



URDU 10100 1, URDU 10100 1 - First-Year Urdu I - Instructor(s): Romeena Kureishy

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

Number Enrolled: **13**

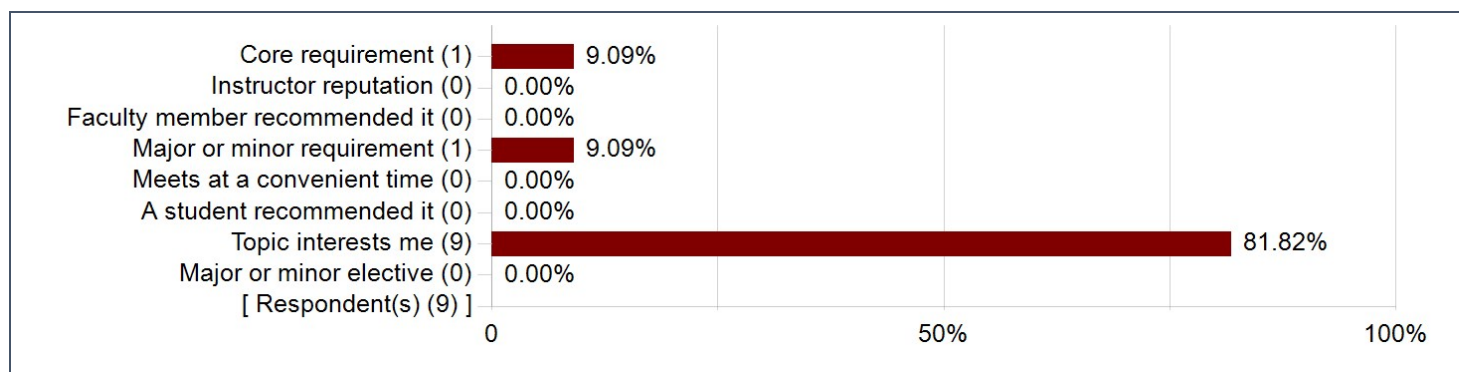
Number of Responses: **10**

Report Comments

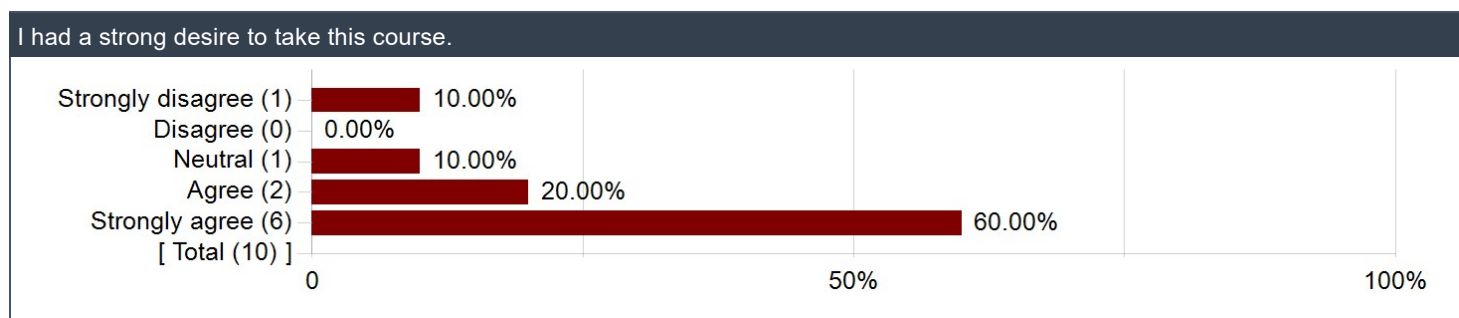
Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Friday, February 2, 2024**

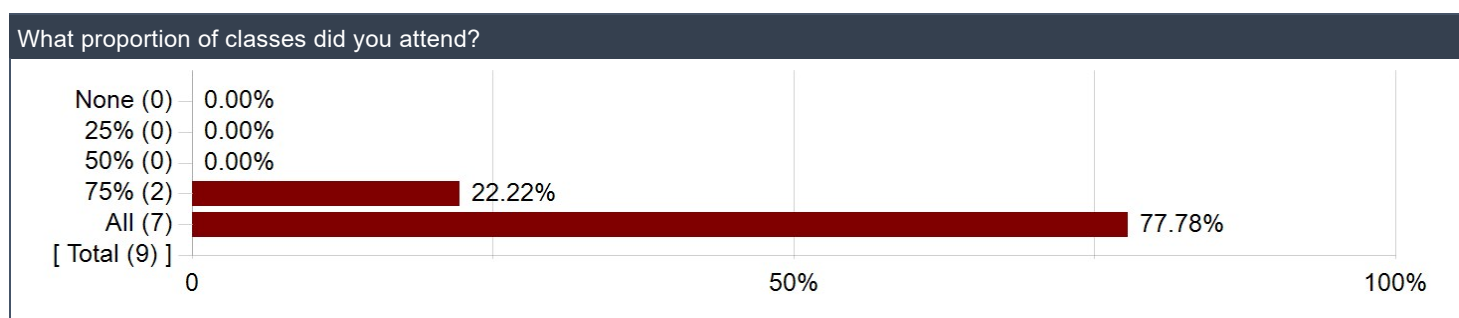
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



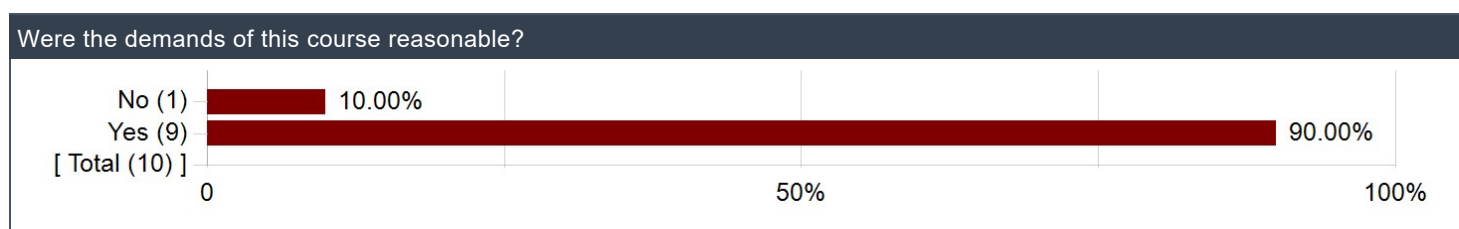
I had a strong desire to take this course.



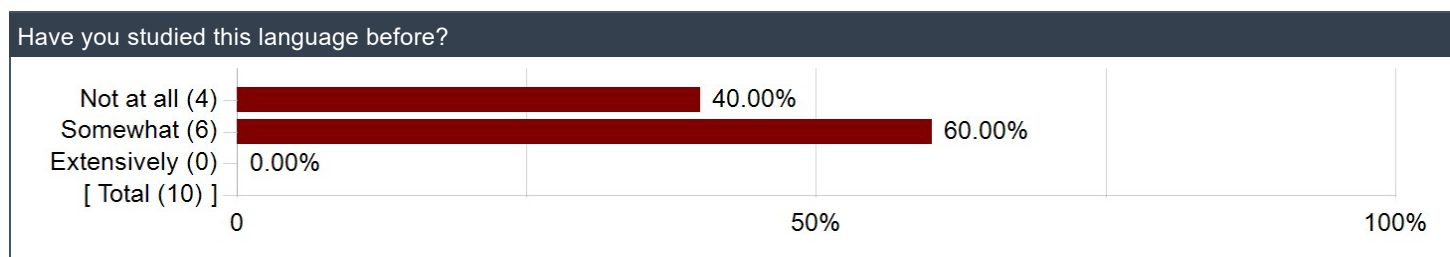
What proportion of classes did you attend?



Were the demands of this course reasonable?



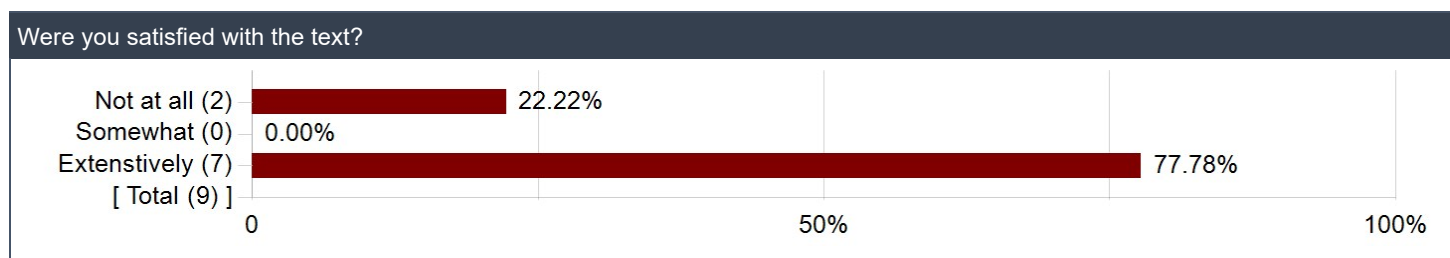
Have you studied this language before?



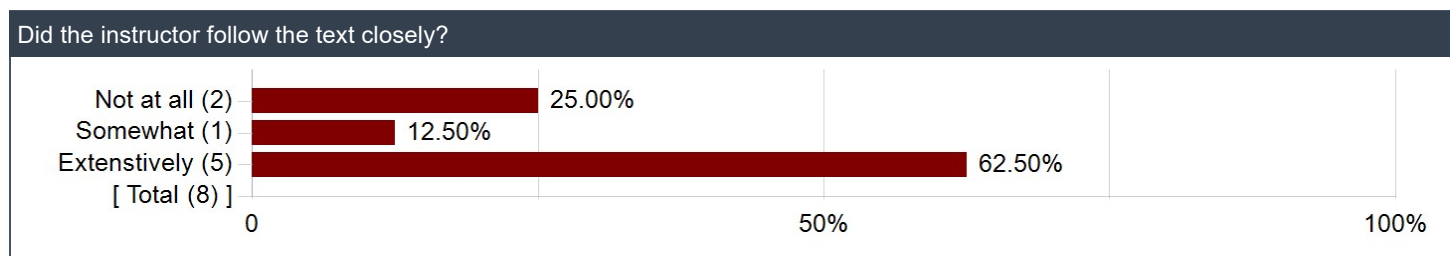
Rate the extent to which different aspects of the language were stressed:

	Mean	Median	Not At All	A Little	Some	A Lot	Extremely	Vigorously
Speaking	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	20.00%	40.00%
Spelling	4.80	5.00	10.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	30.00%	40.00%
Reading	4.60	4.50	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	30.00%	10.00%	40.00%
Writing	5.00	5.00	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	10.00%	40.00%	40.00%
Grammar	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	40.00%	30.00%
Vocabulary	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	30.00%	20.00%	40.00%

Were you satisfied with the text?



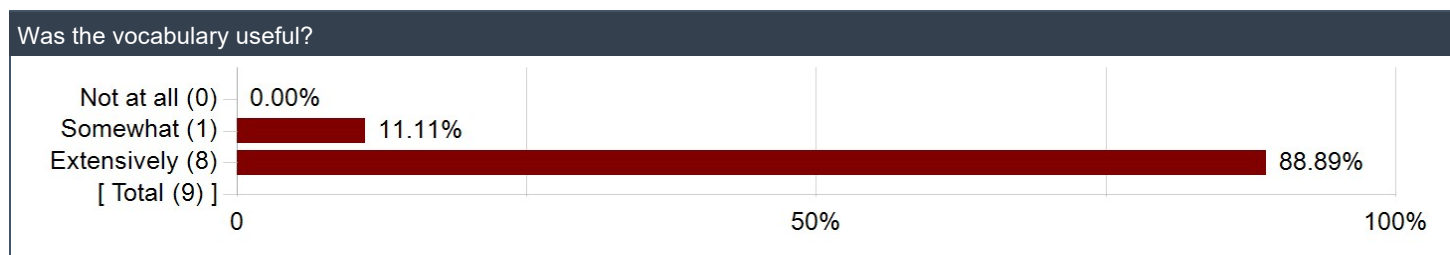
Did the instructor follow the text closely?



Explain:

Comments
The instructor did a fantastic job. The class had people who fell in three different classes: those unfamiliar with the language, those familiar with the language but not the script and those familiar with both. She designed the course in three different ways to suit the needs of each group and made separate arrangements for all three groups. The instructor essentially took three classes which is thrice the hardwork. Couldn't ask for more commitment from a teacher.
The text was not followed much.
There were a wide range of readings on different topics. We read them all closely, had in-depth discussions in them, and were taught how to deeply read a text and discuss a text in Urdu
text = instructor-provided notes
We didn't use a textbook

Was the vocabulary useful?



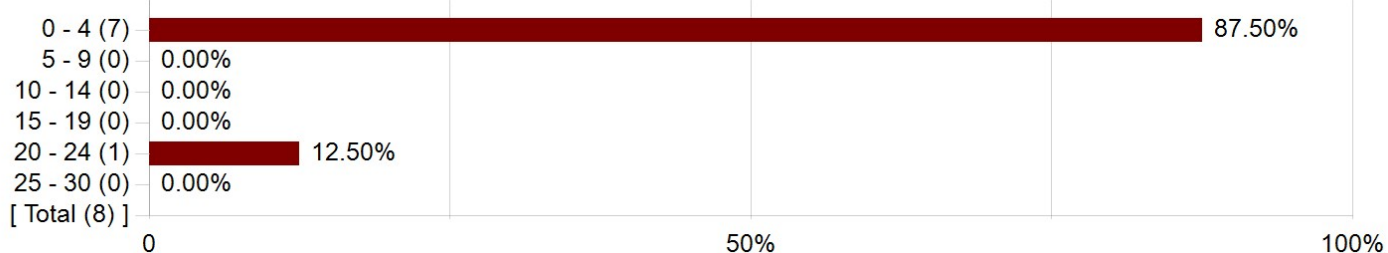
Why?

Comments
New words were being introduced in a very organic manner.
There was far too much vocab to study, without much overview of the basics.
We learned terms from high literary Urdu and literacy criticism, in addition to just developing everyday vocab. We also would have good discussions on synonyms and when one word is more appropriate than the other.
Because this is the first time I have learnt Urdu, so the vocabulary was very important and helpful to form sentences and understand the culture.
Words that we could use on a daily basis

Describe the format of the class (lecture, drills, etc.). Was this format productive? Please be specific.

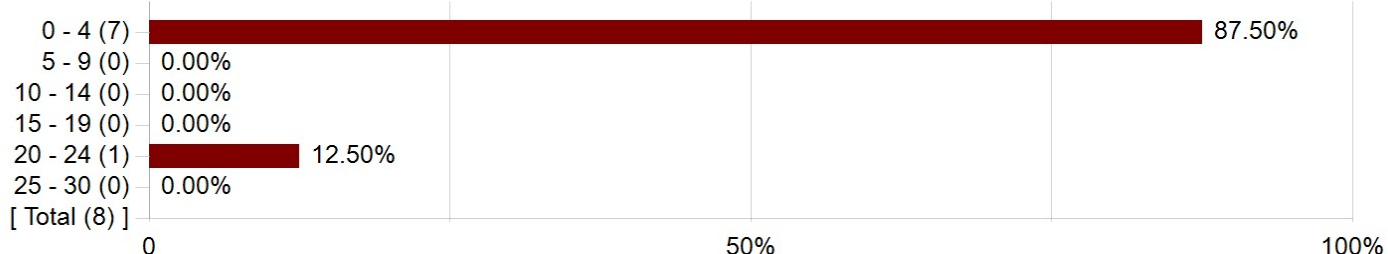
Comments
As I said, the class was divided into three groups which met mostly separately. The instructor used a variety of pedagogical tools to teach us the language in a short duration of time. We started with the letters of the script and began writing. The material consisted of words of everyday usage which helped build both the vocabulary and literacy together. This was followed with simple sentence construction around everyday usage. This was followed by image description, again based on everyday usage. Finally, we have now reached a stage where we are reading short passages as reading comprehension. The overall pedagogic style including the lectures and drills were very efficient and incrementally increased the learning with each class.
It was largely presentation based, except the professor would go super fast without slowing to check if people understood. People didn't
We would read texts together and discuss them in Urdu; we would also write reading responses in Urdu and then critique / fix those responses' grammar and spelling
short, highly engaging lectures, followed by small-group exercises and worksheets. There was always ample time to pose questions to instructor. The most innovative aspect of the pedagogy was making time to speak with native Urdu speakers over zoom during class.
yes
We would cover a new topic i.e. describing your room, run through the vocab and example sentences then partner up and describe our rooms to each other

How many hours were you expected to study each week for the class?



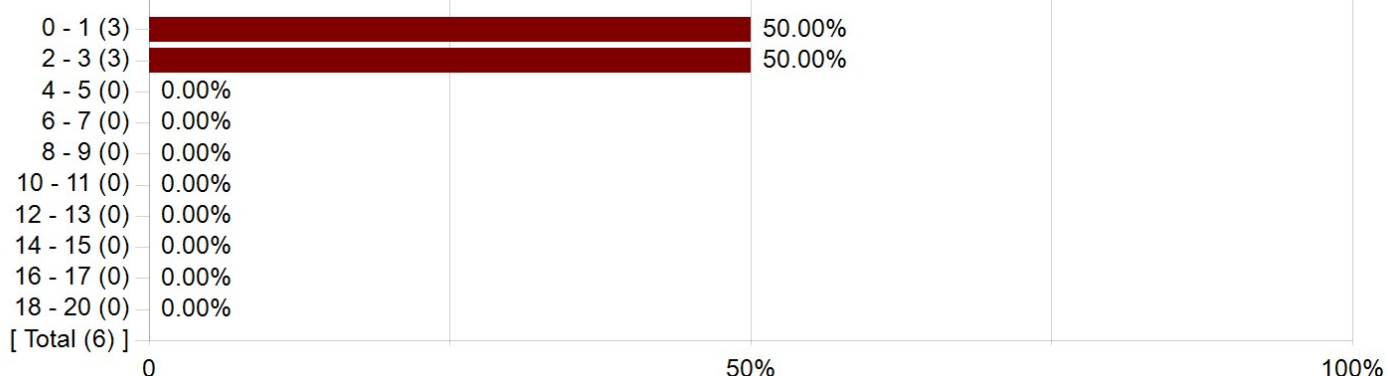
Statistics	Value
Response Count	8
Mean	5.13
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	6.06

How many hours did you spend?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	8
Mean	4.88
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	6.20

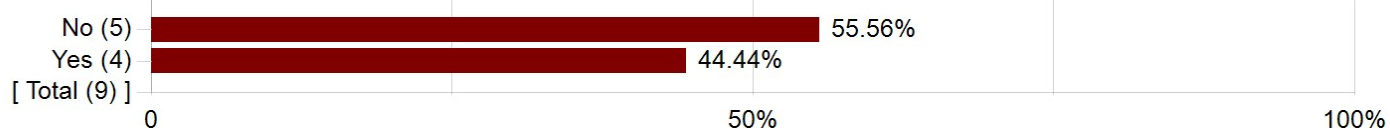
How many written quizzes were given?



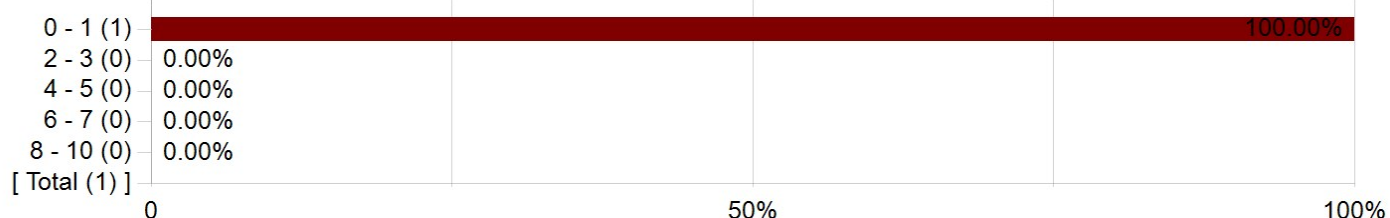
Statistics	Value
Response Count	6
Mean	1.67
Median	1.50
Standard Deviation	0.82

Were there daily assignments? (i.e., journals)?

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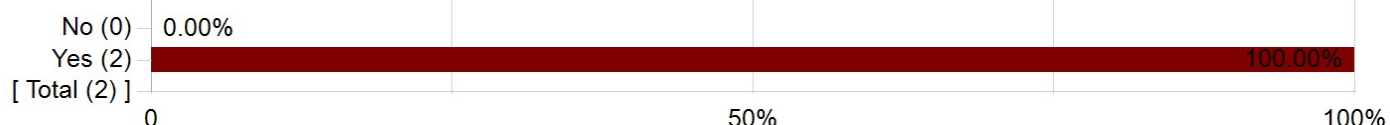
How many oral exams were given?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	1
Mean	1.00
Median	1.00
Standard Deviation	N/A

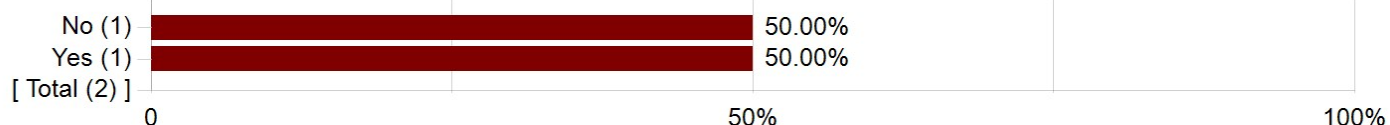
Were the oral exams fair?

Were the oral exams fair?



Were the oral exams challenging?

Were the oral exams challenging?



Why? Please be specific.

Comments

A strong emphasis of the course was on spontaneous, idiomatic, and fluid oral expression

If there were required outside activities (i.e. foreign films or SCOLA), describe your experience.

Comments

na

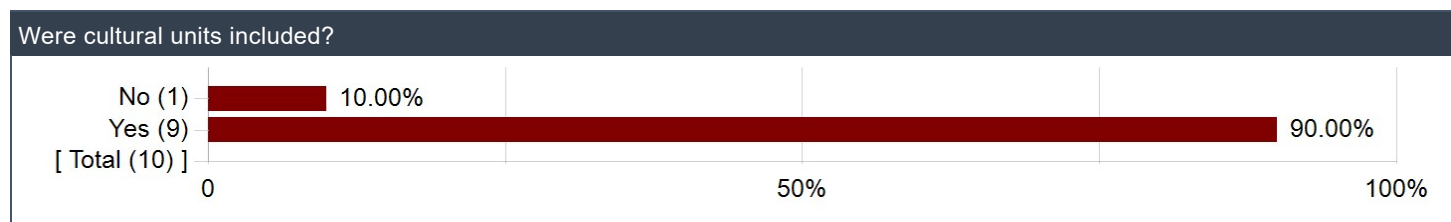
Was your instructor organized?

Mean	Median	Very Unorganized	Somewhat Unorganized	Fairly Organized	Somewhat Organized	Very Organized
4.40	5.00	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	70.00%

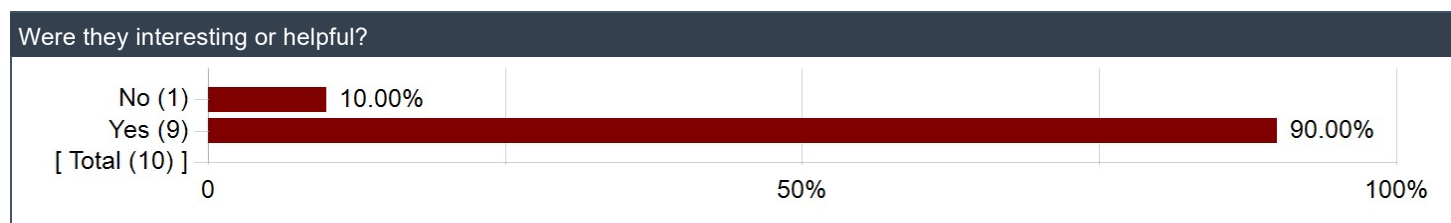
Explain

Comments
Having all resources, assignments, and grades on Canvas would have been easier to manage than Google Classroom.
The entire course seemed very well planned with gradual, incremental learning with every class. The material covered and the learning with every lecture was in a very smooth flow. I was surprised I could pick up Urdu so quickly. All credit to the instructor.
She would send texts ahead of time, upload many materials on Google Classroom, and often the resources were available before we even asked. Before the class started, the Google Classroom had units broken out, dictionaries available, and other resources posted
She just made things easier and the sheets explaining the various grammar and alphabets were very helpful.
We jumped around topics really quickly. The google classroom had everything we needed. It was up to you to make the most of those resources she provided.

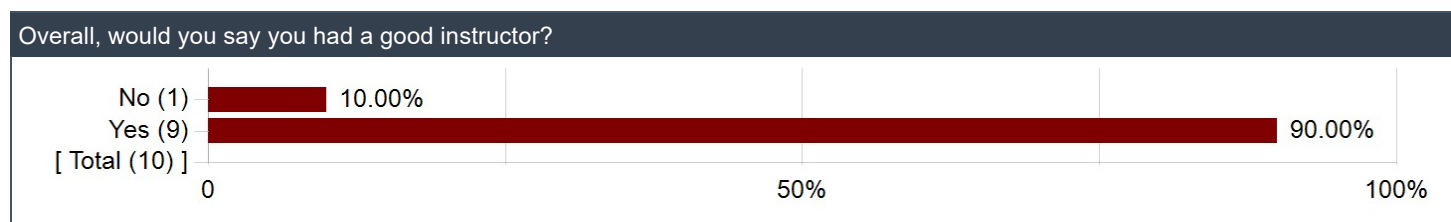
Were cultural units included?



Were they interesting or helpful?



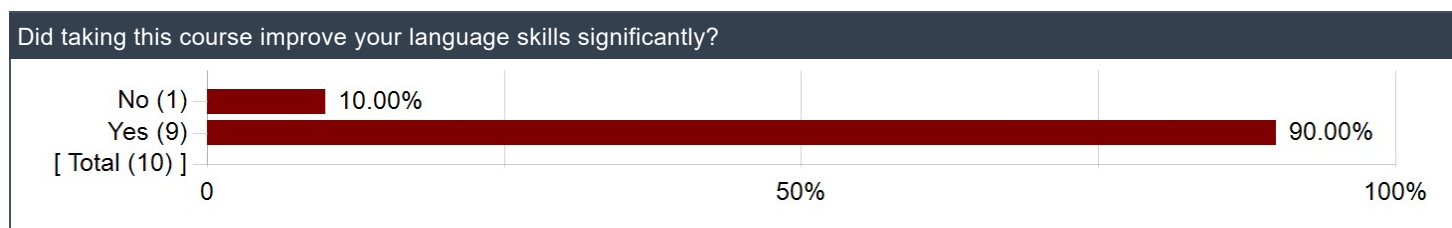
Overall, would you say you had a good instructor?



Why?

Comments
The professor was very accommodating, and the classes were engaging. She has a deep knowledge of the Urdu language and does an excellent job simplifying complex concepts for students.
I have covered this question before but let me summarise. Prof. Romeena Kureishy was very very hardworking throughout the course and went the extra mile to ensure all of us were learning based on our familiarity with the language. She essentially took three classes as part of this single class and ensured that each group got what they needed as part of learning the language. Her pedagogy, including the drills and lectures, were very efficient and highly organised. Couldn't have asked for a better Urdu instructor.
The course was very very rushed and she refused to stop. Many students had no idea how to follow, because she went too fast for everybody. She crammed an entire year's worth of material into one quarter, and assumed everybody had complete understanding, which was very frustrating as this is a 10100 level course.
She tailors the class to students' levels and pushes us beyond them. She never dismissed any questions, picked really interesting material, and would ask us what we're interested in and would select readings that would excite us. It was a great class and I significantly improved my reading and writing skills in just one quarter and have a much easier time accessing texts now.
She's amazing
Romeena did a magnificent job juggling different levels of competence in the language
She is very kind and patient and explains the cultural and linguistic etymology of the words. Additionally, she helped stress on things that each of us individually were struggling with. So that helped a lot.

Did taking this course improve your language skills significantly?



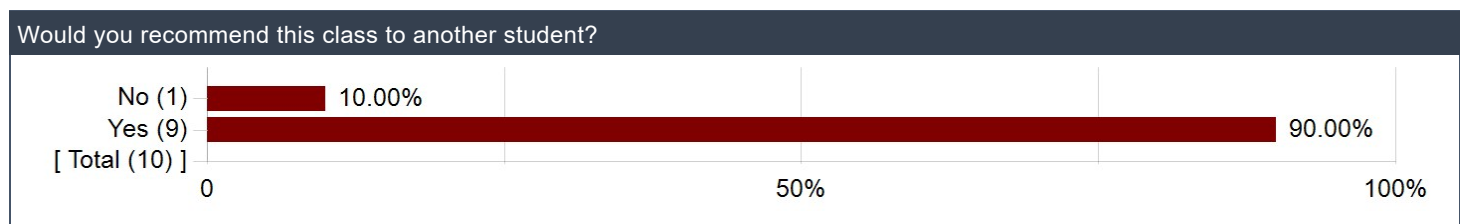
In what way?

Comments
Although familiarity with Hindi meant that some of us were familiar with the grammar and spoken language, we picked up Urdu literacy very quickly since Urdu is written in Perso–Arabic script which we were not familiar with at all. Not only did we gain in terms of literacy but vocabulary also improved significantly.
Very difficult, hard to follow
I am much better at reading and writing. My speaking ability has improved as well, but I could already speak at an okay level. But my reading and writing improved way more than I anticipated in just one quarter.
I feel more confident speaking and writing basic ideas in Urdu
I can finally read and write urdu.
I am now able to describe myself, my hobbies, my family, and my current living situation. I also have some knowledge on conjugating to the past tense.

How would you improve this course?

Comments
Have a bit more structure. Use Canvas.
Honestly, nothing. What Prof. Romeena Kureishy is doing is very good already.
I would spend much more time on the script and provide more daily exercises. more homework!
I would add vocab quizzes to force us to memorize more words
include more cultural context—e.g. short texts, films, exercises, etc. to review after class
I like as it is for now.
Follow a textbook more closely. Sometimes it felt disorganized, but the professor was always available for one-on one.

Would you recommend this class to another student?



Why?

Comments
She is a caring and knowledgeable instructor who makes herself available to help students and meet them at whatever levels they are at
Romeena is the best language instructor I've ever had.
Because I believe I was able to pick the language up very quickly. So, anybody who is interested in learning should definitely give it a try.
Really great way to pick up the basics of Urdu, we were able to talk with native speakers as well.