



# HUMA 11500 4 - Philosophical Perspectives I - Instructor(s): Tyler Zimmer

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **12**

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## Report Comments

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

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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
How to form an argument.
How to write a paper with a reconstructive segment and an argumentative segment; understanding Plato and Aristotle
I learned a lot about how to think critically about human society. I learned how think about rules imposed on us by ourselves and society, and how people perceive the world around them. This class truly taught me how to think and seek goodness and logic within myself.
How to think and argue like a philosopher, especially in writing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>–Unjust vs Just Law</li> <li>–What defines moral</li> <li>–Socrates</li> <li>–Aristotle</li> <li>–MLK</li> </ul>
How to better understand philosophical readings
plato and aristotle
Enlightening readings and discussions Improved my writing
I learned a lot about important philosophical works and I learned how to write and analyze a philosophy paper.

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

Comments
Prof. Zimmer's office hour is very helpful.
Discussions were incredibly helpful, Professor Zimmer does an amazing job structuring class and moving discussions along in a helpful manner, good balance between explaining the text and asking us to interpret it.
Being a Humanities course, all classes were conducted in a discussion setting, which I found to have contributed greatly to my learning. Including reading influential philosophical texts, we discussed the overall idea and contents of all of the readings, plus the ideas within them. We were instructed to present our OWN thoughts and then challenge those thoughts as a class (almost like the Socratic method, which we were introduced to within the first reading).
In-class discussions really challenged me to come to class ready to defend my arguments and contribute in a way that facilitated further examination of whatever it was we were talking about.
I really loved this course. Our discussion were very enrivvetting, as well as thought provoking. I learned so much about perspective in this course and was exposed to so many ideas that challenged my way of thinking.
Professor Zimmer's open discussion approach is very helpful to truly grasp the readings
lectures are nice
I would say in class discussions, readings, and papers contributed to my learning, each in different ways
The discussions allowed for a greater understanding of the assigned readings.

## Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.27	5.00	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	36.36%	54.55%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.09	5.00	9.09%	0.00%	18.18%	18.18%	54.55%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.45	5.00	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	72.73%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.27	5.00	9.09%	0.00%	9.09%	18.18%	63.64%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.27	5.00	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	36.36%	54.55%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.36	5.00	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	27.27%	63.64%
I felt respected in this class.	4.64	5.00	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	90.91%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.45	5.00	9.09%	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	81.82%

## Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I really loved this course and how Zimmer taught it
I actually truly enjoyed this course. If you're looking to take a mentally-stimulating HUMA class with not a crazy amount of reading or essays, this is it!
Zimmer is a great professor and extremley approachable.
Professor Zimmer is amazing— he enhances our discussions and understanding of philosophical ideas, and is a great person.
Very laid back yet still serious environment, was very engaged and found this to be a great class.

## I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	8.33%	91.67%
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 analysis of the text.
How he facilitated discussions, what questions he prompted
The fact that he pushed us to examine our own opinions on philosophical ideas. It allowed us to come up with our own objections to our opinions, which overall shaped a better and stronger grounding of knowledge within us.
The way he facilitated discussions; it helped to keep the discourse running smoothly and allowed for everyone to jump in and say something
I think sometimes our reading were hard to digest and comprehend but Zimmer always took the time to break it down and allow us to understand.
He explains the concepts and often relates them to real-life situations
lecture
discussions
Explaining the readings in a Socratic way.

## What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
I hope we can cover more text that we read in class.
Nothing really
Literally nothing at all – he does it perfectly.
I found that the shorter the text was, the more I got out of the discussions we had since it was so much more challenging to argue for things using evidence; so maybe more short reading assignments
Not much more
its great
Sometimes I'm not a good judge of how good my writing is— if there was a way to understand more of what I should look for
Nothing really, I like the instructor a lot.

## The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.08	5.00	16.67%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	58.33%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.08	5.00	16.67%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	58.33%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.08	5.00	16.67%	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.25	5.00	16.67%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	75.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.25	5.00	16.67%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	75.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.00	5.00	16.67%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	58.33%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.08	5.00	16.67%	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.17	5.00	16.67%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	66.67%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.33	5.00	16.67%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	83.33%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.17	5.00	16.67%	0.00%	8.33%	0.00%	75.00%	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
Michael Ossman.
Michael Ossman was the writing assistant who facilitated writing seminars every month or so. I'd say he contributed the most to my learning in the way he would help me understand the organization and layout of a philosophy paper in a more digestible way than the brief overview we'd get in class. I'd try and organize more seminars for students if possible where students share their layouts for papers and you help them think about ways to improve them. I feel like three writing seminars isn't enough for an entire quarter's worth of material (even if there are only three major essays)
Michael Ossman, his seminars for our essays were quite useful. He sometimes wasn't active in class, but that's not necessarily negative
Michael Ossman
Mike

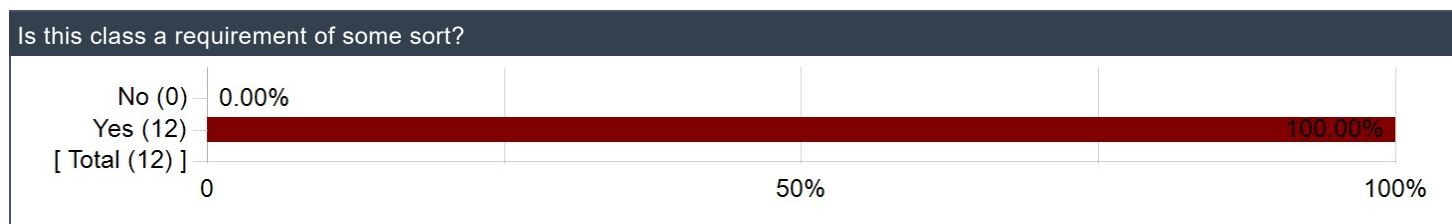
## The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	20.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.40	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.40	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.40	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.40	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%

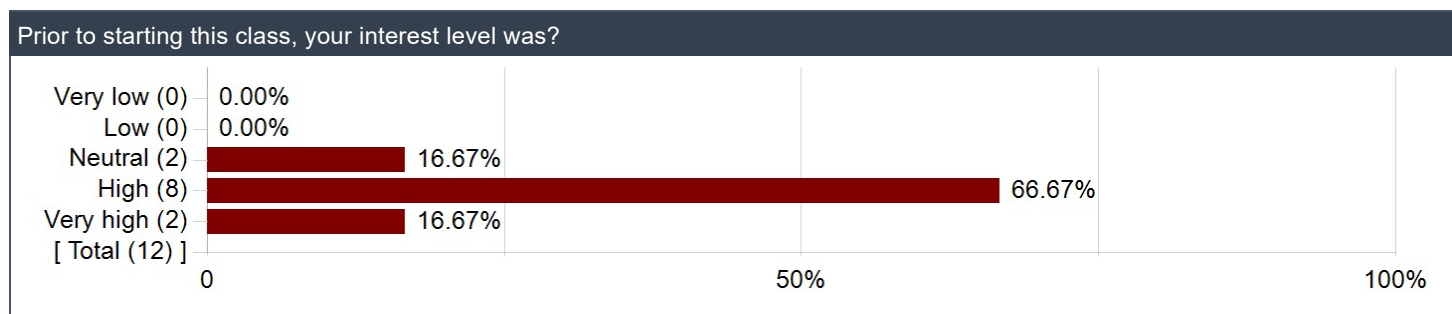
## How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	0.00%	87.50%
Field Trips	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	0.00%	87.50%
Library Sessions	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	0.00%	87.50%
Review Sessions	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	0.00%	87.50%
Writing Seminars	3.78	4.00	0.00%	11.11%	0.00%	88.89%	0.00%	0.00%

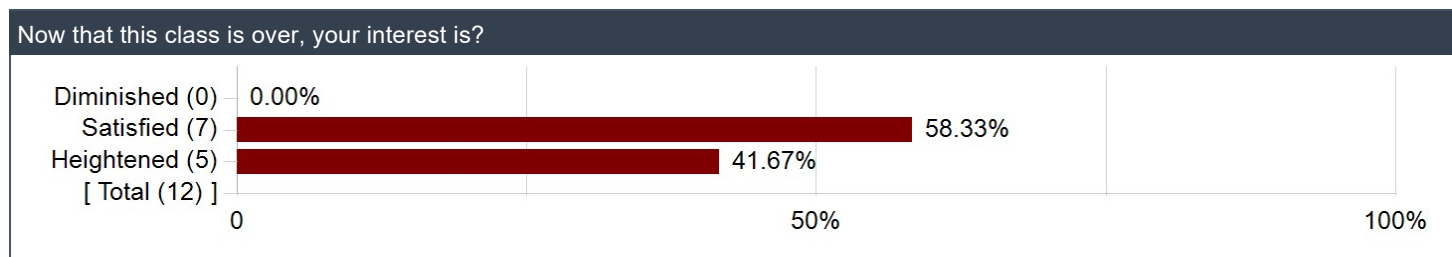
## Is this class a requirement of some sort?



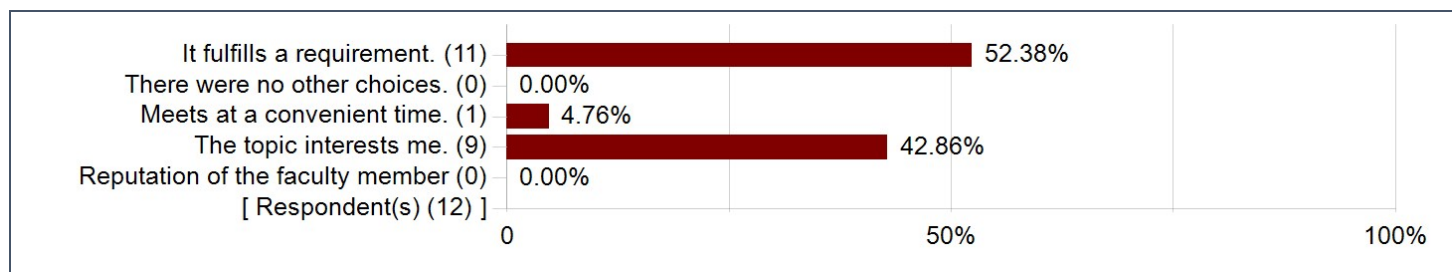
## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



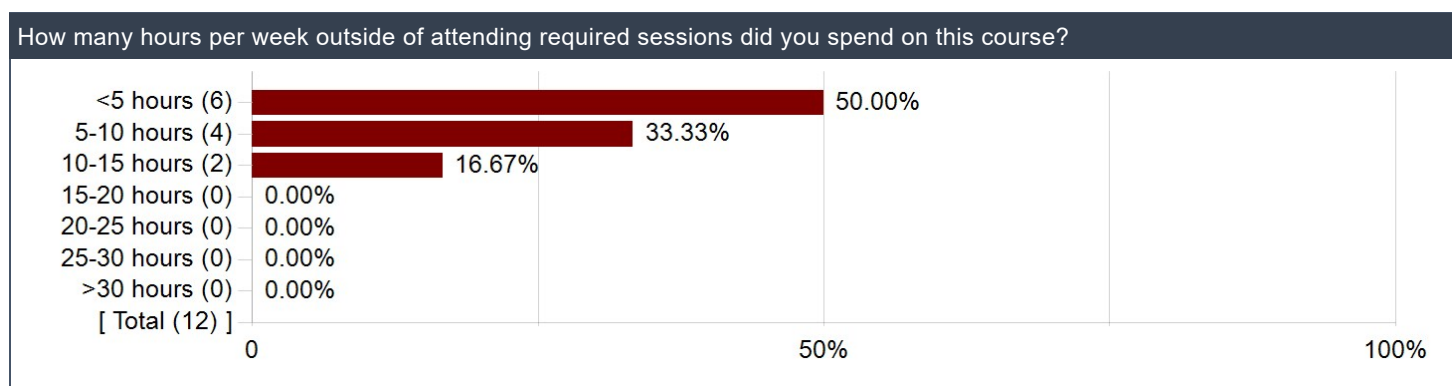
## Now that this class is over, your interest is?



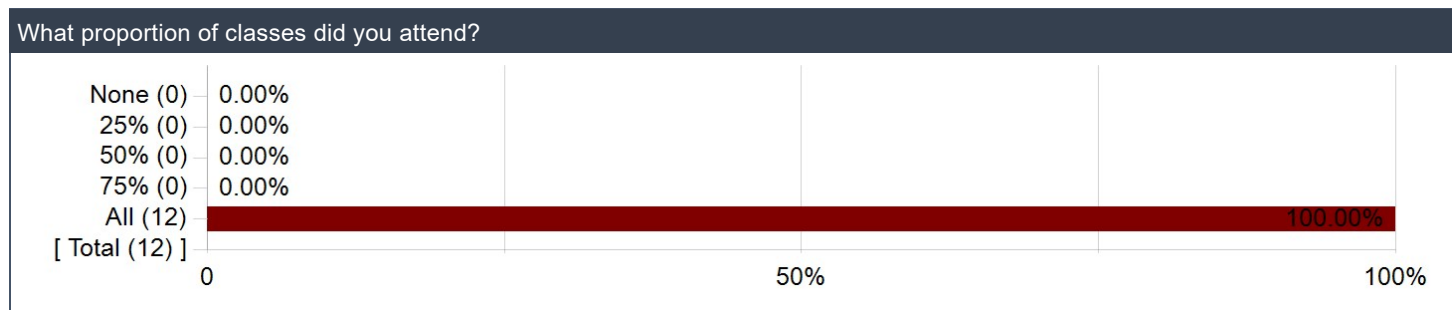
## Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



## 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.**

Comments
It is very introductory and requires no prior experience in philosophy.
Significantly easier than Sosc; honestly pretty easy, if you ask for help on the papers; not much reading
I was already generally into philosophy, so it wasn't hard to like this course.
Easy
This class is only "difficult" in the aspect of making you an abstract thinker. I don't think anything about it is super hard, you have to learn how to defend ideas or continue asking questions, as well as looking for truth in everything. I loved the course and I highly recommend taking it with Zimmer!
Very doable for students who haven't taken a philosophy class before
moderate
Just the right amount, intellectually enlightening, but not overwhelming with work load. I had no experience beforehand
No philosophical background, feeling okay
It was difficult because I had little formal understanding of philosophy but it was overall a somewhat easy class.