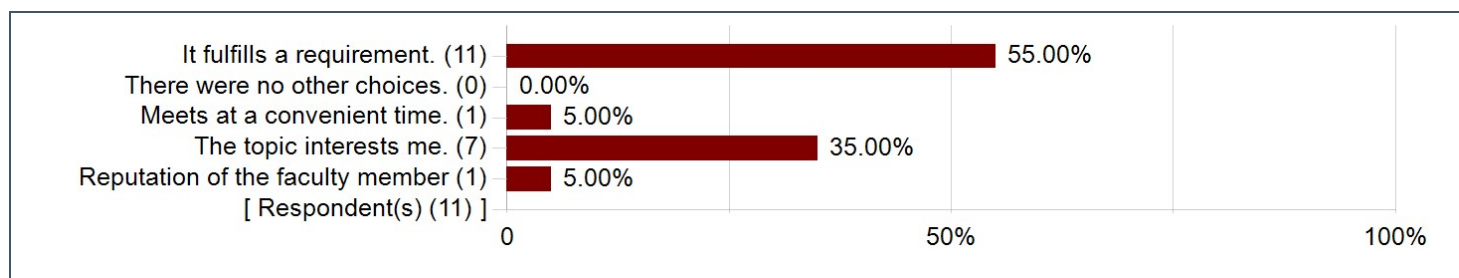
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



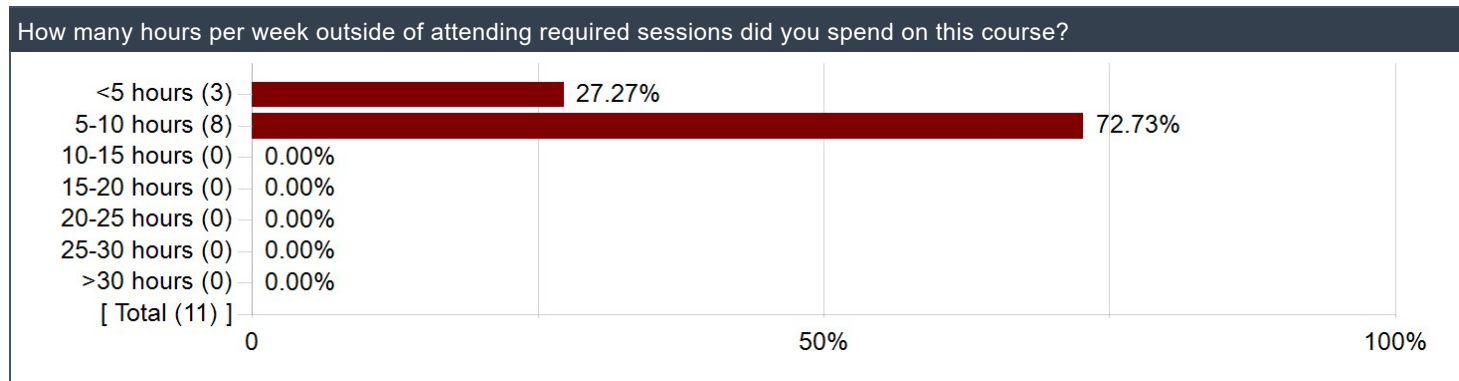
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



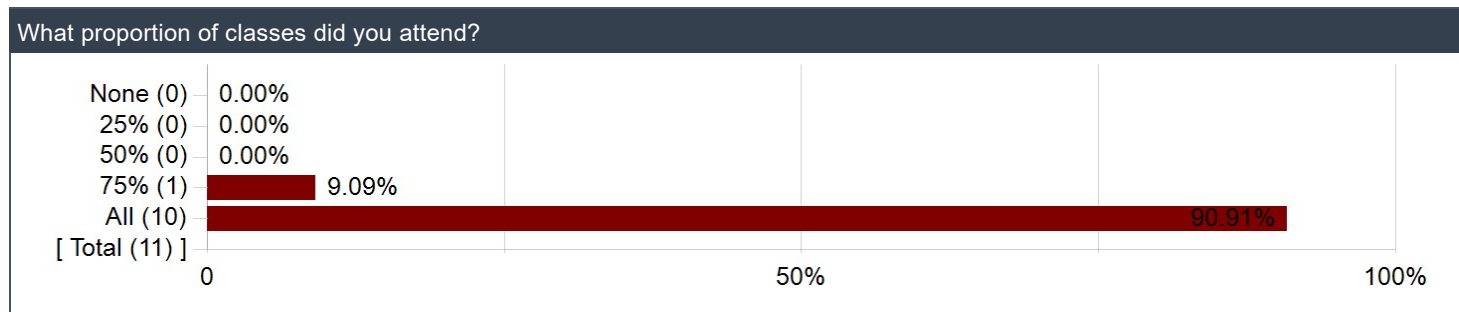
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
It was of similar difficulty to the last quarter – overall not that hard if you do the readings
The class just wasn't as interesting as I expected, I think people were talking about great things. I really wish the discussions could have gone deeper though as it stayed quite at the surface level for the majority of the class, mainly due to the fact that we had little time to actually process these works.
This course is a reasonable expectation of difficulty for a mandatory humanities course.
I found it more difficult than Readings in World Lit in the first quarter but not by a lot.
This class was the right level for me as a well prepared writer and reader.
I am a STEM major with not a lot of time and this class fit well in my schedule, lots of reading but manageable amounts, and the writing was also manageable. No discussion posts which was a big plus, those usually feel like a waste of time to me.
This class was not difficult for me with my prior knowledge from the previous course in the sequence.
The course was somewhat challenging for me considering I have no experience reading autobiographies.
The readings were definitely on the longer side due to the fast pace of the course, and often dense. Assigned readings were usually not the kind that you could sit down and read in one go. But they were manageable and largely interesting, and it was worth it to do them for the discussions.