



HUMA 14000 1 - Reading Cultures: Collection, Travel, Exchange I - Instructor(s): Nicholas Longworth

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

Number Enrolled: **18**

Number of Responses: **14**

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
Close reading, analyzing texts
Through this course, I now understand what it means to "save my words." I thought that speaking and writing "eloquently" (i.e., using complicated words) was how I could succeed in a college humanities class, but through HUMA 140, my professors showed me that less is indeed more. I now try to explain my thoughts verbally and through writing more directly but still maintaining the same amount of rigor than before.
I learned more about argumentative writing, and I was introduced to close reading and writing about it. I feel like it was an enhancement and deeper dive on many of the skills I acquired in AP literature. I also learned a lot about ancient literature and the differences in translations and how that impacts meaning and reflections made on the culture of origin.
I learned to craft insights about the overall message of the texts we read in the class. I was also able to improve my essay-writing skills.
to read very quickly, write better essays
The impacts and background of storytelling through different cultures.
improved reading and writing abilities
Essay writing skills and how to talk about college level texts.
We read a lot of interesting short story collections and compared and contrasted their styles and purposes. We also focused a lot on essay structure and how to make interesting claims and arguments.
I learned how to write better essays, how to explore books more critically and from different perspectives, and how to communicate my ideas in more impactful ways
How to construct a solid argument and how to structure an essay.
I feel my ability to analyze text during this quarter has improved. I think my writing has also improved at least somewhat.

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

Comments
I appreciate how our classes are structured so that we have ample space to discuss our thoughts from the readings. I find the balance between small group and big group discussions to be just right, giving us opportunities to listen to our peers in different settings.
Discussions in the class were definitely helpful because the professor was able to give us specific things to think about, but my class was very quiet, so I feel like it was specifically helpful from the professor, not from learning from my peers. Assignments were the biggest parts of the class. Doing the reading, taking notes on what I wanted to bring up in class, and doing the writing seminar assignments to prepare for my essays are probably when I did the most thinking about the topics overall, and class was helpful to guide my thoughts outside of class.
The discussions helped us understand the content of the books and essays we read.
discussions made me more aware of other peoples thinking skills
Class discussions helped with my understanding of the texts we read.
in class discussions
Discussions in class were very interesting, professor does an amazing job managing flow and letting class discussion go naturally and spurring it up when necessary.
Class time was mostly discussion to facilitate deeper thinking about the readings.
The lectures were mostly student-led and discusses our readings. Overall it was very chill and educational. The assignments were very very pleasant bc they focused more on quality rather than quantity. He would have us do "one word" or "one question" assignments, which may seem like a cop out but many of the times I incorporated the work I did there in my essays. These assignments made me more purposeful with my work overall.
The discussions really helped me to understand how other perspectives could pull different things from the same text. The essays were also helpful in practicing to apply the analysis skills that we learned.
The discussions were always engaging and helped us learn and delve into the topics.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.21	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	50.00%	35.71%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	35.71%	57.14%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	35.71%	64.29%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	35.71%	57.14%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
books should be less, for the amount of time to read them, loses value of the book itself
great
I genuinely loved this course! I couldn't recommend it enough to everyone. It was such a fun class with realistic standards.
The texts that we read were well selected.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	7.14%	92.86%
Anyone interested in the topic	7.14%	92.86%

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

Comments
I really appreciate my professor's habit of responding to our comments after we share our thoughts to the group. It gives a feeling of acknowledgement—that our ideas were heard and understood by someone other than ourselves.
His interactions with me and my peers in class when agreeing or debating our interpretations of the texts we read.
He facilitated group discussions in every class, encouraging me to participate and understand other students' viewpoints.
him understanding the quarter system and assigning work accordingly
Kyle was a great professor. I could tell that he really cared about the topics he was teaching as well as the success of his students.
leading group discussions
Discussions.
We discussed interesting prompts and did group work, which was often easier to explain your thinking in than to the whole class at once.
His willingness to listen to us speak and engage with the conversations. He also came up with creative ways of teaching such as videos, museum visits, having us go around and share our thoughts, etc. This really gave me the mental break I needed some days and helped me approach things from different perspectives. Additionally, his prompts for essays were very doable and gave you a lot a creative liberty. He also accepted drafts and low-key hyped you up while simultaneously helping you. Lastly, he was always willing to meet willing to meet for brainstorming sessions for upcoming essays. I cannot stress enough how helpful this was. It not only helped me organize my thoughts but also calm my nerves before writing one of my first college essays.
Class discussions were extremely fruitful and the instructor was a good mediator.
I think the instructor was able to lead a discussion very well allowing us to delve into the topic.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Sometimes the discussions felt very stagnant and were not engaging, maybe let students be more involved and talk to each other as opposed to the teacher
Nothing.
n/a
choose fewer reading materials and spend more time on each one
N/A
honestly, I am very happy with his teaching style
Less group work.

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%	0.00%	35.71%	64.29%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	35.71%	57.14%	7.14%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	28.57%	64.29%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	21.43%	71.43%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	28.57%	64.29%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	28.57%	64.29%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.14%	21.43%	71.43%	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
Dorin
The CA for this class is Dorin Smith. Dorin never beats around the bush. He is direct and straight to the point, and his comments during our writing seminars have never proven themselves unworthy. I always come out of these workshops with a better understanding and goal for my piece than before. Perhaps this following take is because of my personality, but sometimes Dorin's unfiltered and "real" responses frighten me a little—I'm not quite sure how to respond! However, this is very minor and don't think it's a huge problem in my learning.
Dorin Smith is our writing instructor. He gives helpful constructive criticism and has good humor when discussing more difficult topics. I think if we talked more about writing with him when he sat in on our usual classes, that would just give us more to work with, but everything we discusses in writing seminars was helpful, and he has always made it clear that we are welcome to contact him separately to meet and discuss our work more if we have further questions or need more help.
Dorin was very intense throughout the course. He is clearly passionate about the texts and has a lot to say about each. He was helpful during the writing seminars and I feel I learned how to improve my writing a lot because of him. I have to say though, his feedback on my essay was pretty disheartening. He was crass and nitpicky with my writing which was frustrating to read, but he also included feedback that was actually helpful.

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%	25.00%	0.00%

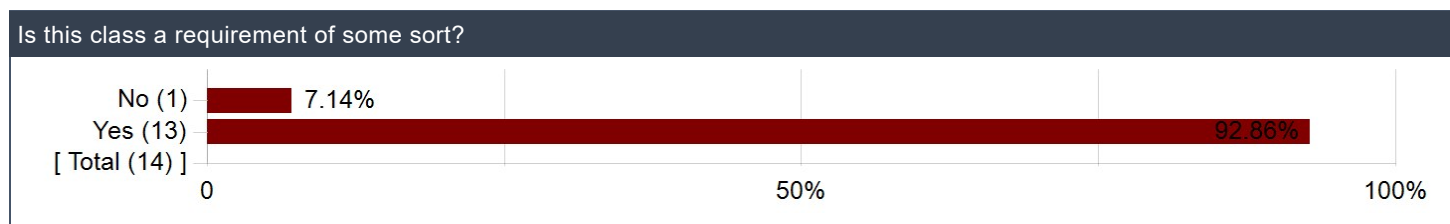
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	90.91%
Field Trips	3.40	4.00	0.00%	18.18%	0.00%	18.18%	9.09%	54.55%
Library Sessions	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	90.91%
Review Sessions	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	90.91%
Writing Seminars	4.23	5.00	0.00%	7.69%	23.08%	7.69%	61.54%	0.00%

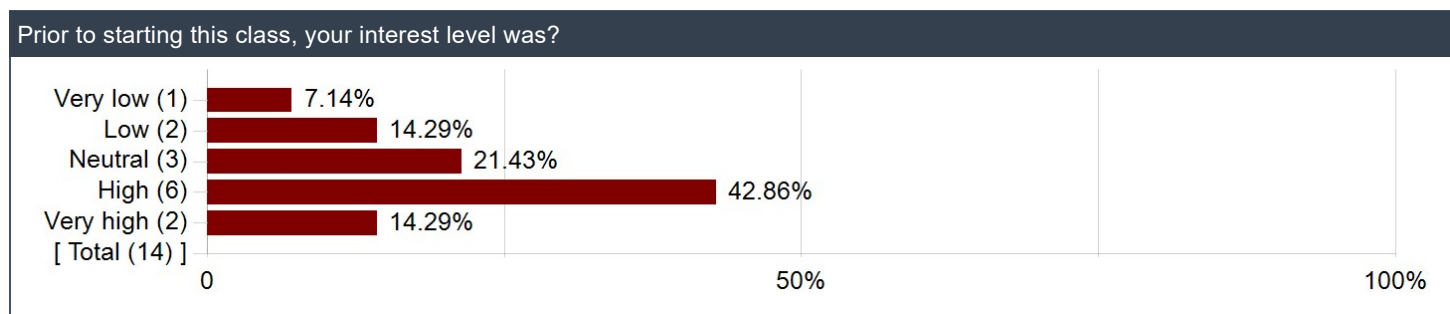
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
n/a
no

Is this class a requirement of some sort?

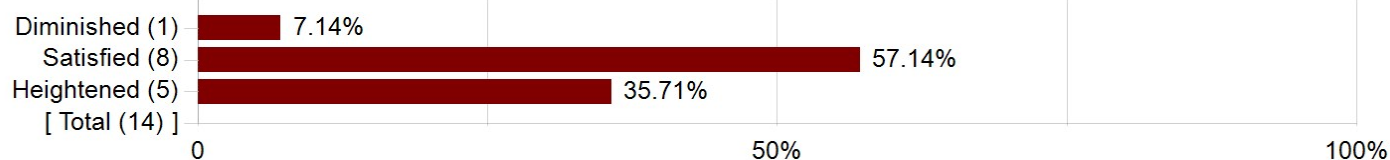


Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

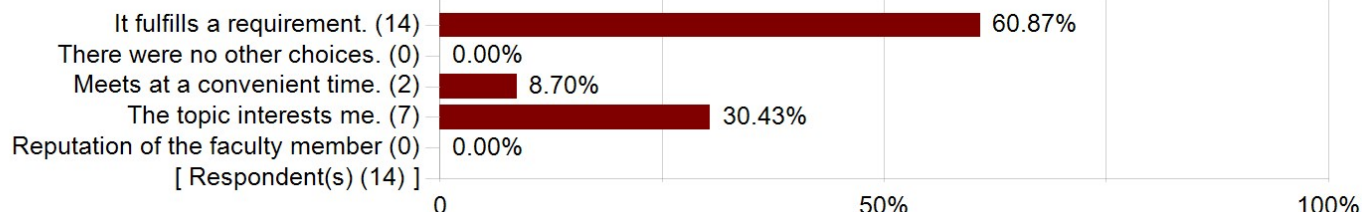


Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

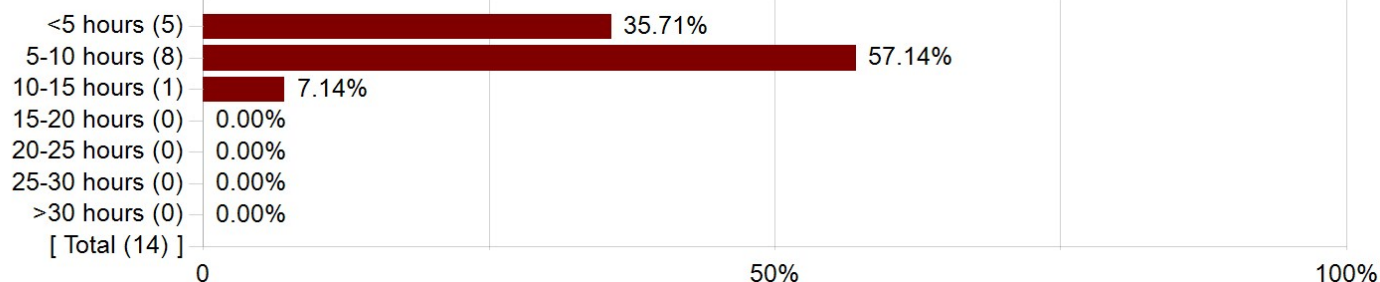


Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



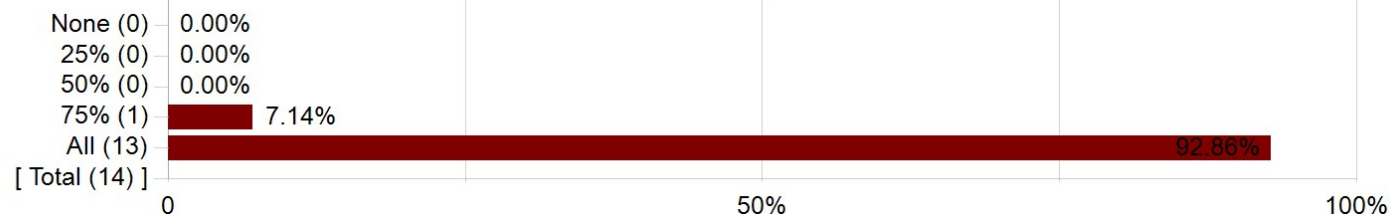
How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?

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What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?



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

Comments
This course feels like a mirror of my high school English classes. It is very discussion-based and assigns prompts that require a considerable amount of close reading and analysis. Thus, this course is challenging in a very manageable way.
I didn't feel that the class was overly difficult. The majority of the work is the reading assignments. The tricky part is that most of the time our work is majorly participation-based, but most of the final grade is based on essays and there are only three. If you put in the time needed to do the readings, take time on your essays, and ask for feedback when you need it, it's not a difficult class to take.
I struggled a little with essays, but the feedback was always beneficial. This course is not challenging if you read the material, participate in class, and ask for essay feedback.
n/a
This is a good introductory course. It was relatively straightforward and manageable. There was a solid amount of reading but the book were good so it didn't feel too bad.
neutral
Reasonable
Compared to courses like AP Lit, you're expected to try harder with making your writing interesting and unique.
pretty easy, sometimes the readings were long but not difficult
The course was not very difficult but it does expect a lot of work to get the most out of it