



# HUMA 11600 10 - Philosophical Perspectives II - Instructor(s): Ryan Simonelli

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

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: **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
I learned different philosophical frameworks, and how to develop arguments for and against them.
I learned that you can have a question with no right answer to it.
The course offered me an interesting and insightful view into the empiricist and rationalists philosophies of Hume and Descartes, respective. The course gave me a good picture as to how early modern philosophy looked like and how philosophers at the time understood knowledge. The course made me more comfortable with reading philosophical texts and understanding the arguments made in them.
Skepticism and metaphysics.
I improved my writing over the course of this quarter. I felt like my writing was a lot better this quarter than last quarter.
ljlj
We learned about skeptical philosophy and what pieces of knowledge can be called into doubt. I enjoyed reading Descartes, Hume, and Kant and breaking down their arguments while looking for potential flaws in them.
To think critically

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

Comments
The discussions were extremely useful in understanding the readings better.
I learned how to write a paper better
Lectures were very good at clarifying any remaining confusion I had during the reading and took a helpful step-by-step approach in explaining complex arguments. Discussions were also quite helpful as other classmates offered perspectives I had not thought of before.
Lectures clarify a lot of the difficult texts assigned. The paper prompts were thought provoking and pretty fun.
The discussions helped motivate me to think about the texts, but honestly, they could've been better, as only a few other students talked in them. The essay prompts were good and led me to think about the texts productively.
Lectures were helpful in terms of breaking down the readings and also facilitated good discussion about and beyond the reading.
lkjbk
I love the discussion-based/ lecture learning environment. Professor Simonelli clearly explained the arguments presented by the philosophers and as a class, we explored what the arguments were saying and whether they are feasible.
Handouts helped alot

**Please respond to the following:**

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.18	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	45.45%	36.36%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	63.64%	18.18%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.82	4.00	0.00%	9.09%	9.09%	72.73%	9.09%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	3.91	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	45.45%	18.18%	36.36%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.18	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	45.45%	36.36%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.09	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	54.55%	27.27%
I felt respected in this class.	4.30	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	50.00%	40.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.18	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	45.45%	36.36%

### Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Ryan is a great professor.
Ryan does a really good job making technical philosophical jargon understandable.
m,n
Excellent course
N/A

### I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	9.09%	90.91%
Anyone interested in the topic	9.09%	90.91%

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

Comments
His mini-lectures before getting into the discussion section of the class was very effective at producing a more productive and clear discussion.
The instructor took great time in his lectures to explain, step-by-step, the arguments posed in our readings and clearly explain their justification. He explained in relatively plain language which made philosophical arguments and ideas rather easy to grasp.
The lectures and review sheets.
Ryan is a good dude. So, if you get stuck with Phil per for Hum, definitely take it with him, but easier/more interesting Hum classes out there.
I think Professor Simonelli's lectures on the texts were good and helped me understand the texts deeply. Also, some elements of his discussions (like polling the class) were helpful in motivating engagement in the discussion. I also thought his office-hours were convenient and helpful.
Extensive and detailed feedback on essays, good summarization of readings in class, and posing interesting questions for discussion during class.
The instructor's ability to effectively answer questions raised by the class helped contribute to my understanding of the various arguments presented by the philosophers.
group discussions

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

Comments
Nothing.
NA
I think the discussions could've been better. A few more of those good elements, like polling, could lead to more engagement, because frankly, a large portion of the class was not engaged in the discussion.
Nothing really
slow down more

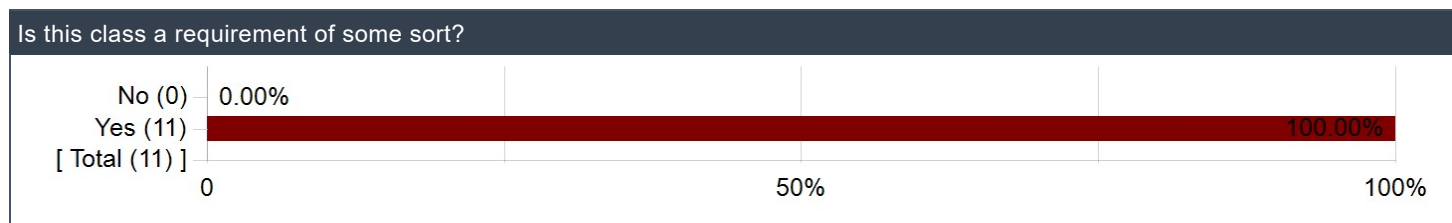
## The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.45	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	54.55%	45.45%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.55	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	45.45%	54.55%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.09	4.00	0.00%	9.09%	18.18%	27.27%	45.45%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.27	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	36.36%	45.45%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.36	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	45.45%	45.45%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.45	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	36.36%	54.55%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	45.45%	45.45%	9.09%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.45	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	54.55%	45.45%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.55	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	45.45%	54.55%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.55	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	45.45%	54.55%	0.00%

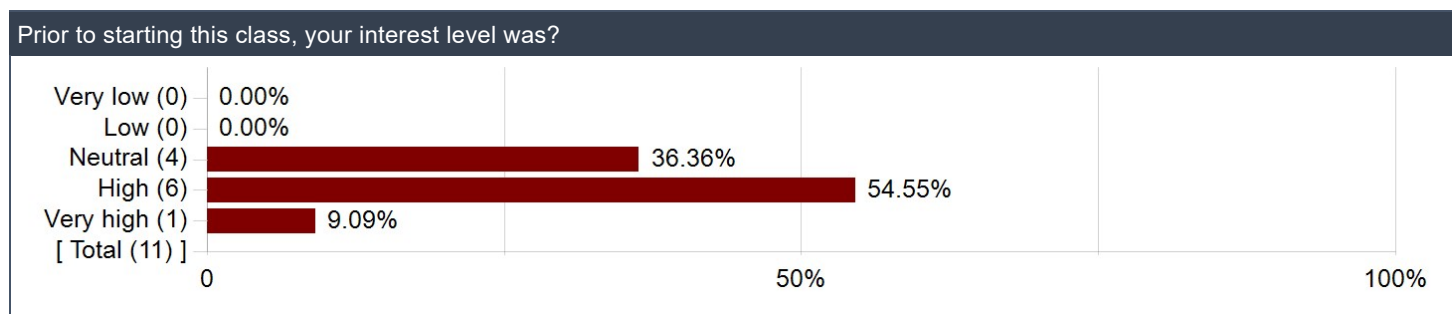
## How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	14.29%	14.29%	28.57%	42.86%	0.00%	0.00%

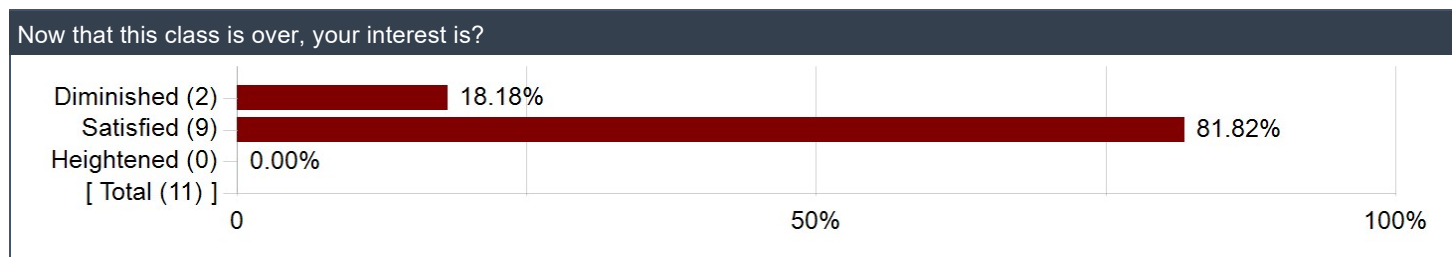
## Is this class a requirement of some sort?



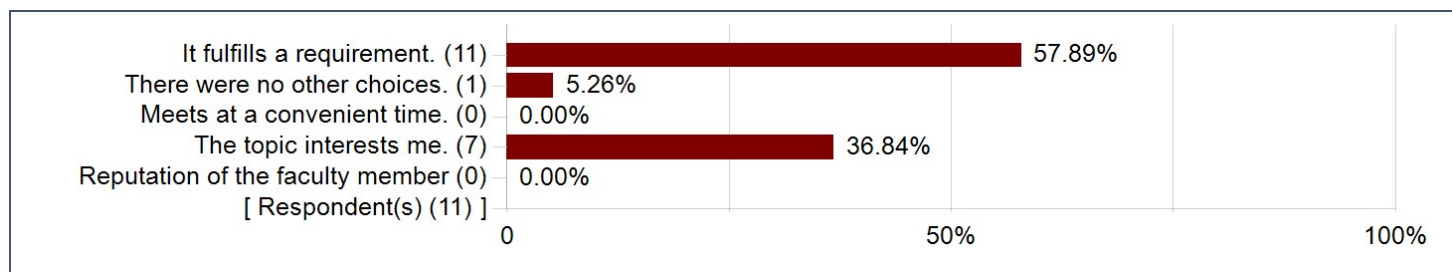
## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



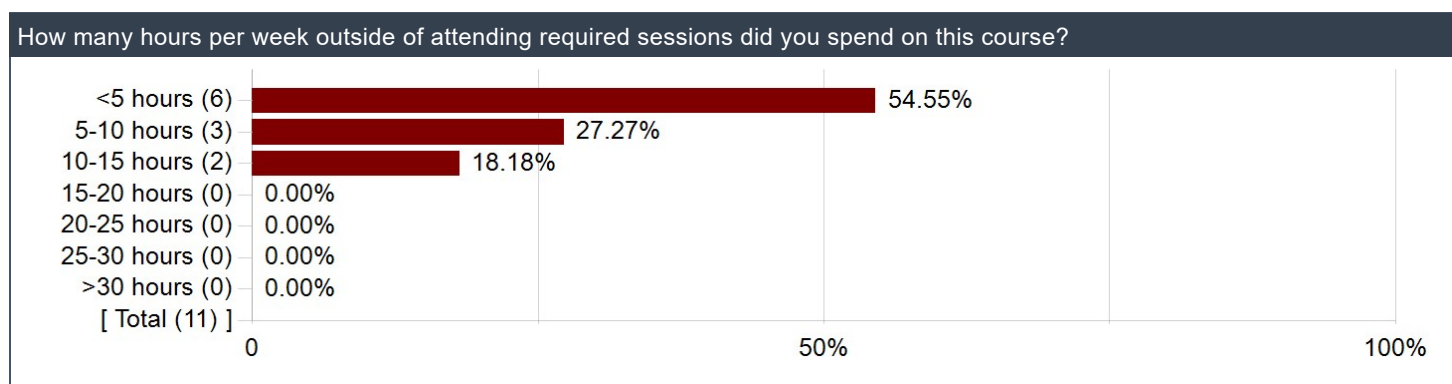
## Now that this class is over, your interest is?



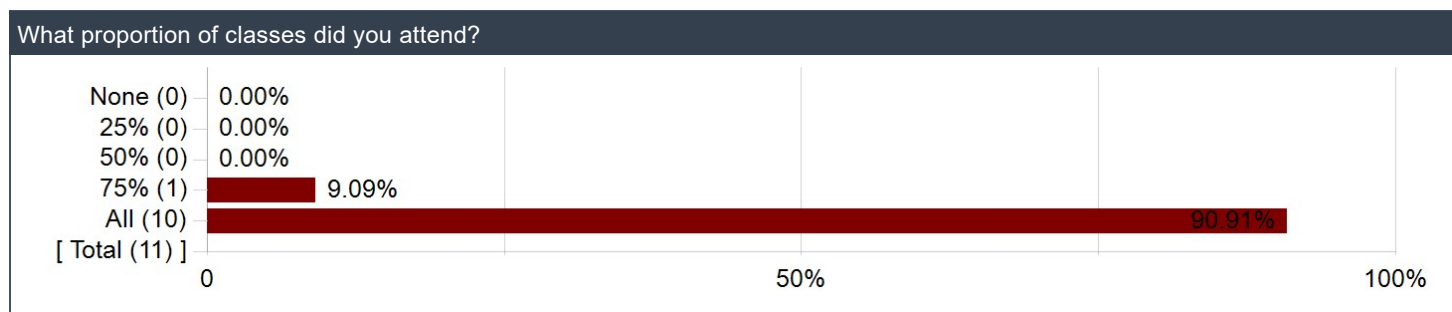
## Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



## 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
The readings can be dense but it's manageable and not too terrible.
The course was not particularly difficult and most of the content was relatively easy to understand.
Not too difficult. Accept that you won't fully understand the readings on the first pass and come to class with questions. You will be much better off for it.
Pretty difficult, pretty hard to get an A in this class, I came from a very strong writing background and still had trouble. If this course was graded with a little more grace and had a bit more emphasis on participation being a bigger factor in grades I would recommend it. But for now, take media athestics, less of a time commitment and nobody gets lower than an A-. In Phil per its not super hard to screw around and end up with a B.
I felt like the course was easy, but I got mediocre grades, and didn't really understand why.
The content is very accessible. Writing the essays is the challenging aspect of the course but the writing tutor and professor were really helpful