HUMA 11100 13 - Readings in World Literature II - Instructor(s): Geoffrey Rees

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

Number Enrolled: **12**
Number of Responses: **10**

Report Comments

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
How to lead discussions on text–based analysis
I learned how to deeply analyze text, close–read passages, and lead peer discussion.
How to look much deeper into every little thing about a book, and to connect the most random things. Chocolate babka seems like one of the best things ever.
How to have fun with writing
Geoff's extreme style of close reading the text was, at the beginning of the first quarter, admittedly overwhelming, but by the middle of the first quarter into the second quarter his expectations became increasingly reasonable and even fun. Even if the extremeness of his style is not something I will likely use going forward, I really feel like my ability to close read a text effectively improved immensely.
I learned to read closely, challenge my assumptions about each text, and ground my claims in a deeper understanding of the evidence.
How to look at reading in a new way.

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

Comments
Discussions were very valuable in understanding how to evaluate works.
The peer–led discussions were very engaging and allowed me to get a sense of analyzing text and statement in real time. The essays allowed us to develop claims using textual evidence.
The discussions definitely helped my understanding of the texts, and also were quite nice. The essays were for the most part interesting and fun to write. The general enjoyability of this class excludes Augustine though. Horrible, horrible book.
Most of my learning came through the discussions we had in class, during which I felt that both Professor Rees and my classmates made lots of interesting comments that challenged me to think critically about the texts.
Class discussions were fun.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	3.56	4.00	11.11%	22.22%	0.00%	33.33%	33.33%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	3.67	4.00	0.00%	22.22%	11.11%	44.44%	22.22%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.33	4.00	22.22%	0.00%	22.22%	33.33%	22.22%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	44.44%	33.33%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	3.33	3.00	0.00%	22.22%	33.33%	33.33%	11.11%
My work was evaluated fairly.	3.89	4.00	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	33.33%	33.33%
I felt respected in this class.	4.44	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	33.33%	55.56%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	3.56	4.00	22.22%	0.00%	11.11%	33.33%	33.33%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
First quarter was stressful, but in the second part of the sequence we were allowed more freedom and were able to analyze the text on our own terms in addition to on the terms of the prof
This course while the discussion sections themselves were not bad, overall it left me feeling like an even worse writer than I started off as. I have lost confidence in my abilities because of the lack of good prompts, lack of explanation regarding grades, and overall weirdness of the class as a whole. We had an entire class discussion on urine puddles.
rees is such a fun and interesting proffesor, never a dull moment with him
The course is difficult to follow and is quite abstract.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	25.00%	75.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	33.33%	66.67%

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

Comments
Leading discussions
Establishing peer led discussions and allowing us to talk amongst ourselves while he was silent. It was a very productive exercise.
I was initially scared, but I'm glad we got to lead the discussion, it was easier to talk when not argued against as much.
When Geoff was leading discussions, the questions he asks and directions in which he leads the discussion are very helpful in understanding his expectations and improving our understanding of the text.
Professor Rees has a lot of really interesting takes on all of the works we read. At first they might seem eccentric, but they're always grounded in the text and often have more evidence to support them than you'd expect.
How quirky he is.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Better prompts for starters, and a more open interpretation of grading. Like I said previously, the class discussions themselves were good, but towards the end we lost productivity as the professor refused to speak during the class led discussions. I understand promoting students learning, but not answering a direct question posed to you while in the classroom setting is not okay.
none.
Teach a bit more.
I would like clearer instructions and to be able to talk about the literature that we are reading rather than focus on the structure of the sentences and how the words make up the text as I as expecting to talk about the global context of the world literature.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	3.75	4.00	0.00%	12.50%	25.00%	37.50%	25.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	3.67	4.00	12.50%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	12.50%	25.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	12.50%	0.00%	50.00%	37.50%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	3.75	4.00	0.00%	12.50%	25.00%	37.50%	25.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	3.63	4.00	0.00%	25.00%	12.50%	37.50%	25.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	62.50%	25.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.25	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	25.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	25.00%	37.50%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	3.88	4.00	0.00%	12.50%	12.50%	50.00%	25.00%	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
Sophia Sherry

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

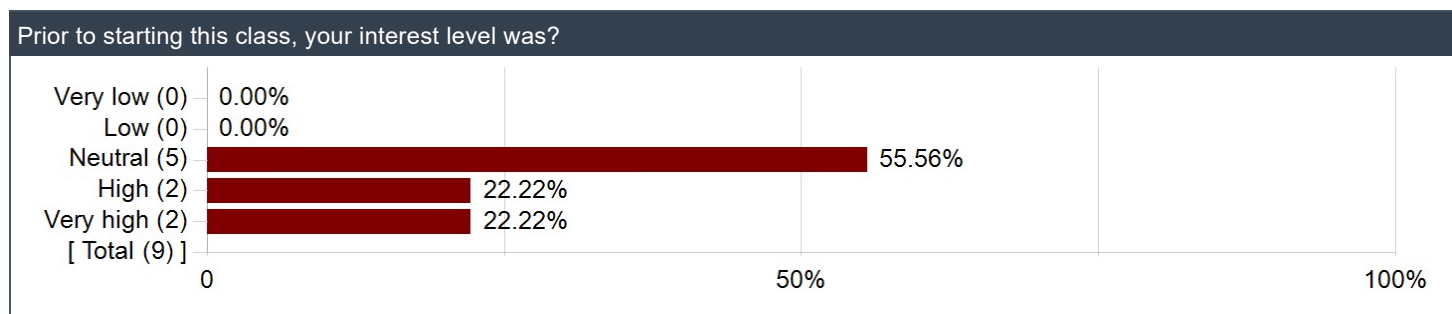|	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%	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	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	3.14	3.00	0.00%	14.29%	71.43%	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%

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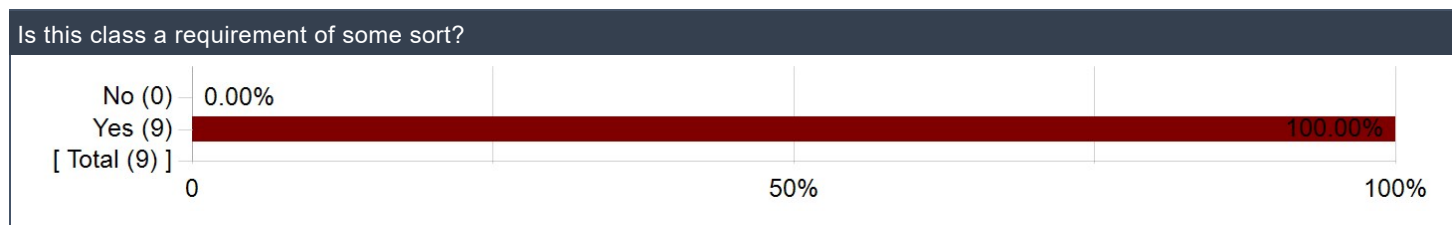
Is this class a requirement of some sort?

- No (0) — 0.00%
- Yes (9) — 100.00%
- [Total (9)]

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

- Very low (0) — 0.00%
- Low (0) — 0.00%
- Neutral (5) — 55.56%
- High (2) — 22.22%
- Very high (2) — 22.22%
- [Total (9)]

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

- Diminished (2) — 22.22%
- Satisfied (4) — 44.44%
- Heightened (3) — 33.33%
- [Total (9)]
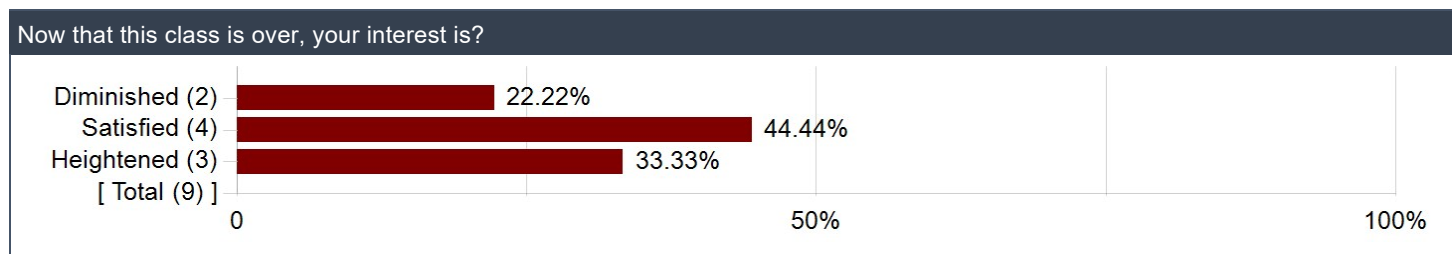
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)
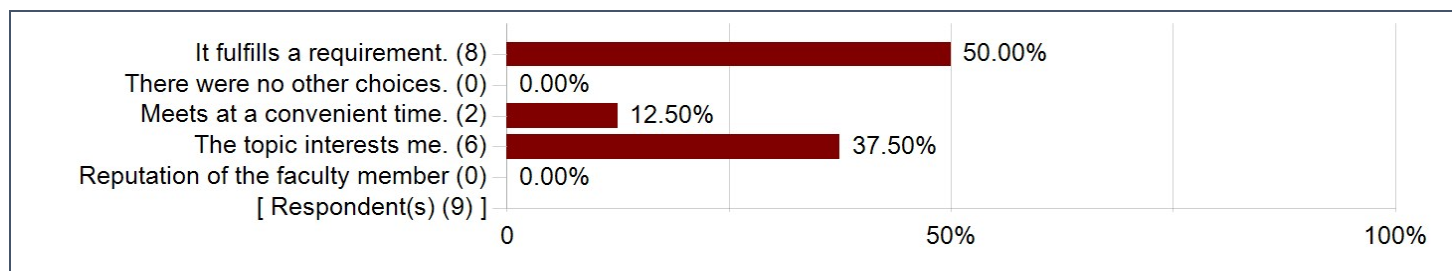
- It fulfills a requirement. (8) — 50.00%
- There were no other choices. (0) — 0.00%
- Meets at a convenient time. (2) — 12.50%
- The topic interests me. (6) — 37.50%
- Reputation of the faculty member (0) — 0.00%
- [Respondent(s) (9)]

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

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<5 hours (4)   ████████████████████ 44.44%
5-10 hours (4) ████████████████████ 44.44%
10-15 hours (1) █████ 11.11%
15-20 hours (0)  0.00%
20-25 hours (0)  0.00%
25-30 hours (0)  0.00%
>30 hours (0)    0.00%
[ Total (9) ]
                0              50%             100%
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What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?

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None (0)   0.00%
25% (1)    ████ 11.11%
50% (0)    0.00%
75% (0)    0.00%
All (8)    ████████████████████████████████████ 88.89%
[ Total (9) ]
           0              50%             100%
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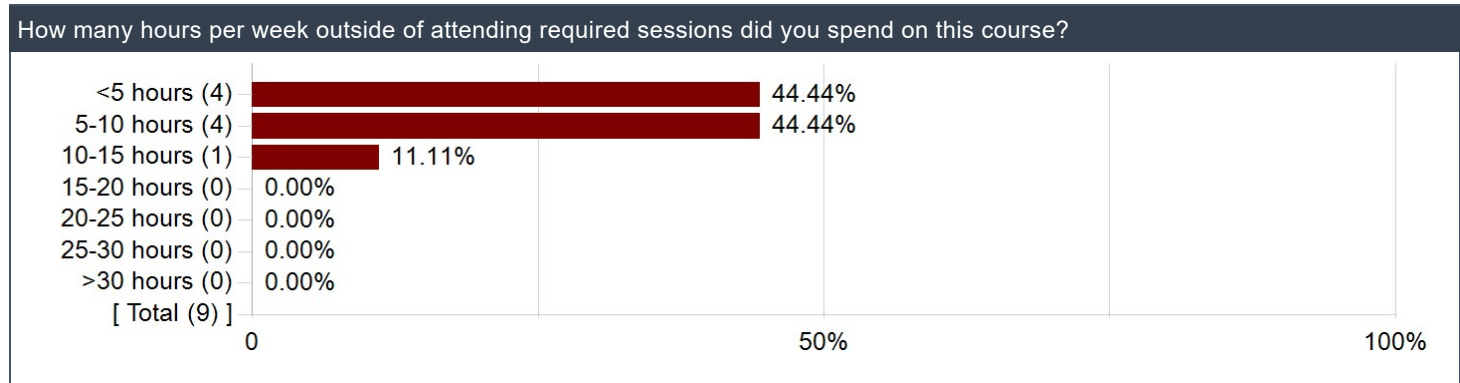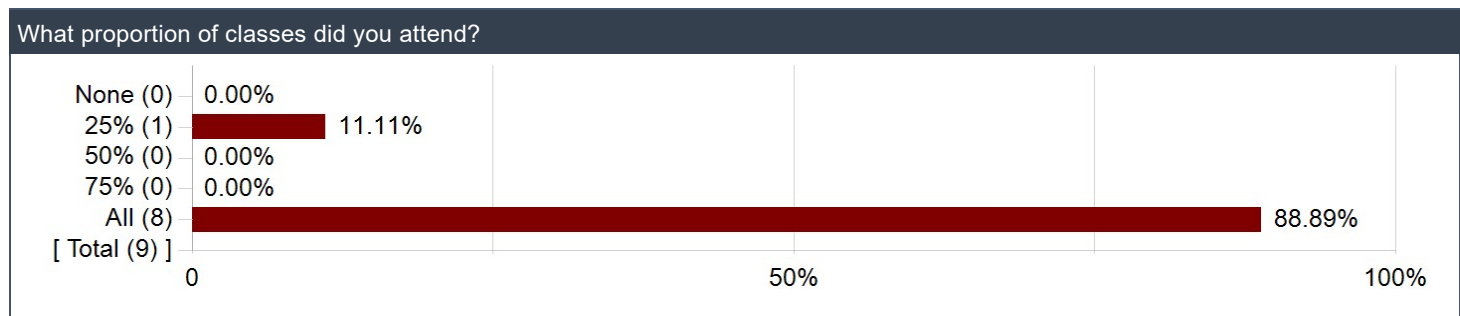
Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
Not that difficult, more so challenging… it's a way of thinking I'm not necessarily used to, but once you get the hang of it it's not so bad
The class readings take time to be kept up with, and you develop a good understanding for interpreting the text. Readings are not bad, but for the essays you don't know what the professor wants which makes for a difficult time.
It's not hard. Sometimes a lot of reading, but mostly manageable.
There is a heavy focus on close reading which can be a bit difficult to adjust to, but it is an interesting course and Professor Rees is an interesting person.
This course was a bit challenging at first, but it became more approachable as the year went on and I gained a deeper insight into the kind of writing Professor Rees expects.