



# SANS 10200 1, SANS 10200 1 - First-Year Sanskrit II - Instructor(s): Andrew Ollett

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

Number Enrolled: **15**

Number of Responses: **9**

---

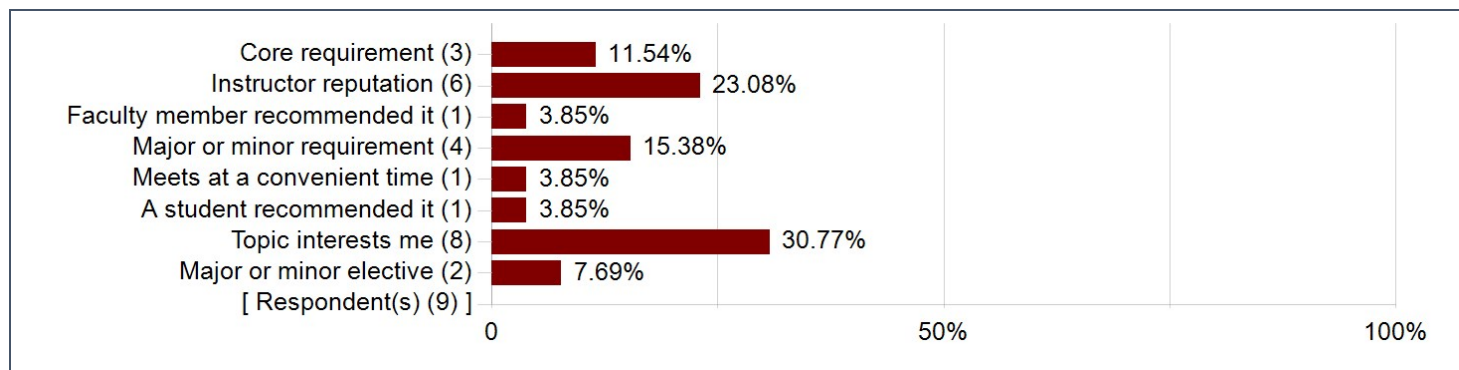
## Report Comments

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

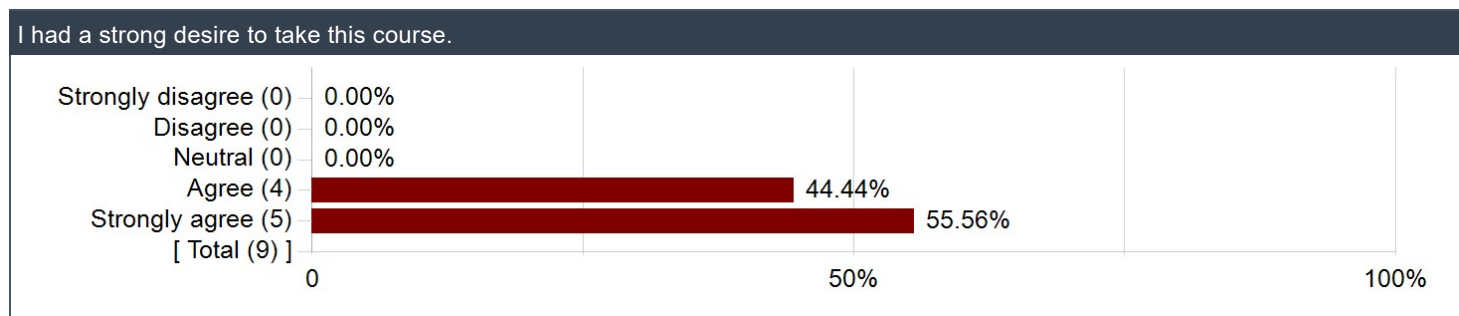
---

Creation Date: **Thursday, March 28, 2024**

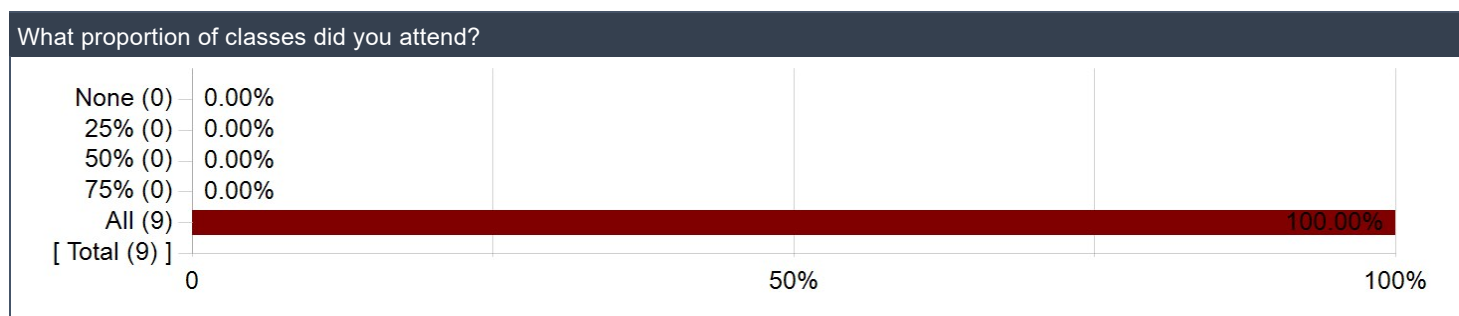
### Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



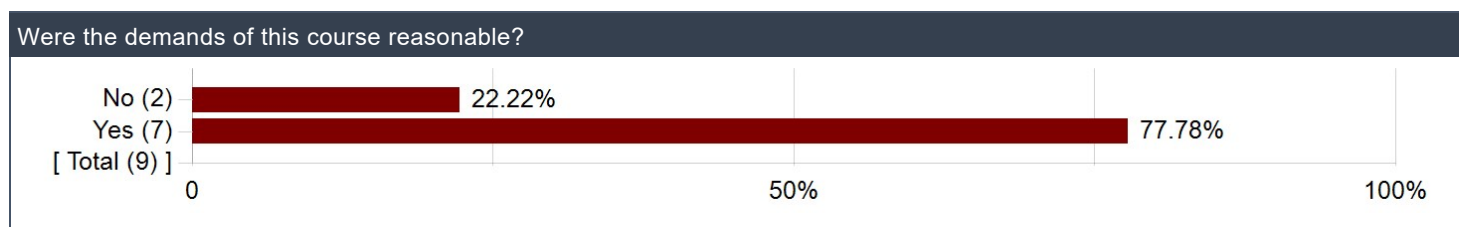
### I had a strong desire to take this course.



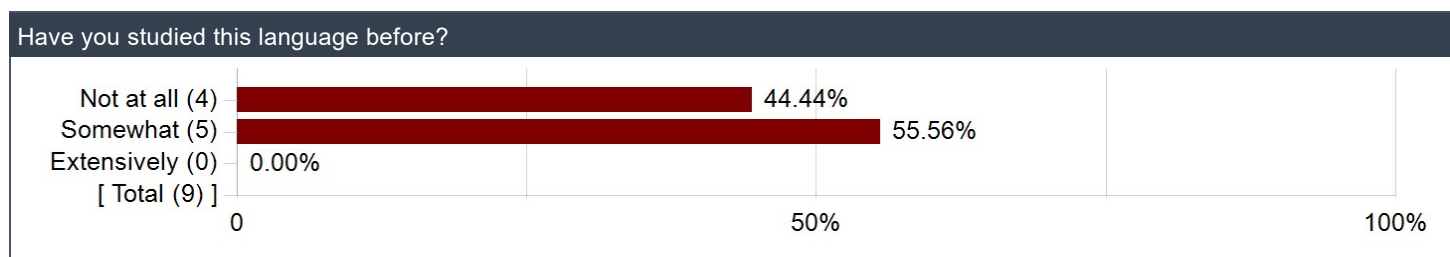
### What proportion of classes did you attend?



### Were the demands of this course reasonable?



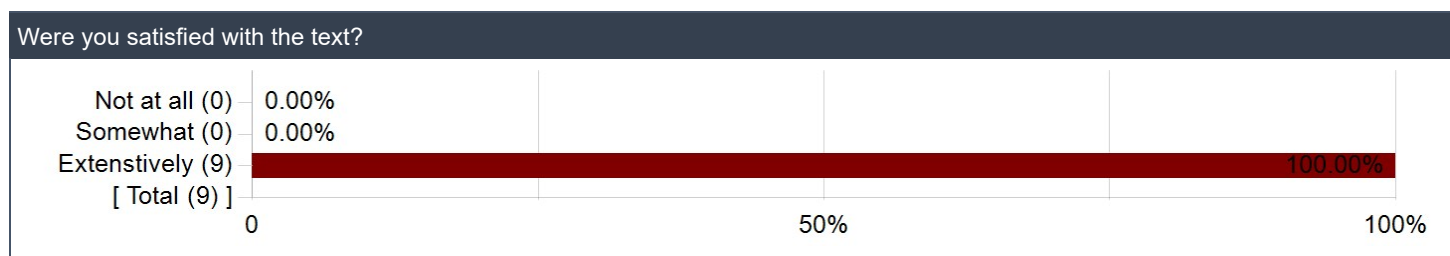
## Have you studied this language before?



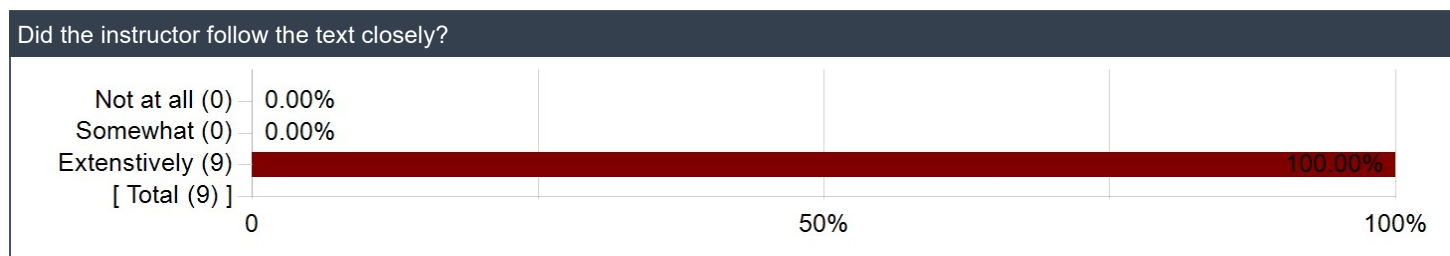
## Rate the extent to which different aspects of the language were stressed:

	Mean	Median	Not At All	A Little	Some	A Lot	Extremely	Vigorously
Speaking	3.00	3.00	0.00%	44.44%	33.33%	11.11%	0.00%	11.11%
Spelling	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	44.44%	33.33%
Reading	5.11	6.00	0.00%	11.11%	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	55.56%
Writing	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	22.22%	44.44%
Grammar	6.00	6.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Vocabulary	5.44	6.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	33.33%	55.56%

## Were you satisfied with the text?



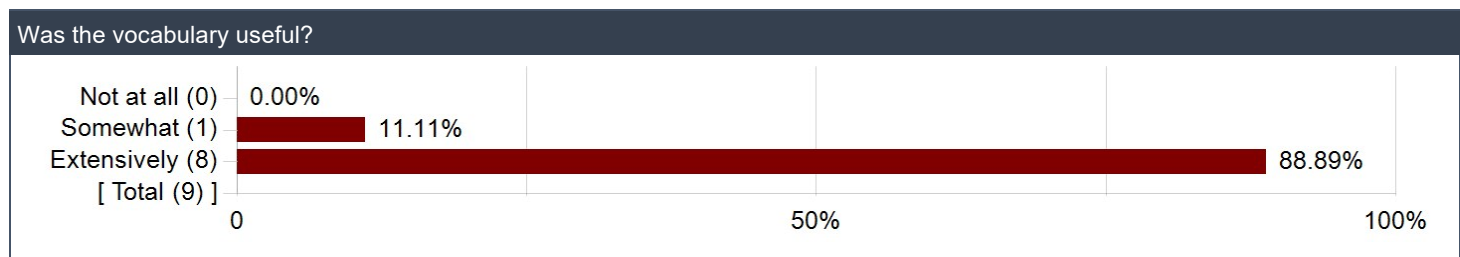
## Did the instructor follow the text closely?



## Explain:

Comments
The instructor had a website with all study videos pre-uploaded. We were expected to watch videos before class so we get go in more depth and get our queries resolved. I thought it was a pretty efficient way of teaching. The videos let you revisit concepts in your own time.
The course website provided by Dr. Ollett was fantastic—very usable and very fun.
Grammar, Sanskrit Syllabus.
The professor makes his own materials and they are excellent. However, they are so granular that 1 page summaries of all the lessons would be wise. Especially as we are going so fast.

## Was the vocabulary useful?

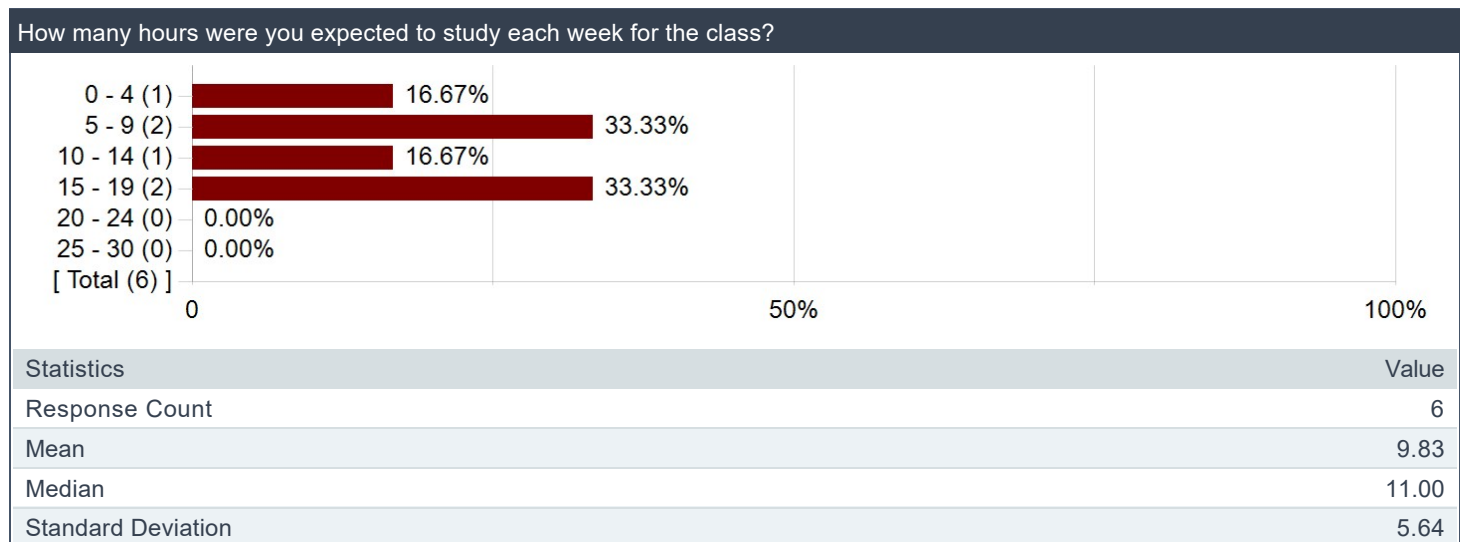


## Why?

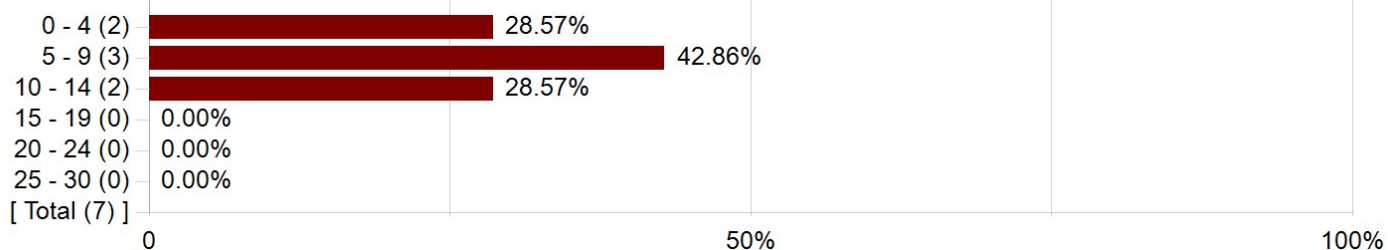
Comments
I think for any language starting with the basic vocab is a no brainer. In Sanskrit, as we expanded the vocab, we encountered different grammatical concepts as well which I think was the main objective behind such extensive vocab. It also introduces you to the "general rule" about things and then the "exceptions" to that rule. So have more vocab covers more ground in terms of conceptual understanding and actual ability to read Sanskrit.
The vocabulary always made sense for lessons, and I found it exciting to see how much more I recognized of Sanskrit texts than before I'd started.
Every word, along with its case, class, gender, number was listed and a vocabulary was made, which was extremely helpful.

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

Comments
Lecture 3x / week. Pretty useful.
Mostly Dr. Ollett would explain various concepts or ask us questions based on the lectures; it tended to be really helpful.
we had to watch videos and learn things through those, classes were mostly for reviewing exercises. While reviewing homework exercises and reading verses was extremely productive. The idea of self learning through pre made videos was not helpful. I wish every new concept was taught in class, with videos as an additional aid (which are extremely well made and elaborate) and it will be a lot more productive. The idea of providing answer keys to exercises instead of spending time discussing it was a much better exercise (that did happen a couple times). The review sessions before exams were the most useful.

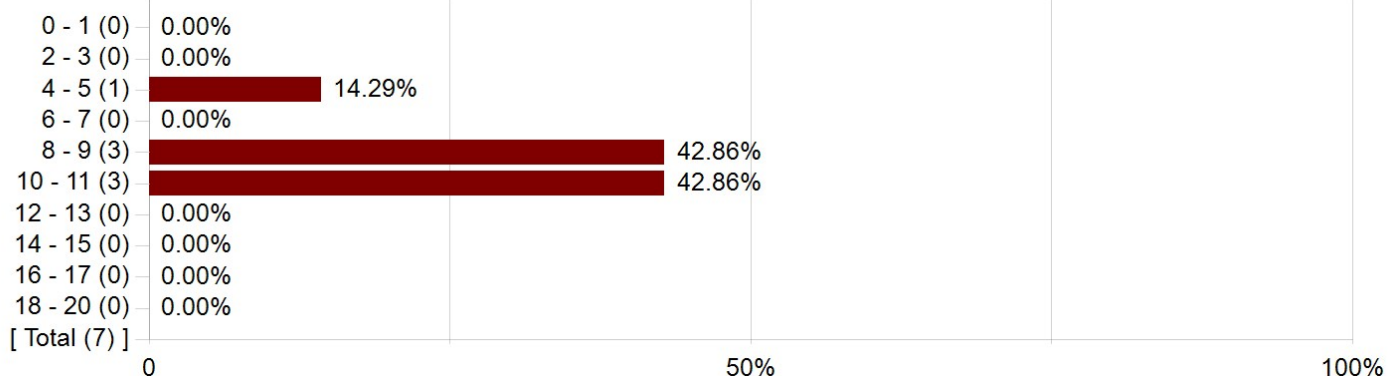


### How many hours did you spend?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	7
Mean	6.71
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	4.61

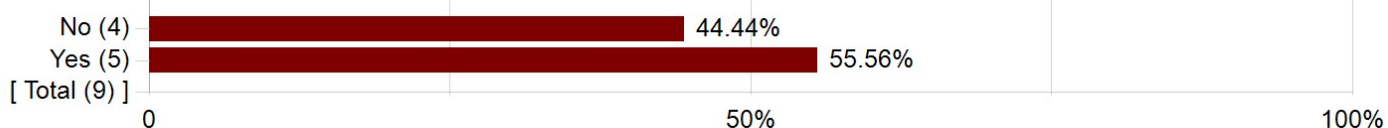
### How many written quizzes were given?



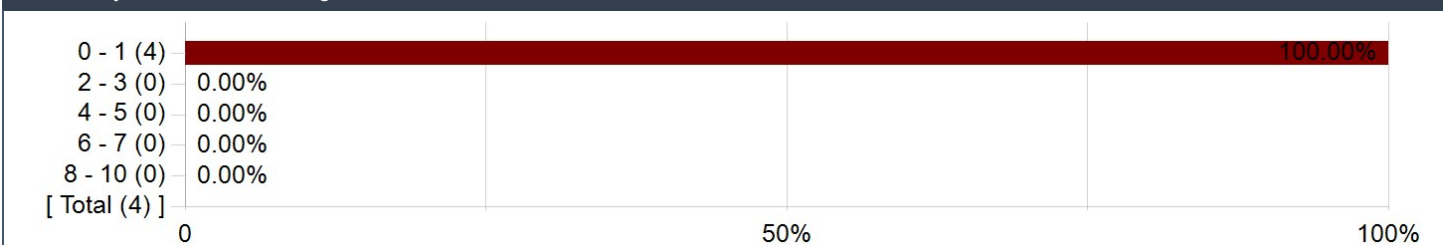
Statistics	Value
Response Count	7
Mean	8.86
Median	9.00
Standard Deviation	1.77

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

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



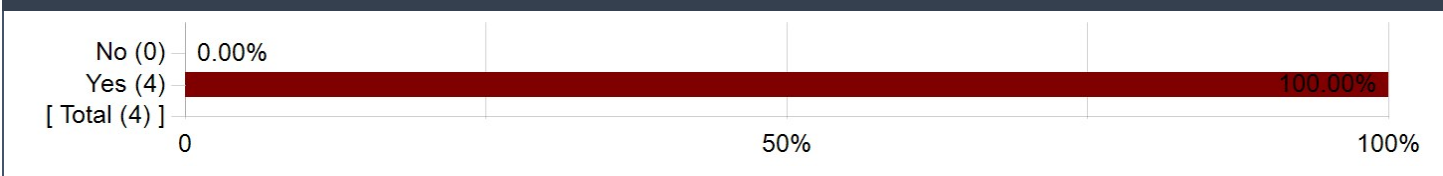
### How many oral exams were given?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	1.00
Median	1.00
Standard Deviation	0.00

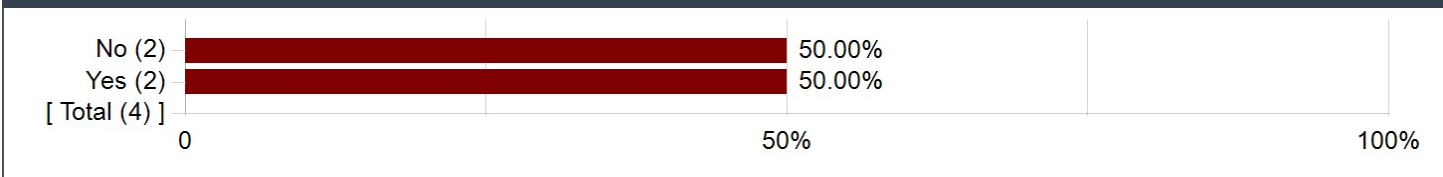
### Were the oral exams fair?

#### Were the oral exams fair?



### Were the oral exams challenging?

#### Were the oral exams challenging?



### Why? Please be specific.

#### Comments

we had to recite a verse in sanskrit, which was optional for extra credit, it was helpful.  
verse recitation

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

#### Comments

no

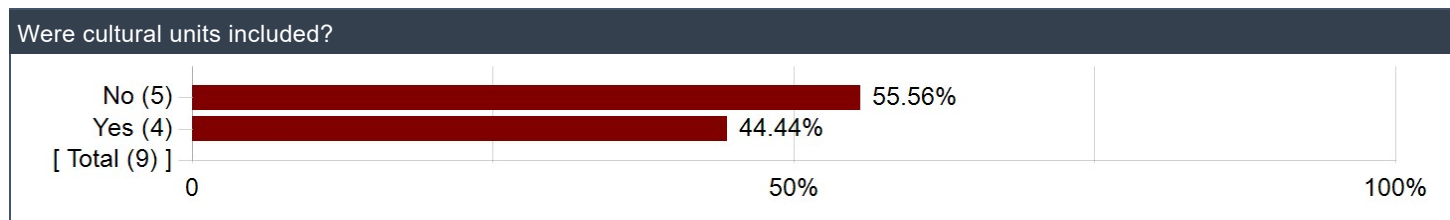
### Was your instructor organized?

Mean	Median	Very Unorganized	Somewhat Unorganized	Fairly Organized	Somewhat Organized	Very Organized
4.56	5.00	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	88.89%

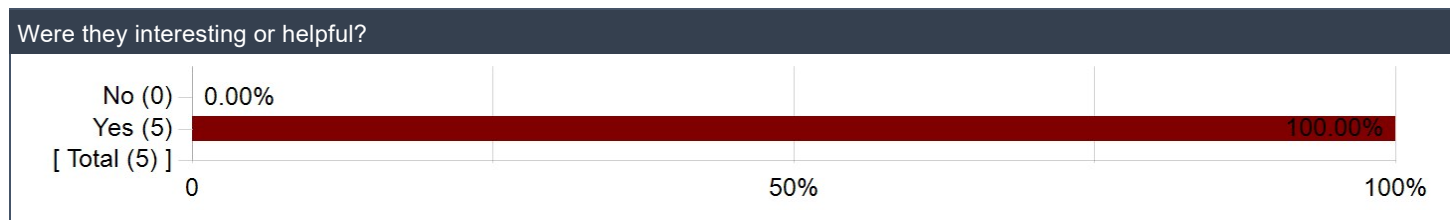
## Explain

Comments
Every class had an agenda and Andrew was good at following it and making sure we felt confident with concepts by the time class ended.
Dr. Ollett was always on-top of things—he's one of the fastest graders I've ever had for a professor, and was very willing to put extra time into creating additional materials to help us out.
Extremely well planned syllabus, and all the materials were provided through a specially tailored website for the students.

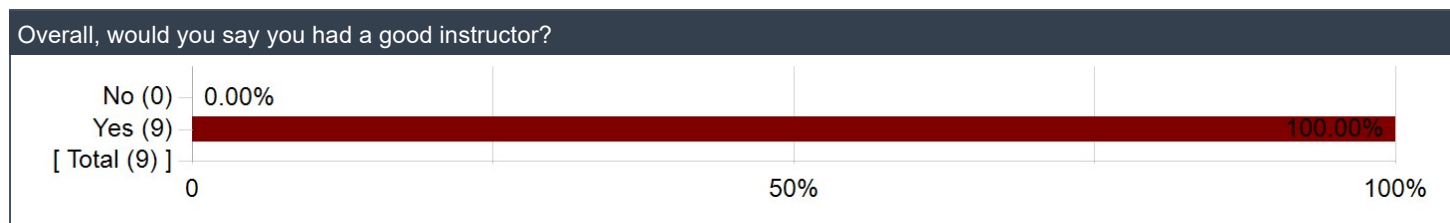
## Were cultural units included?



## Were they interesting or helpful?



## Overall, would you say you had a good instructor?

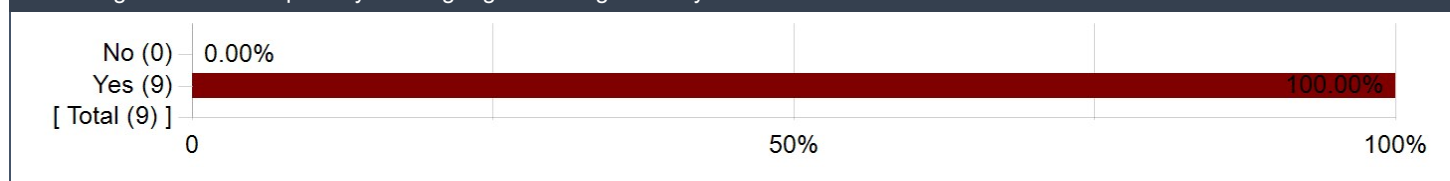


## Why?

Comments
Andrew's a G. Big fan here. I wish he'd teach second year Sanskrit too. He explained concepts really well. He tried to give a us a standardized structure to the best of his ability but Sanskrit's just a language with a million exceptions so you can only do so much. I had a great time in class with him. Ws in the air for Andrew
Dr. Ollett is probably the best language teacher I've ever had. He's challenging, but frankly Sanskrit is a challenging language—it would be crazy to take it without expecting that. Rather than hand out easy A's, he actually taught us the language; I know an absolutely insane amount compared to what I knew at the beginning of the quarter, and am so excited about the fact that I'll know the entire Sanskrit grammar at the end of this year. He was really generous with his time and thought, and clearly cared about all the students. He was responsive to feedback even when the student giving the feedback was frankly pretty rude, and made the class as easy as he could for us. He's honestly just a brilliant individual. I'm so honored that I got the chance to learn from him.
The abundance of course materials, expertise of the instructor, historical linguistic explanations and carefully crafted syllabus. Also, great amount of meticulous feedback and answering every possible question that you may have. All these things made it an extremely useful class.
Professor Ollett is a highly skilled linguist and Sanskritist, he is also a very compassionate professor who works hard to try and help his students succeed. He is inordinately responsive to students, in what is a very demanding class.

## Did taking this course improve your language skills significantly?

Did taking this course improve your language skills significantly?



## In what way?

### Comments

Better vocab and grammatical understanding. i can now read more complex sanskrit – still at a baby level but more complex than before.

I now know immense amounts of the grammar and vocabulary; I know every single verb class in the present stem, and can decipher sandhi. I can read actual Sanskrit texts, which I'm super excited to start doing next quarter!

I understand Sanskrit grammar much better and can read and formulate sentences in Sanskrit.

I struggled but I learned a lot.

## How would you improve this course?

### Comments

Maybe spend more time on Sandhi! Also wouldn't mind going a bit slower since there's a lot rule and word form memorization involved.

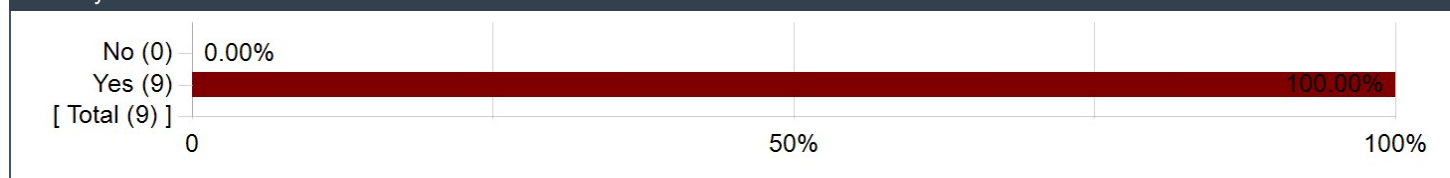
I do feel like maybe the first quarter of the course should have been slightly more intense, based on what other students have said; it sounds like the learning curve went up a significant amount for this quarter.

Teaching in Classroom.

This course needs a TA, desperately. For both the students and the professor. It's a very demanding term, and there is just too much that goes too fast. Some kind of remedial structure is needed to help students better integrate their learning. It's unfortunate that suddenly we started picking up the pace exactly when 1) it conceptually gets harder and 2) we started dropping the roman script, vs. keeping everything in both. This is the wrong time to start speeding up.

## Would you recommend this class to another student?

Would you recommend this class to another student?



## Why?

### Comments

If ur interested in Sanskrit, you cannot find a better instructor and program in the US

This is one of the hardest and most fun classes I've ever taken! It's revolutionized the way I think about languages, and has genuinely taught me so much. The sense of achievement I felt on taking the exam was the greatest I've had in almost any class; I knew I'd worked really hard and achieved a great amount, and I was thankful to Dr. Ollett for providing me with that opportunity.

Absolutely informative, and one of the best ways I have ever learnt Sanskrit.

It is probably too hard for most, unless they are able to mostly only do Sanskrit all term and have a knack for languages. It's not for everyone.