



HUMA 11600 9 - Philosophical Perspectives II - Instructor(s): James Conant

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

Number Enrolled: **18**

Number of Responses: **9**

Report Comments

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

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
Reading and analyzing the texts and frameworks, particularly Descartes's Meditations and Hume's Enquiry.
Content about classic philosophy and different logic ways.
It was an interesting course that dove into the nature of doubt, and arguments that are built from themselves.
I learned the inner-workings of Descartes' and Hume's varieties of skepticism. Oh and also Shakespeare!
I learned the philosophies of Descartes and Hume.
I learned how to construct arguments and general understanding out of very difficult texts.

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

Comments
Class time consisted mainly of discussions led by Professor Conant, often with a fair bit of explaining and lecturing from the professor. Discussions moved slowly in order to very precisely nail down the meaning of the text.
Discussions and office hours are both really helpful
100%
Class discussions and the papers were most helpful. In the former, Professor Conant would meticulously and artfully guide us through the text. In the latter, I got to actually test and apply my understanding of the arguments.
The readings were often difficult to understand, so the best part of the course was definitely listening to the professor so elegantly explain the complex topics.
It was entirely lecture based but the discussion in lecture were interesting and useful along with well run.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	44.44%	44.44%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.44	5.00	0.00%	11.11%	0.00%	22.22%	66.67%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.75	4.00	0.00%	25.00%	12.50%	25.00%	37.50%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	0.00%	77.78%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.13	5.00	12.50%	0.00%	12.50%	12.50%	62.50%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	28.57%	57.14%
I felt respected in this class.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	88.89%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Professor Conant is a superb teacher: he was immediately adjusted to our level and clearly demonstrated incredible command and knowledge about the texts and philosophy more generally.
This is not his fault, but I would recommend some adjustments to the syllabus. I enjoyed Othello, but reading it in a week was too little. Also, the essays we had to write for Othello, though weighted somewhat less, were very much unlike previous PhilPer writing and thus a bit of a challenge (almost like "shooting blind").
Everything about the course was amazing. The one flaw was that many of us didn't get any work back until after we submitted our last essay.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	11.11%	88.89%
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
Professor Conant's explanations were quite easy to follow and did a good job of explaining the precise and exact meanings of terms in the texts.
His explanation about different philosophers' ideas and their works.
The class discussions were very helpful in understanding the philosophers that we were reading through class discussion and engagement.
he's very knowledgeable about what he teaches
As mentioned, Professor Conant's guidance in the discussions was amazing.
I enjoyed listening to the professor explain the difficult topics.
The discussions were interesting but when he took control for some explanations was probably the most useful.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Grades on papers did take a little long to be returned; ideally it would be nice to have prior feedback before the week of another paper. Additionally, I felt that our class did move a bit too slowly through some topics; often, it seemed as though we were spending 30 minutes on the same singular definition.
Nothing
n/a
n/a
give essays back in a more timely manner so we have more time to improve our writing for the next one. move a little faster in lectures and stop reiterating over the same concept over and over again so we don't keep falling behind schedule
As mentioned, perhaps some further guidance on the last papers would be helpful. Also, we only got feedback for our first paper, so it is hard to measure where we stand or what to improve on for the last paper.
My last HUM professor made summary sheets of every reading after class, which definitely helped me understand the material better. I think some form of that could be beneficial.
He kinda told you that you were wrong if you didn't read it the same way which makes sense because he had a better understanding but made people much more nervous to participate.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.33	5.00	11.11%	0.00%	11.11%	0.00%	77.78%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	11.11%	0.00%	11.11%	77.78%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	11.11%	0.00%	11.11%	77.78%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	0.00%	88.89%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	88.89%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	77.78%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	77.78%	22.22%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	77.78%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	88.89%	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
John Lawrence. His teaching about different arguments in writing seminars help me a lot in writing.
John Lawrence
John Lawrence
John Lawrence
John Lawrence. It was a writing seminar and he was very good.

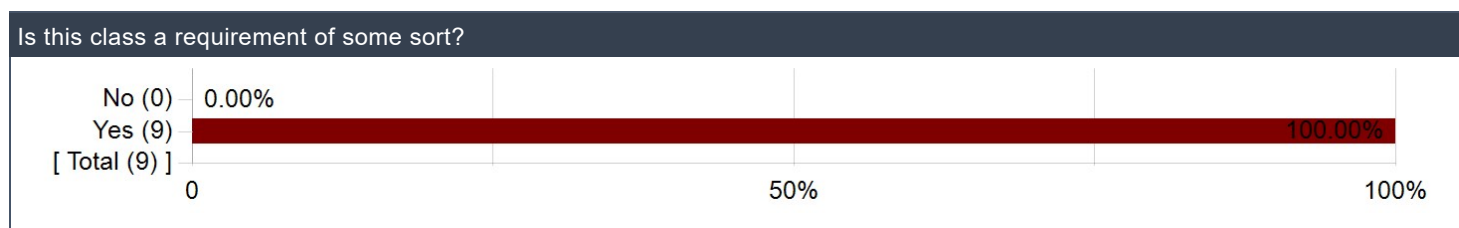
The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	20.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%

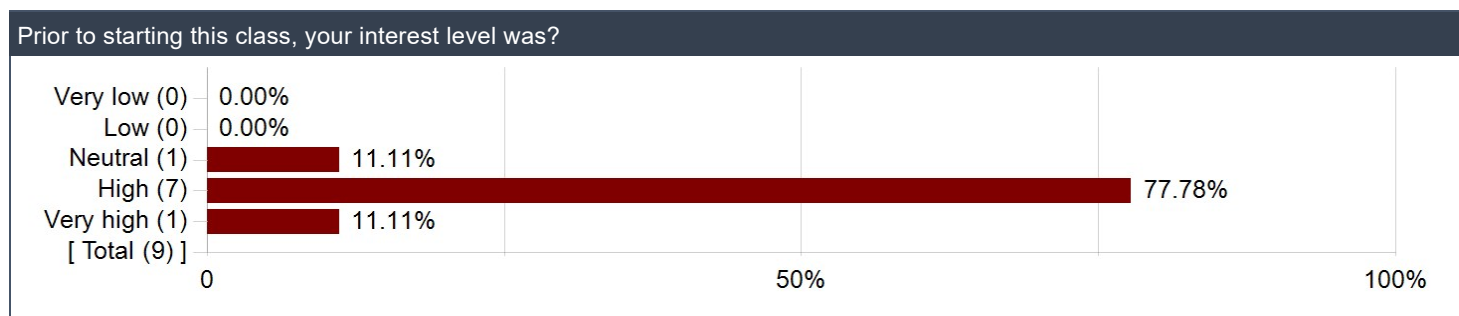
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	1.00	1.00	14.29%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	85.71%
Field Trips	1.00	1.00	14.29%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	85.71%
Library Sessions	1.00	1.00	14.29%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	85.71%
Review Sessions	1.00	1.00	14.29%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	85.71%
Writing Seminars	4.25	5.00	0.00%	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%	0.00%

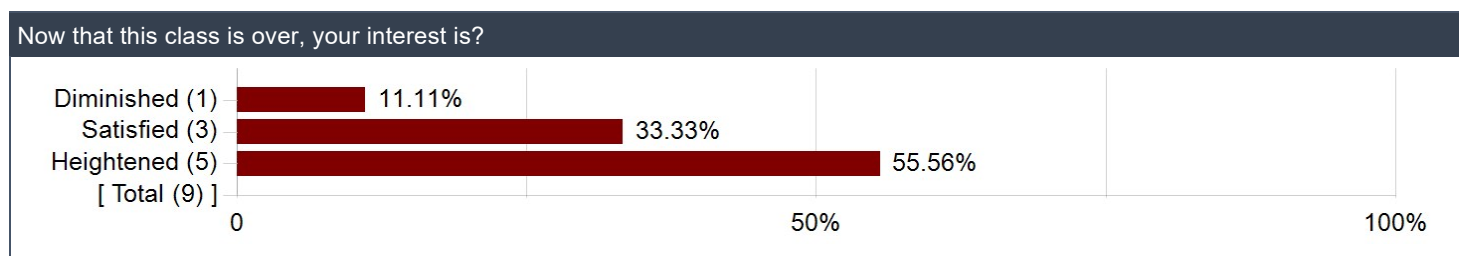
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



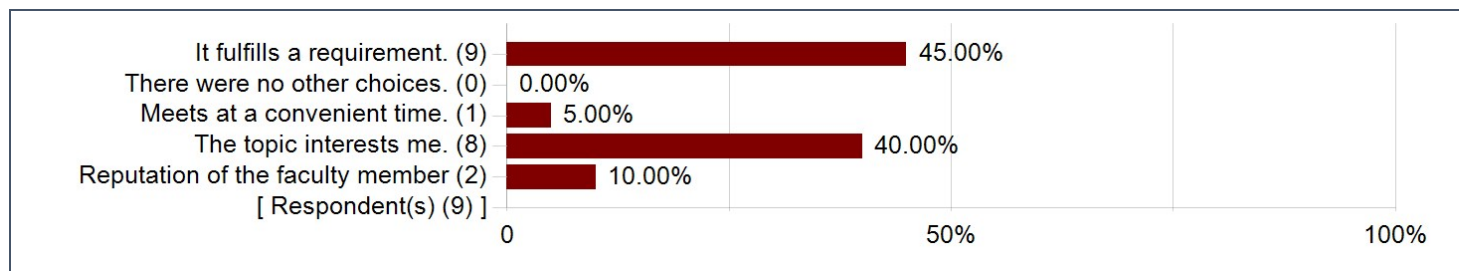
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



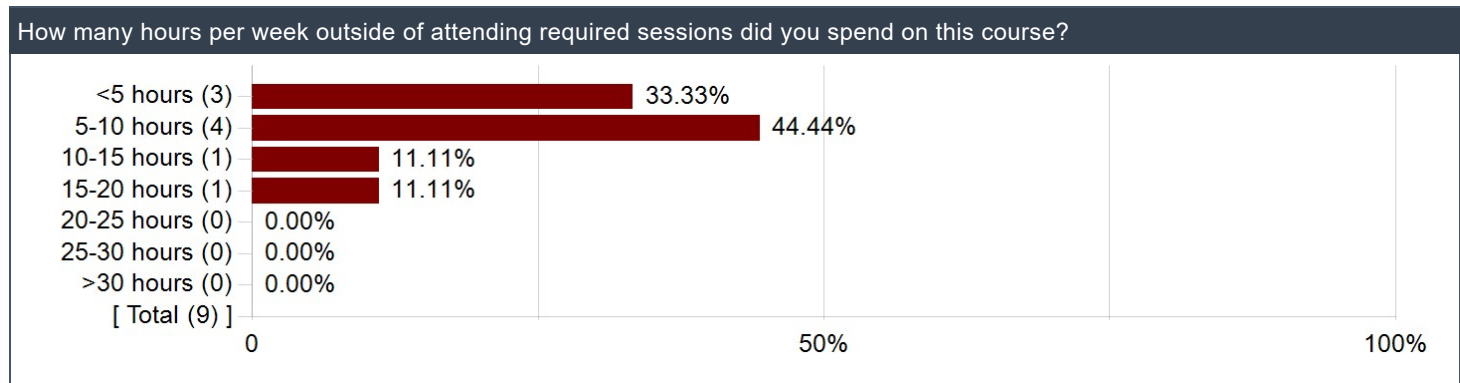
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



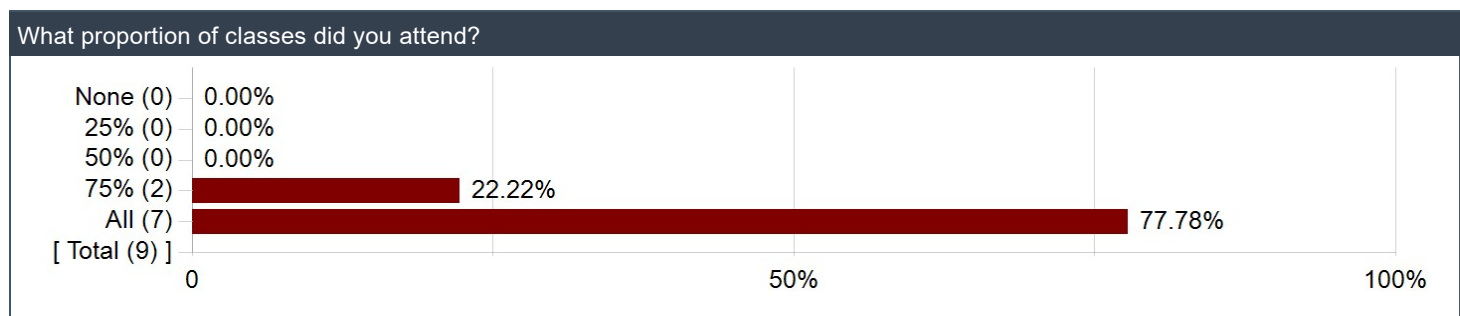
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
This class is quite reasonable; since we dive into such great depth with each of the texts, the reading is often less than ten pages a night, and I found that at least Descartes was very intuitive to read.
It is extremely intellectual challenging for me because I have no background in Philosophy. However, the class content is really interesting and I learned a lot from it
The course isn't difficult compared to other HUMS and the topics are interesting to discuss and think about throughout class-time.
This was my second-ever philosophy class. I felt adequately prepared to participate in discussion. Besides the last paper as it was more literary and on Shakespeare, I felt well-prepared, i.e., I would have appreciated a little more guidance on the last paper. Otherwise, though, this was an amazing course!
It was fairly difficult for someone with no philosophy background.