Report Comments

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

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

Comments
I learnt the importance of specific word choice in essays — evaluating the significance a certain word brings, whether it is loaded, and whether it contributes significantly to my argument. I also learnt the format of a college style essay, with stasis and destabilisation, as well as the value of rigorous brainstorming before diving straight into an essay plan.
I learned some of what the expectations for academic writing at UChicago are. I also learned how to think critically about how I structure my arguments.
How to write UChicago style, but also just more about the books we read which I was really interested in (The Epic of Gilgamesh, The Odyssey, The Mahabharata, The Song of Roland)
I learned how to write papers in a way that adapts to what the professor wants. I learned how to close read texts and how to interpret historical perspectives.
Improved writing, close reading, and discussion skills
Writing claims and subclaims

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

Comments
Group assignments were really useful in giving me the opportunity to dive deep into specific extracts of the text identified as important by the professor, and also helped me feel better prepared when it came to writing essays. Class discussions were also great for hearing my peers' ideas, as well as workshopping claims together.
Classes were very helpful and interesting. At the start of the quarter professor reculeau split us up into 4 groups of 3 and would periodically (every 1–2 weeks) give us assignments in those groups on sections of the book we were reading and then ask us to present to the class, either for half the lesson (40 mins), or sometimes the whole lesson (1h20). I think these assignments were quite unique to our class of all the RWL and HUMA classes in general, but I honestly liked doing them, I think it helped a lot for essay preparation in ways we didn't really appreciate until it came to writing our essay for each book.
The class discussions were very very helpful and made the readings much more interesting; Professor Reculeau brings up a lot to think about.
Obviously the discussions are the whole point of the course, so in that sense they were helpful. We were assigned to prepare to run the class in groups, which sometimes led to good student–run discussions and sometimes led to no one having anything to talk about.
The writing seminars helped me construct better essays

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.38	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	50.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.75	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	50.00%	12.50%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	3.88	4.00	0.00%	12.50%	25.00%	25.00%	37.50%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	25.00%	62.50%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	37.50%	37.50%
I felt respected in this class.	4.38	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	50.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.25	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	25.00%	50.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Professor Reculeau is so nice and very informative on what you need! It's so clear that he's really into the material and the readings. He's very helpful in letting you know what you need in order to improve on essays as well, and has a lot of office hour availability.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	12.50%	87.50%

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

Comments
He emphasised the important of close reading and analysing text in great depth, making sure class discussions had that in mind, which was very useful when it came to thinking about essay topics.
His explanations about how to think critically and how he thinks about the texts were very interesting.
He was very knowledgable about all the books and was great at articulating what he wanted, facilitating discussions and providing useful criticism to everyone in the class.
His discussions were very very informative and the structure of the class where he had groups present on close readings each class was super super helpful for our essays and actually absorbing the books! Not stressful either.
He often had to explain confusing parts of the texts (particularly the Mahabharata) which helped.
His ability to expand on topic

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Sometimes it felt like he was talking for the majority of the class and not really giving us an opportunity to engage fully. That's fine if you're quiet, haven't done the reading or not really looking for the participation points but could be frustrating occassionally, especially if you were the group that had prepared your assignment for that class and then you didnt get the chance to share everything you had done
I understand the ideal of the student run discussion, but having a little more prepared material for when the discussion dies could have been helpful.
Nothing

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	12.50%	0.00%	12.50%	75.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.29	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	37.50%	12.50%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	25.00%	62.50%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	25.00%	37.50%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	50.00%	37.50%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	62.50%	25.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.63	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	62.50%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.38	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	62.50%	37.50%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.63	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	62.50%	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 |
|---|
| Anne Smith – she was very nice but not very helpful. it felt like she didn't really know the books we were studying, which made going to her for advice quite pointless. Writing seminars also felt very repetitive and not useful at all. |

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

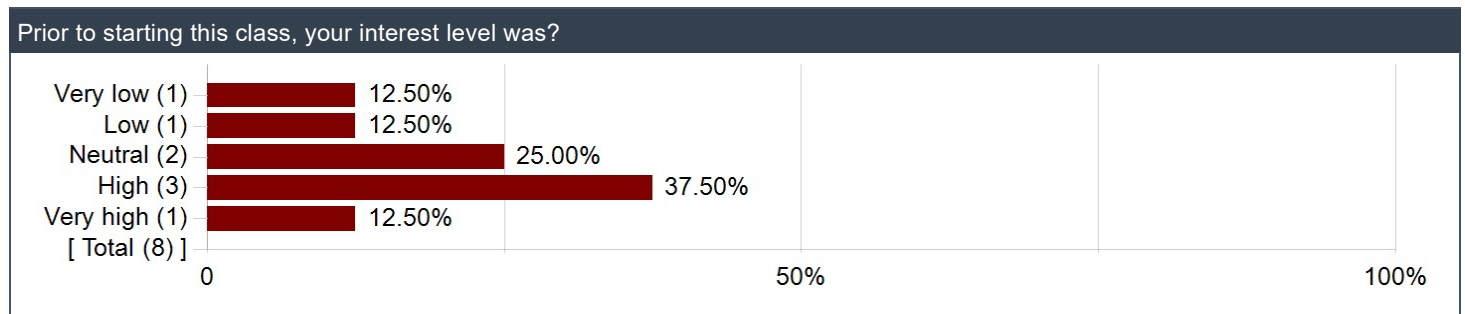|	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	2.00	2.00	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	3.00	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	3.00	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	2.00	2.00	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	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.	2.00	2.00	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	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	2.00	2.00	0.00%	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%
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	16.67%	16.67%	33.33%	16.67%	16.67%	0.00%

Is this class a requirement of some sort?
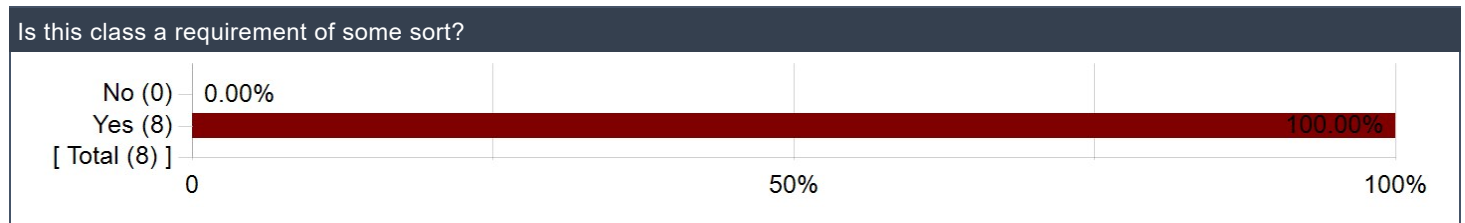
Is this class a requirement of some sort?

No (0)	0.00%
Yes (8)	100.00%
[Total (8)]	

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

Very low (1)	12.50%
Low (1)	12.50%
Neutral (2)	25.00%
High (3)	37.50%
Very high (1)	12.50%
[Total (8)]	

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Diminished (0)	0.00%
Satisfied (5)	62.50%
Heightened (3)	37.50%
[Total (8)]	
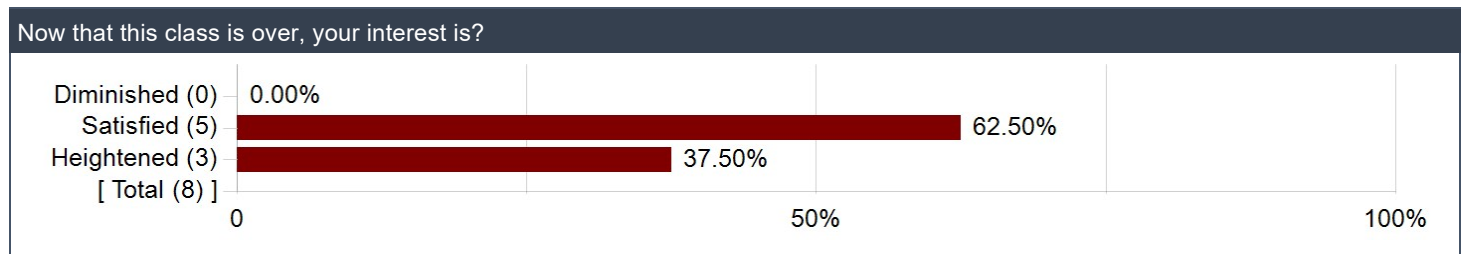
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)
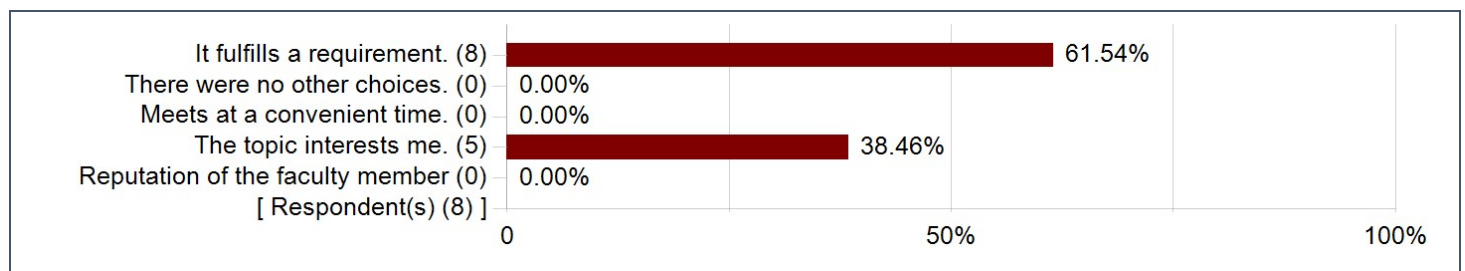
It fulfills a requirement. (8)	61.54%
There were no other choices. (0)	0.00%
Meets at a convenient time. (0)	0.00%
The topic interests me. (5)	38.46%
Reputation of the faculty member (0)	0.00%
[Respondent(s) (8)]	

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

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

<5 hours (2) — 25.00%
5-10 hours (3) — 37.50%
10-15 hours (2) — 25.00%
15-20 hours (0) — 0.00%
20-25 hours (0) — 0.00%
25-30 hours (0) — 0.00%
>30 hours (1) — 12.50%
[Total (8)]

What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?

None (0) — 0.00%
25% (0) — 0.00%
50% (0) — 0.00%
75% (0) — 0.00%
All (8) — 100.00%
[Total (8)]
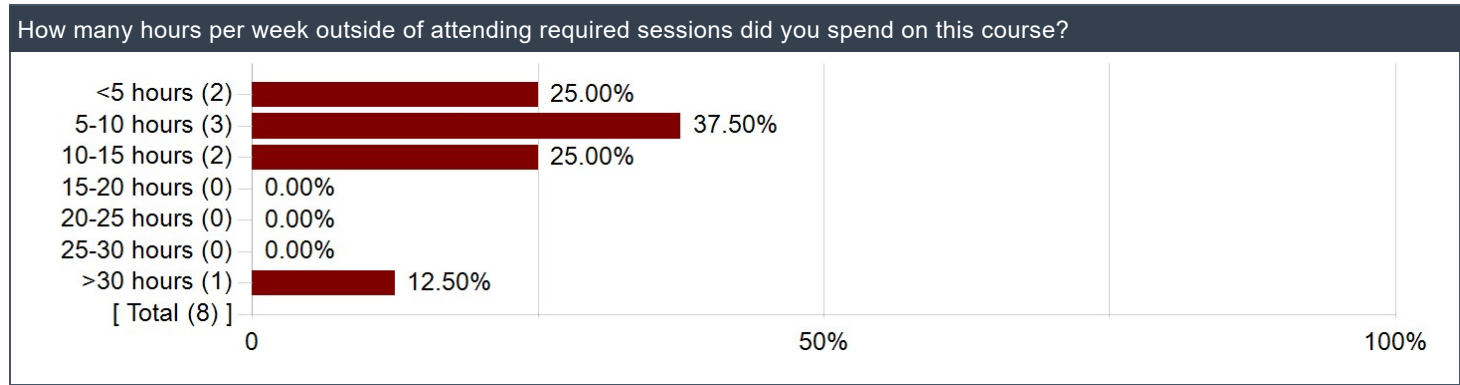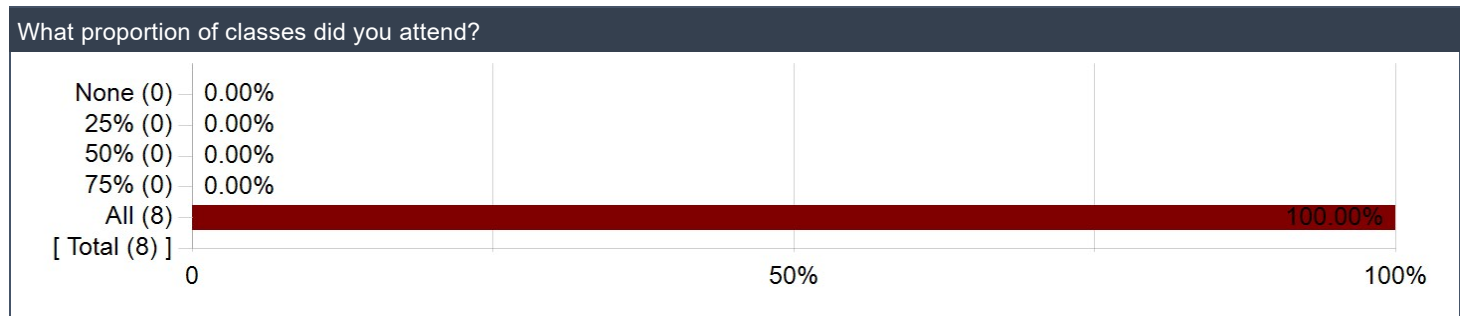
Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
I studied English Literature in secondary school, so the methods of close analysis were familiar to me. The college writing process, and expected essay structure, however, was not, and this course definitely challenged me in that regard, but also helped me develop important skills.
The writing is hard. The bar is high for what a "good" essay and argument is.
It wasn't difficult, there was just specific requirements for essays that I had to adapt to.
Pretty similar. Expectations for essays were not unusual for my (admittedly writing focused) high school.