Report Comments

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

What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments
How to analyze and write essays about texts, understand storylines and overarching themes, making connections, etc...
How to approach a text and gain insight into it through analysis
In this course, I learned about four different texts (the Epic of Gilgamesh, the Odyssey, the Mahabharata, and Alice and Wonderland), touching upon the backgrounds of these works and concepts that related to their main themes.
I learned writing and presentation skills, as well as how to engage in discussion with smaller classes.
Learning how to write college–level essays.
I gained the skill of being comfortable presenting in front of my class.

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

Comments
The course is mainly discussion–based – class is spent discussing the text, asking questions, debating on topics.
Discussions were at times good but what was most helpful was when the professor talked about aspects of the book and gave background and pointed to places where we could analyze idea because otherwise it felt a little to overwhelming to just read a book and discuss it
Discussions in this course were fairly interesting, and served as the main method for learning. The instructor prepared topics for discussion, but was very willing to hear students' different opinions and ideas that related to the texts we were reading.
I liked that the books we read had a theme (epics) and that we could compare them to one another.
Discussions in class really help create the ideas that you later expand on in your essays.
I found it very interesting to hear different perspectives my peers offer to the epics we read.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	3.83	4.00	0.00%	16.67%	0.00%	66.67%	16.67%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	66.67%	16.67%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	66.67%	16.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.00	4.50	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	16.67%	50.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	66.67%
I felt respected in this class.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Writing seminars in this course were not particularly useful. I felt that what I learned in writing seminars was extremely disconnected from what was actually expected of me in class and on the papers I submitted for it.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	16.67%	83.33%

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

Comments
He would write discussion ideas on the board, and bring in new elements/definitons that could help us understand the text more, which was very useful
When we took charge of the conversation to pose interesting questions about the text and provide context or ideas that could support our analysis
The professor came prepared to each class with a set of topics and ideas to go over, which was very helpful for giving shape to our discussions. He was also extremely flexible in allowing students to drive conversation in directions they found interesting, and was willing to spend considerable time outside of class to provide supplementary knowledge (for example through an optional movie screening based on one of the texts). Over all, the class was very comfortable, and the professor graded very fairly.
He introduced us to topics related to the books that helped us formulate our ideas in our essay. For example, concepts of zoe and bios in reference to the odyssey and introduction to the uncanny for alice's adventures in wonderland.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Maybe giving more notice on essay prompts would be useful to not have to cram an essay idea last–minute
Direct the discussion more and encourage some people to dig deeper into ideas before switching to a new one
I found that the classes themselves were often disconnected from the graded assignments. For example, many of the essay prompts we received would be unrelated to the topics we discussed in class, and it would be difficult to know how to approach them. Additionally, although the professor was extremely willing to hear different ideas and opinions, this meant we would often get lost in long tangents that strayed away from the actual texts. For example, on certain occasions, a couple of students would spend twenty minutes discussing books that nobody else in the class had read (which tangentially related to the assigned reading) making it difficult for the majority of students to gain anything from that conversation. The instructor could be more careful about ensuring that we remain on topic, or at least providing sufficient background for tangential claims discussed for long periods of time.
Not sure.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	66.67%	16.67%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.17	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	50.00%	33.33%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.17	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	50.00%	33.33%	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%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.33	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	33.33%	50.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	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 |
|---|
| Writing assistent Anne Smith: she was eager to support us but sometimes it felt like she wasn't listening when someone had an idea that contradicted the material of the writing seminar and it felt like my writing had to be in a very limited format for it to be considered "correct" |
| Our TA was Anne Smith. She did a very good job of explaining exactly what was considered a high quality essay at Uchicago. |

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

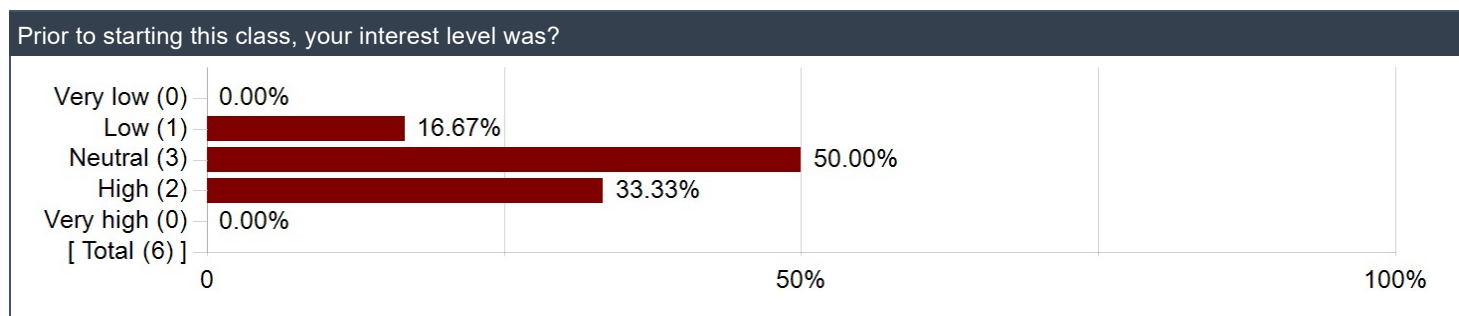|	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	3.50	3.50	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	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.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	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	3.40	3.00	0.00%	40.00%	20.00%	0.00%	40.00%	0.00%

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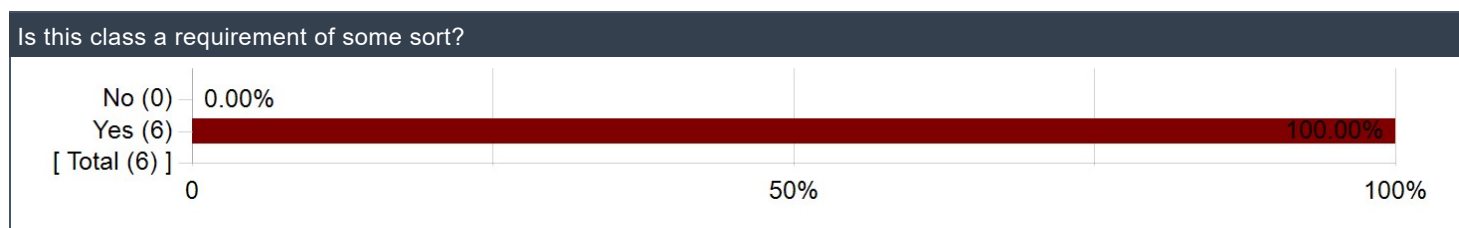
Is this class a requirement of some sort?

No (0)	0.00%
Yes (6)	100.00%
[Total (6)]	

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

Very low (0)	0.00%
Low (1)	16.67%
Neutral (3)	50.00%
High (2)	33.33%
Very high (0)	0.00%
[Total (6)]	

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Diminished (0)	0.00%
Satisfied (4)	66.67%
Heightened (2)	33.33%
[Total (6)]	
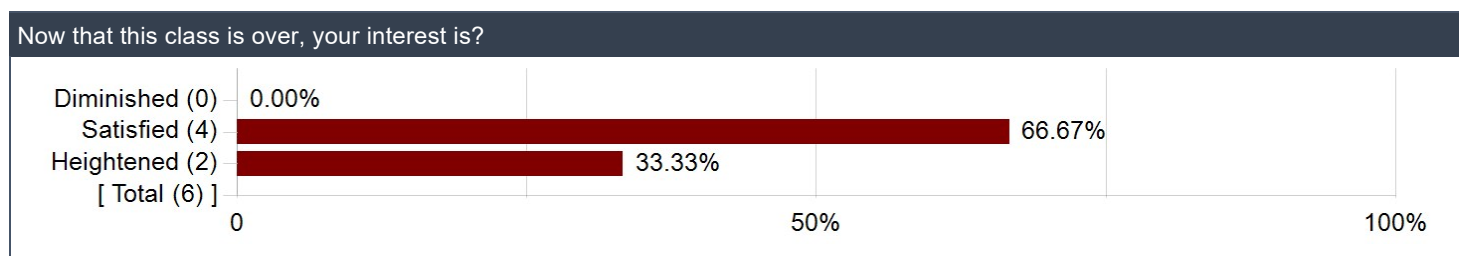
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)
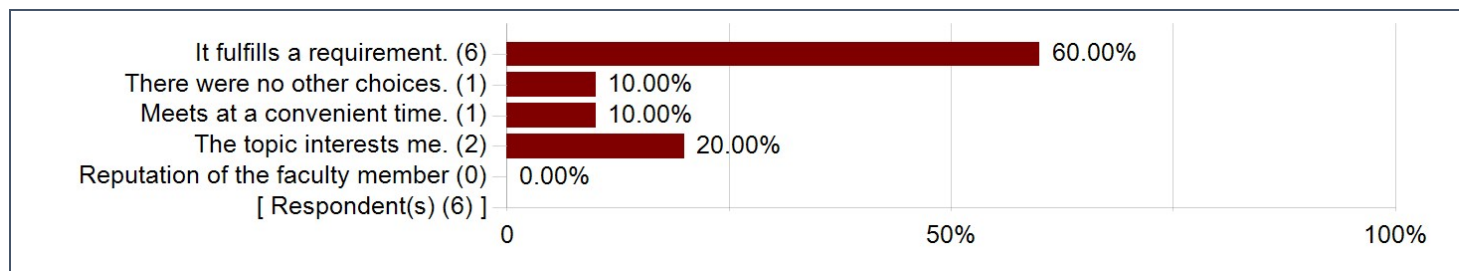
It fulfills a requirement. (6)	60.00%
There were no other choices. (1)	10.00%
Meets at a convenient time. (1)	10.00%
The topic interests me. (2)	20.00%
Reputation of the faculty member (0)	0.00%
[Respondent(s) (6)]	

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

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

<5 hours (2)	33.33%
5-10 hours (4)	66.67%
10-15 hours (0)	0.00%
15-20 hours (0)	0.00%
20-25 hours (0)	0.00%
25-30 hours (0)	0.00%
>30 hours (0)	0.00%
[Total (6)]	

0   50%   100%

What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?

None (0)	0.00%
25% (0)	0.00%
50% (0)	0.00%
75% (0)	0.00%
All (6)	100.00%
[Total (6)]	

0   50%   100%
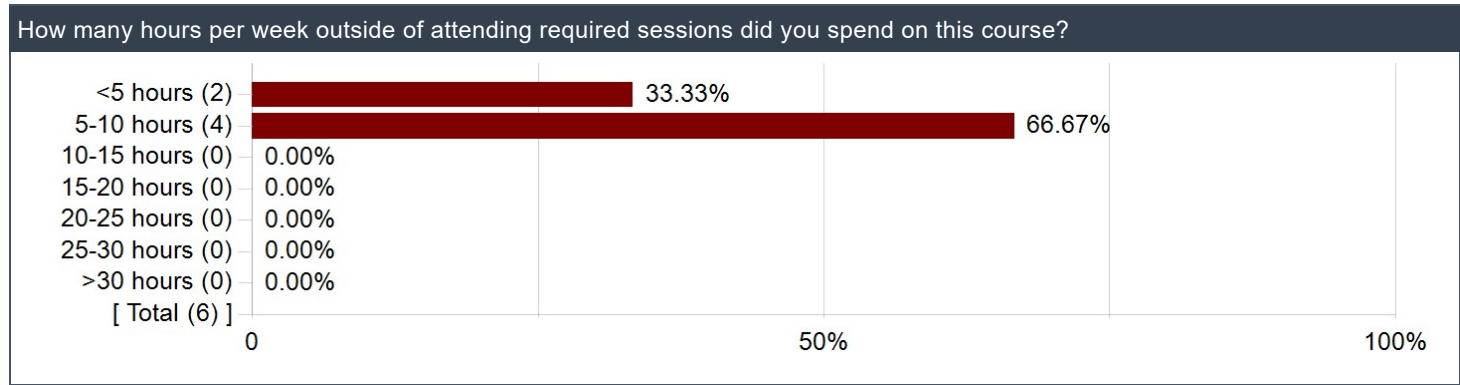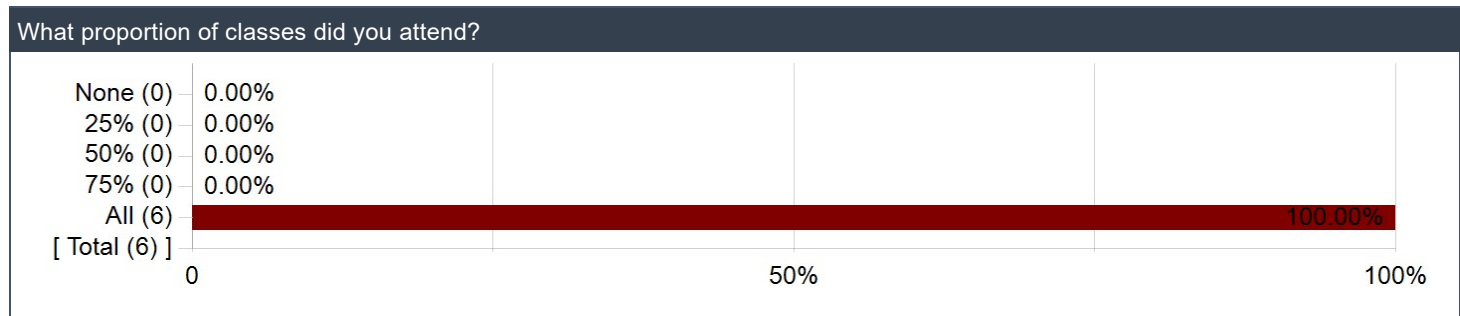
Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
More intense than high–school english classes – way more reading. But no other homework apart from a once–a–book essay, which is great.
This course was not at all difficult, given my previous writing experience.
Not too difficult
The course was sufficiently challenging but never extremely difficult.