



RUSS 10103 1, RUSS 10103 1 - First-Year Russian I - Instructor(s): Erik Houle

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

Number Enrolled: **5**

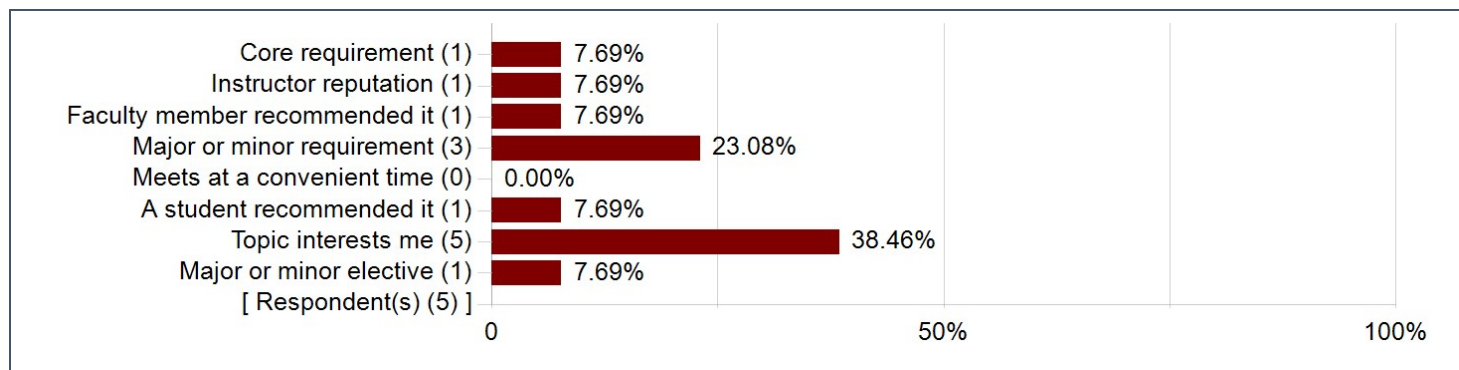
Number of Responses: **5**

Report Comments

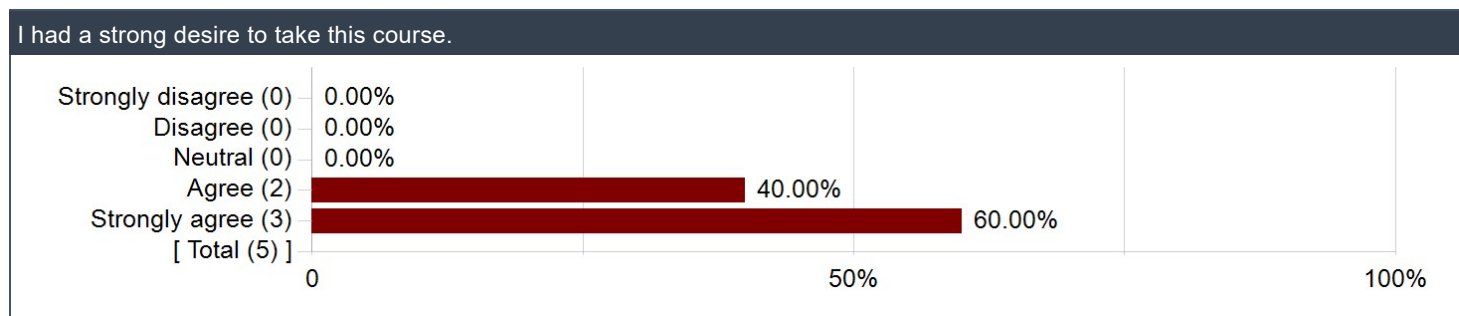
Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

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

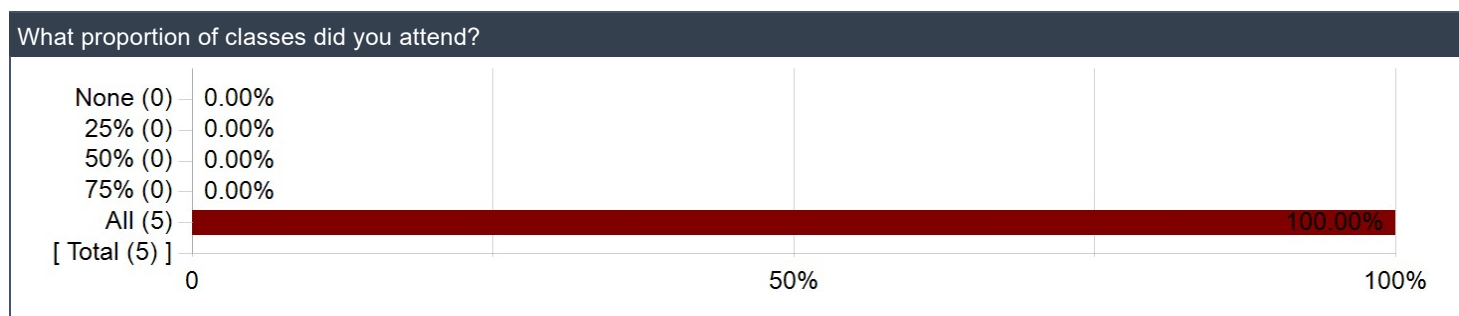
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



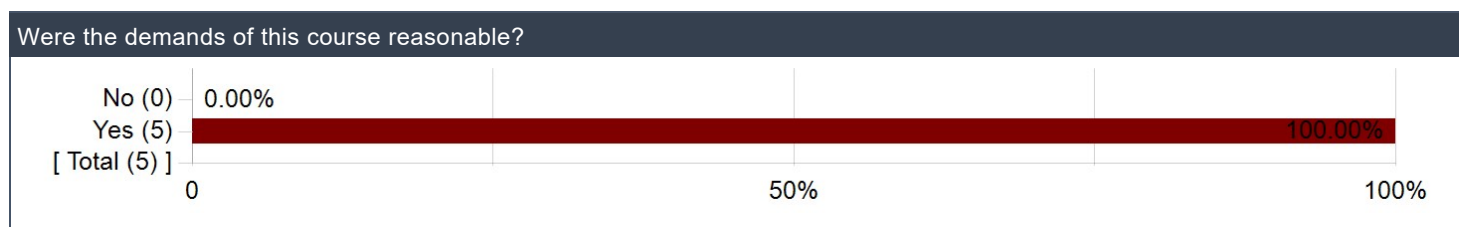
I had a strong desire to take this course.



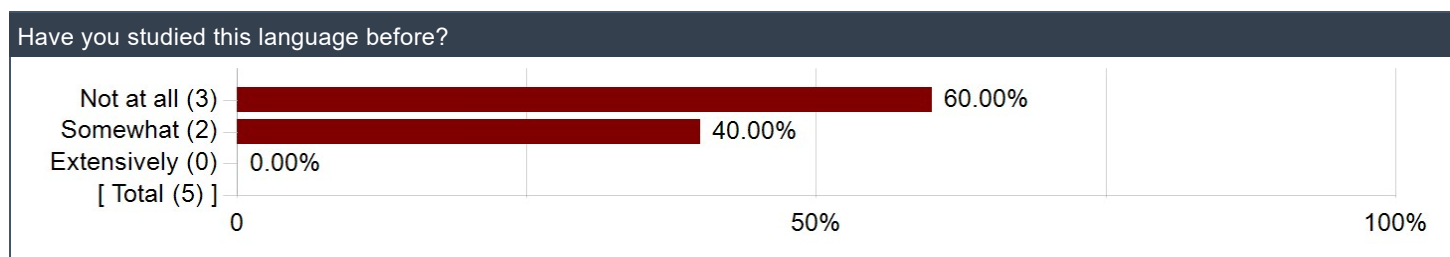
What proportion of classes did you attend?



Were the demands of this course reasonable?



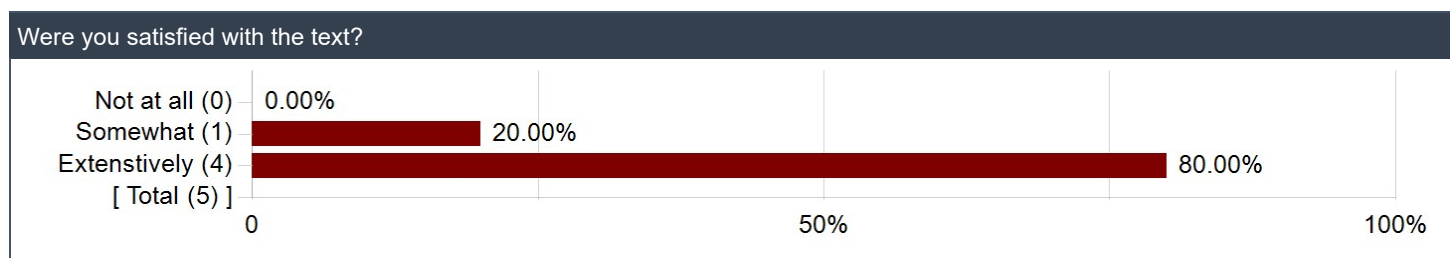
Have you studied this language before?



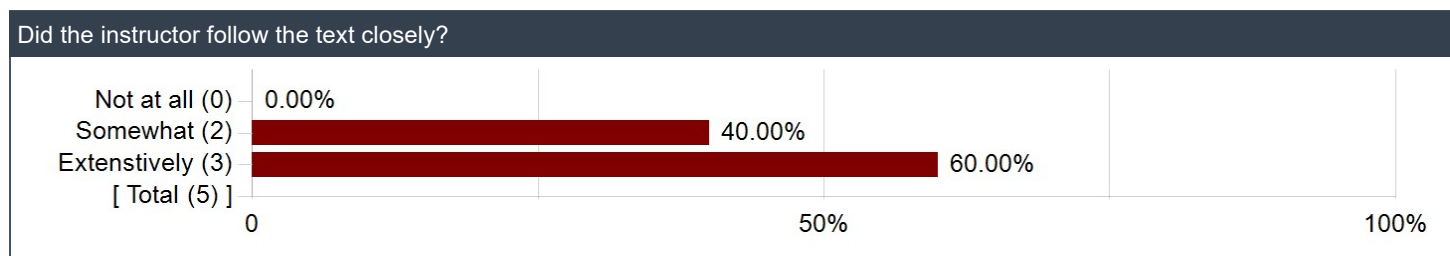
Rate the extent to which different aspects of the language were stressed:

	Mean	Median	Not At All	A Little	Some	A Lot	Extremely	Vigorously
Speaking	5.80	6.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%
Spelling	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	40.00%	20.00%
Reading	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	40.00%	20.00%
Writing	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	20.00%	40.00%
Grammar	5.80	6.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%
Vocabulary	5.40	6.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	60.00%

Were you satisfied with the text?



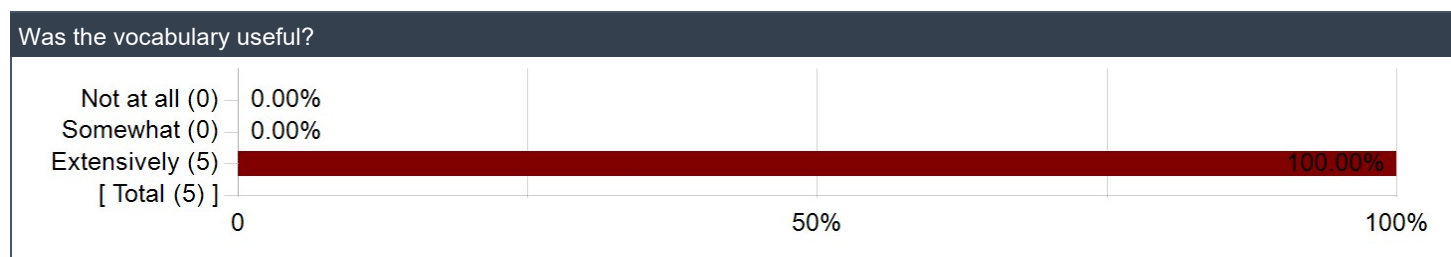
Did the instructor follow the text closely?



Explain:

Comments
Most exercises/new concepts in class were guided by the textbook.
Yes, we went through the textbook essentially page-by-page, at a pretty brisk pace! It was interesting.
The textbook is fine. It's not organized particularly well but it it does the job. Professor Houle also takes some license with how he uses it which makes things run much smoother.

Was the vocabulary useful?

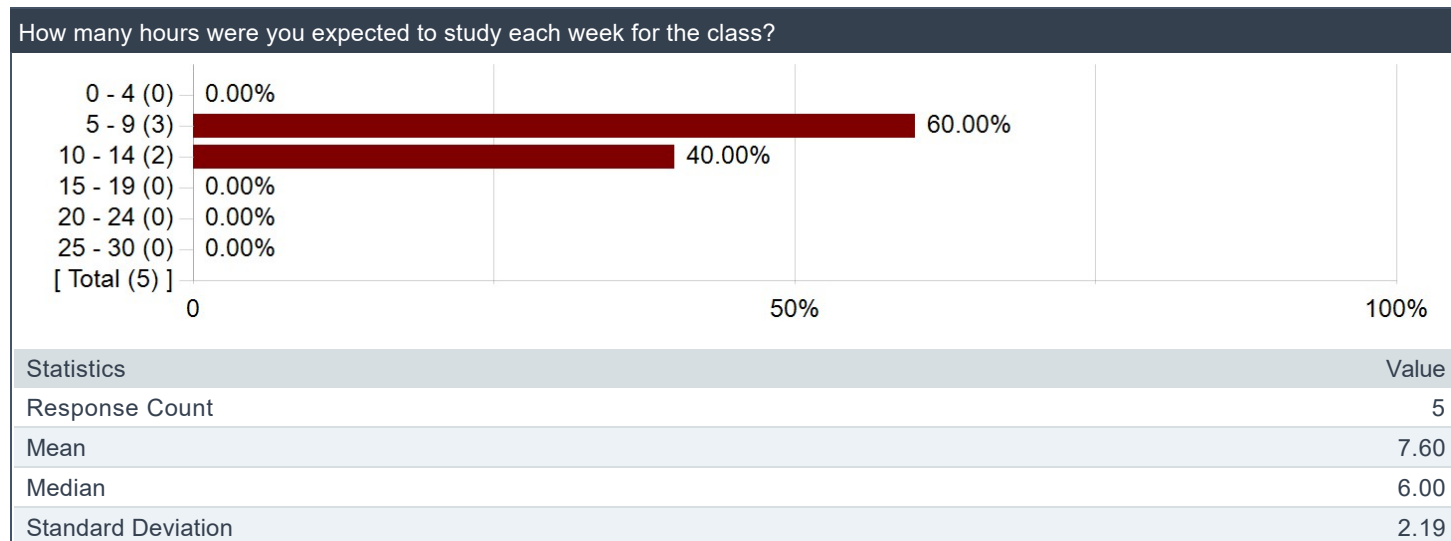


Why?

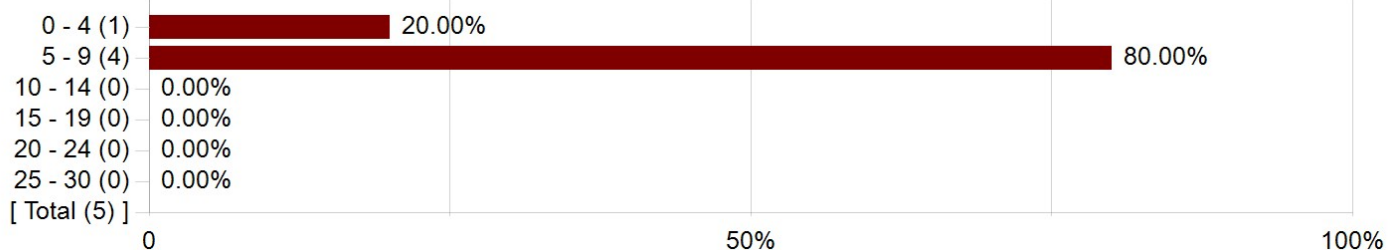
Comments
We learned the base level practical vocab for things like food, clothing, numbers etc

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

Comments
3 Lecture Classes a week that had a mix of lecture and practice in reading writing and speaking. 2 Drill Sessions a week that were further review on the concepts we covered. I was a bit concerned that 5 sessions a week would be overwhelming but that was not the case. Each class was incredibly engaging so the material felt fresh. There was also only written homework due 3 classes each week which allowed you to review the concepts covered on the nights with no written homework.
dynamic format, prof very organized and efficient. it always stayed interesting. i didn't like group work as much as the full-class activities
Very interactive. Classes are small so you spend a lot of time learning by doing—which is great.

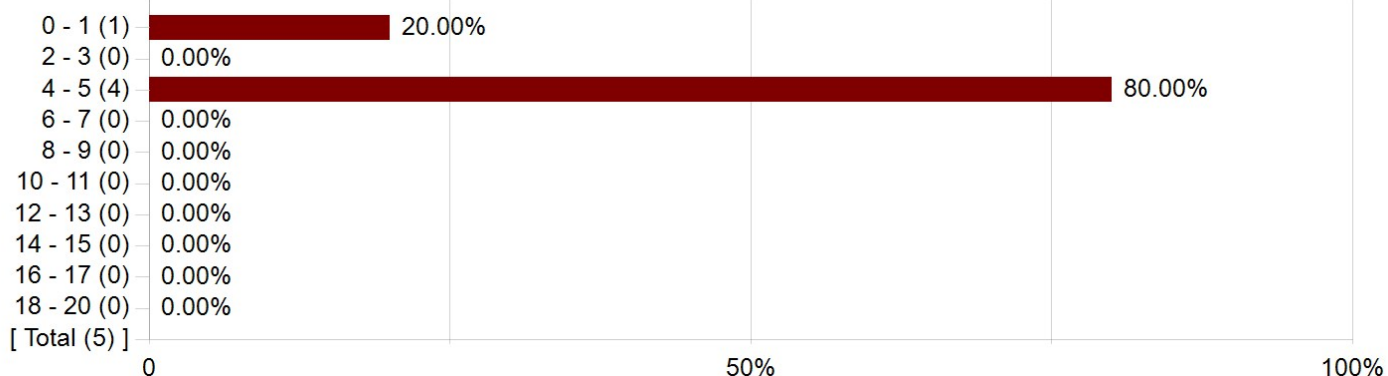


How many hours did you spend?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	5.40
Median	6.00
Standard Deviation	2.19

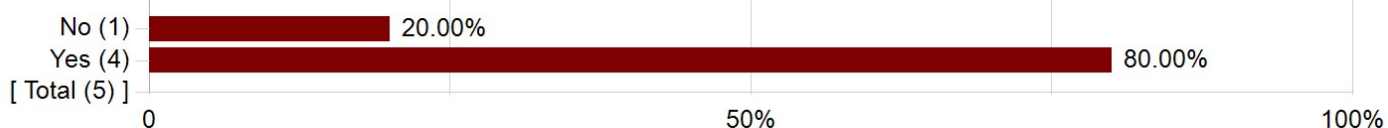
How many written quizzes were given?



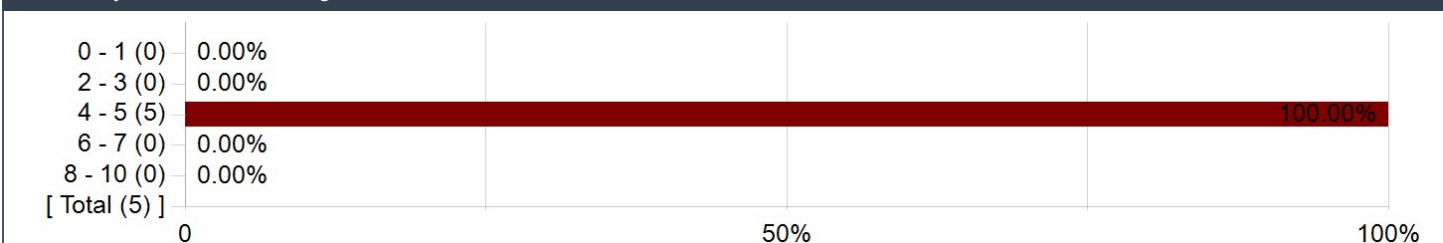
Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	3.20
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	1.79

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

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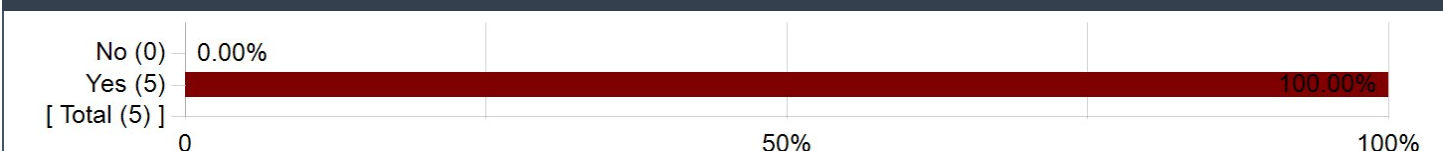
How many oral exams were given?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	4.00
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.00

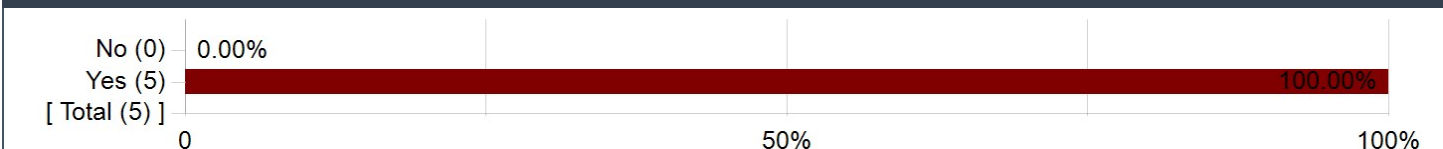
Were the oral exams fair?

Were the oral exams fair?



Were the oral exams challenging?

Were the oral exams challenging?



Why? Please be specific.

Comments
The questions were available beforehand and the expectations were very clear as to what we should be able to convey. The oral exams stretched how we could use the concepts we had learned but were very manageable.
I think by the last one, it entailed 25 minutes of talking almost exclusively in russian. That was really interesting. I had the chance to play around with my limited vocabulary and try to make it work – enjoyed this more than anything
The language is difficult. Erik, however, works with you in the oral drills such that they don't ever feel too difficult even though you're speaking a lot of Russian and covering a lot of ground.

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

Comments
n/a

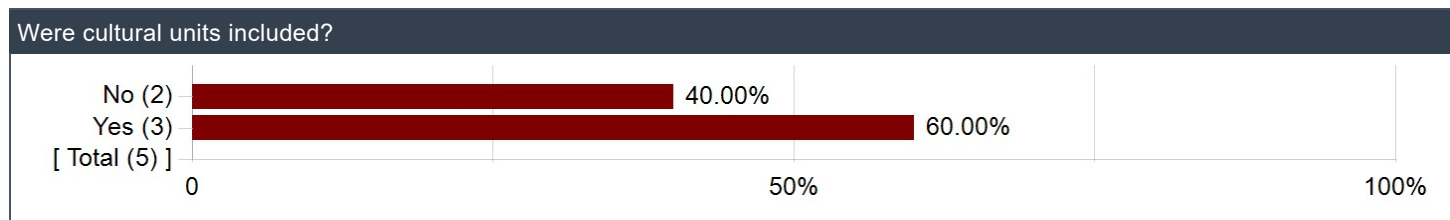
Was your instructor organized?

Mean	Median	Very Unorganized	Somewhat Unorganized	Fairly Organized	Somewhat Organized	Very Organized
5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

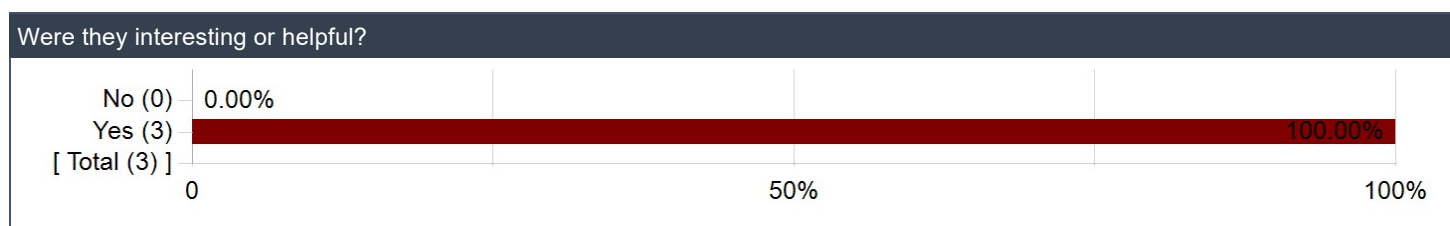
Explain

Comments
The course was very regimented. We received feedback on our written homework each class and had new exercises to practice Russian given almost every class.
super organized. Prof Houle went to the extent of explaining our homework errors to us in the minute or two before class started, to ensure that we actually understood his feedback on the hw.
Erik is very on top of things. All assignments are very clear, all grades are turned in promptly and with extensive feedback. He also provides other course materials (vocabulary lists with pre-made Quizlets, etc.) that are pretty amazing and super helpful.

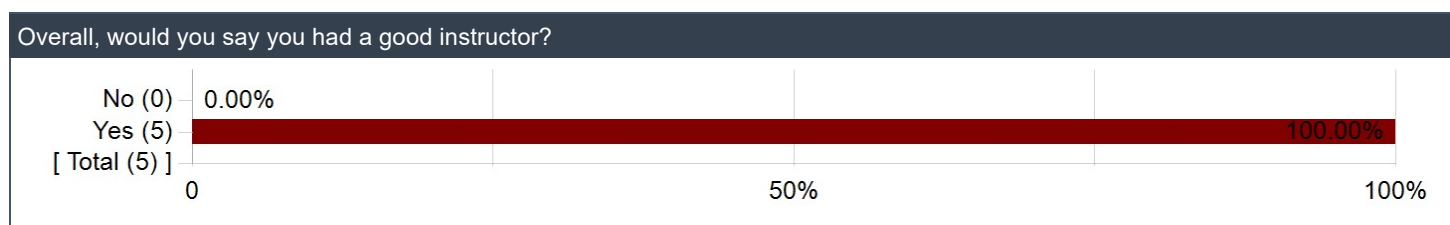
Were cultural units included?



Were they interesting or helpful?



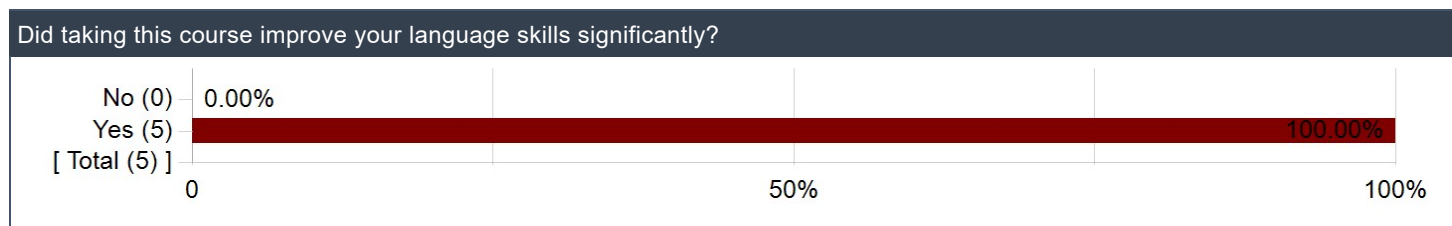
Overall, would you say you had a good instructor?



Why?

Comments
This was one of the most engaging language courses I have ever taken. While the pace was quite fast I never felt overwhelmed or burnt out. I am very happy with the language gains I have made. I look forward to taking Russian in the future and hopefully again with Professor Houle at some point.
Great instructor who is passionate about what he's teaching. Makes learning fun.
very encouraging, high expectations but sympathetic. His sense of humor made the class better definitely. I feel as if nowadays people are sometimes afraid to have any humor lest someone respond over-sensitively, and the result is dryness and boredom. It was really nice that in this class that wasn't the case, it helped my language learning process immensely actually. Makes the language feel more alive instead of just clinical/sterile or empty academic exercises in a vacuum. two thumbs up!
Erik is somehow able to do it all. He is very hands on in the classroom and yet is still able to make class participatory and interactive. He also clearly comes at this from the specific perspective of a linguist and is eager to make comparisons to other Slavic languages and linguistic structures, but somehow these don't crowd out or derail his lessons and actually serve as useful mnemonics—even to those of us who don't come at language learning from a specifically linguistic perspective.

Did taking this course improve your language skills significantly?



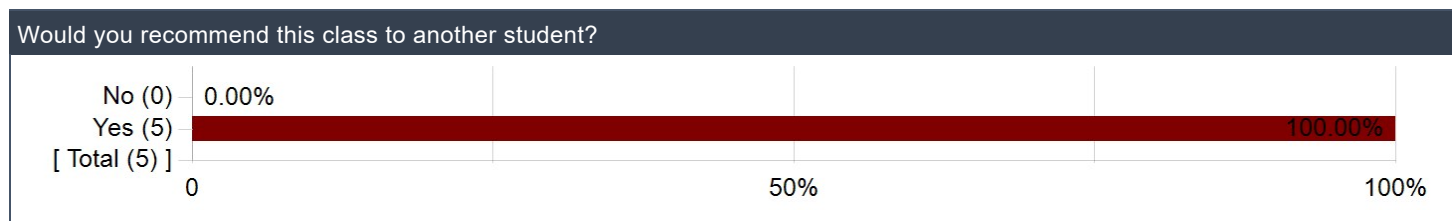
In what way?

Comments
Reading, writing, and speaking were all stressed such that I feel I have no deficiencies.
Yeah, definitely made forward bounds in a language that i initially didn't even know the alphabet of.
I'm very impressed with how much ground we covered in so little time.

How would you improve this course?

Comments
It might be helpful to introduce even more vocabulary as we go along.
n/a

Would you recommend this class to another student?



Why?

Comments
Manageable and very interesting introduction to Russian that sets you up with a great foundation to continue studying it.
Very effective , engaging and fun