



HUMA 12300 12 - Human Being and Citizen I - Instructor(s): Jennifer Mondal

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **11**

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**

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

Comments
Read and discussed some interesting texts
The most important thing I learned in the course is how literary techniques can capture how a character behaves, and being able to analyze it to gain a perspective on what is occurring in the literature. With the overall class studying how the human and citizen were formed throughout time, I think that this is an extremely important skill that I attained.
We read several interesting books and how they are relevant to the human condition
This course greatly enhanced my ability to write. I loved the approach from Professor Mondal in guiding but not dominating class discussions and allowing the students to digest texts and present/defend arguments in class. Professor Mondal's prompts on writing assignment were well thought out and complex, her insights into the text were brilliant, and she possesses an innate ability to guide individuals to more sophisticated and refined conclusions within the framework of their own logic.
I liked the discussion, they were facilitated very well.
I learned how to write well and do close readings. I also learned about how writers employ literary devices.
I learned about a wide variety of historical texts, such as Gilgamesh, the Iliad, several of Plato's works, Genesis, and more. All of these included themes of morality, mortality, interpersonal relationships with others, societal structures, law, divine influence, and more. There was a complex interplay of these themes throughout the variety of texts we read, each presented in a different manner. I learned how to identify these themes, understand these important texts and engage in discussion to elevate my personal initial understanding of the text. The papers we wrote in this course really helped express these connections and topics.
How to develop claims from close reading to general statements, introduction writing, how to determine the "problem" for your essay, how to write a non-repetitive conclusion, etc.
The most important things I learned in the course was thinking critically about our readings and learning how to write a stronger thesis.

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

Comments
Discussions were interesting and I enjoyed writing the two papers
Discussions with the entire class body allowed multiple perspectives to be heard, and it was great to take in what others say to help formulate opinions on my own thoughts and ideas on the human throughout the class.
In class discussions developed our understanding of these books and our arguments
The lectures were interesting, and very well formatted. Professor Mondal's use of the discussion posts laid the foundation for an engaged and interesting classroom discussion. Additionally, Professor Mondal's balance of offering insights but not dominating discussions—leaving the classroom as an arena to engage with your peers—made for an enhanced learning environment.
I liked the discussion post as they got me thinking before class. I thought the conversations were good and I learned a lot from my peers.
The class discussions were the most important by far. I thought that we got the most out of the class when we were allowed to take the conversation in the direction that interested us the most.
The discussions gave space to express our personal understandings of the text alongside different perspectives, growing in our own opinions and appreciating those of others. The professors lectures regarding literary devices gave very important context for these texts and their construction, which enabled me to realize these nuances and repeated devices throughout the poem/book. Our discussion posts helped initiate these discussions and give initial conclusions we made personally before challenging or adding to them in the class. Our papers were a very helpful process of gathering evidence, connecting these themes and making an argument.
Discussions were always very lively and engaging, lectures were usually brief, but helpful, and in-class writing exercises were very thought-provoking.
The discussions really made me open my eyes to new ways of thinking.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.09	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	54.55%	27.27%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.09	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	54.55%	27.27%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.91	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	27.27%	54.55%	18.18%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.18	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	45.45%	36.36%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.20	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	60.00%	30.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.45	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	36.36%	54.55%
I felt respected in this class.	4.55	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	27.27%	63.64%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.27	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	54.55%	36.36%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Professor Mondal was extremely instructive and helpful in developing my skills as a writer. I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to take this class under the purview of her instruction.
I think this course was simultaneously informative, through the themes and texts we discussed and studied, but also very entertaining. The mix of lectures, discussions, group work, "field trips" made for a very involving and dynamic class.
n/a

I would recommend this course to:

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

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

Comments
Facilitating discussions and some lecture in preparation for out papers.
A deep understanding of the text, to guide us the students from point to point and being able to smoothly transition to different talking points.
Structured dialogue with her and other students
Professor Mondal's insights into how to digest text and the subsequent ability to organize and defend arguments are a foundational tactic that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.
The ability to try and get multiple people involved and make the conversations flow well.
When she stepped out of the conversation and just let us talk. That was when we got the most done.
Professor Mondal's prompts during class discussions led me to deepen my understanding of the texts and realize themes and literary devices I was previously unable to. The professor's extensive knowledge on the literary construction, historical/social context, and application of these themes to the other texts was valuable and appreciated.
Professor Mondal's guiding questions, her in-class writing exercises, and her inputs to our discussions, were incredibly helpful. She also allocated some time to clarifying essay prompts and describing what her expectations were of our writing.
When she would write things on the board so I could write down our discussions and look back on them another day

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
This is a discussion based course, so I feel like most of the learning comes from other classmates.
Having more structured discussion times with smaller groups instead of the whole class.
Maybe slightly more lecture, but I enjoyed the freedom we had to discuss the books
N/A—I feel very fortunate to have been able to take this class under Professor Mondal
I think she could have challenged people more on the points they made or make us tie our observations to specific examples in the text.
At the beginning of the course she sometimes controlled the discussion a little too much so that we couldn't go into our own interpretations as much as the class wanted to. But she saw what worked best for the class and it got much better as the quarter continued.
I'm not sure!
n/a
Explaining her topics or discussion questions a bit more. I often found myself confused in class because I didn't know what she was discussing.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.36	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	45.45%	45.45%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	54.55%	18.18%	9.09%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	36.36%	63.64%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.18	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	45.45%	36.36%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.09	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	72.73%	18.18%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	63.64%	18.18%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.40	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	36.36%	45.45%	9.09%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.36	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	63.64%	36.36%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.45	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	54.55%	45.45%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.36	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	63.64%	36.36%	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
Dr. Tommy, writing seminar advisor
Thomas Pfannkoch was our writing advisor for this course. He attended several class meetings as well as held three writing seminars. In class he deepened the discussion and provided valuable commentary that challenged students and aided in deepening our understanding of the texts. His writing seminars helped me with how best to assert my argument in my papers; Dr. Tommy was incredibly helpful in aiding me with writing my papers, providing constructive editing and brainstorming of ideas. His strong understanding of the texts and themes discussed was very clear and valuable in application.

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%

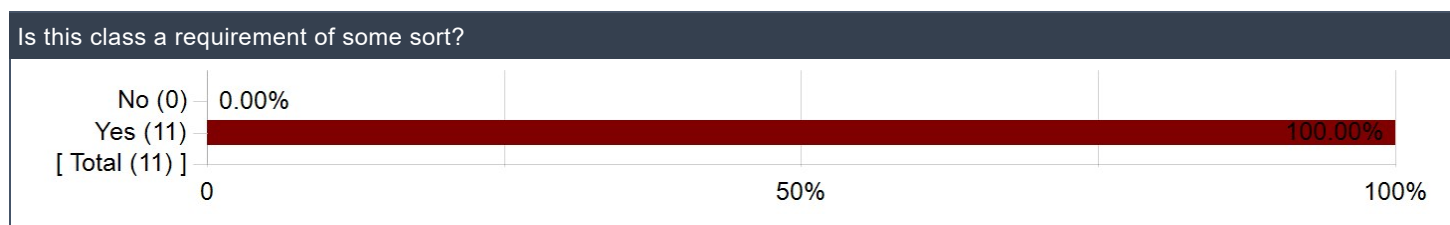
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	3.75	4.00	0.00%	12.50%	0.00%	25.00%	12.50%	50.00%
Library Sessions	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	87.50%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	3.50	3.50	0.00%	10.00%	40.00%	40.00%	10.00%	0.00%

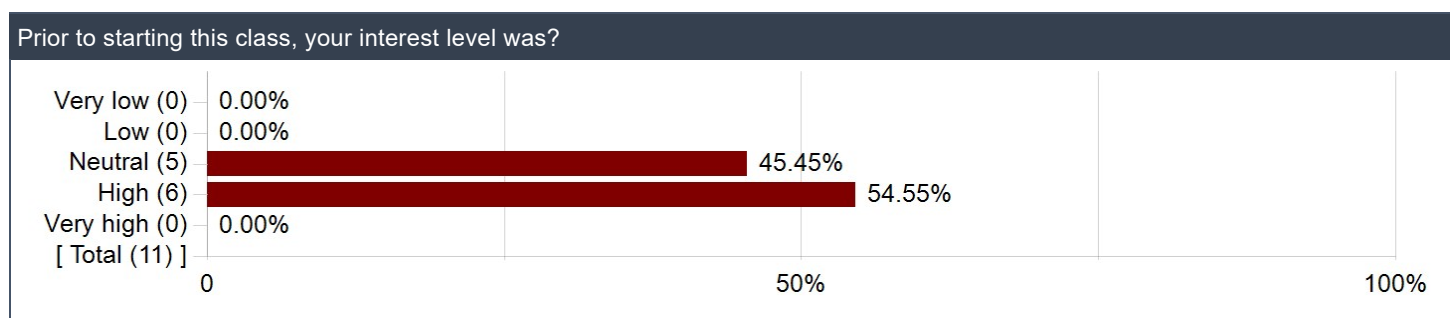
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
n/a

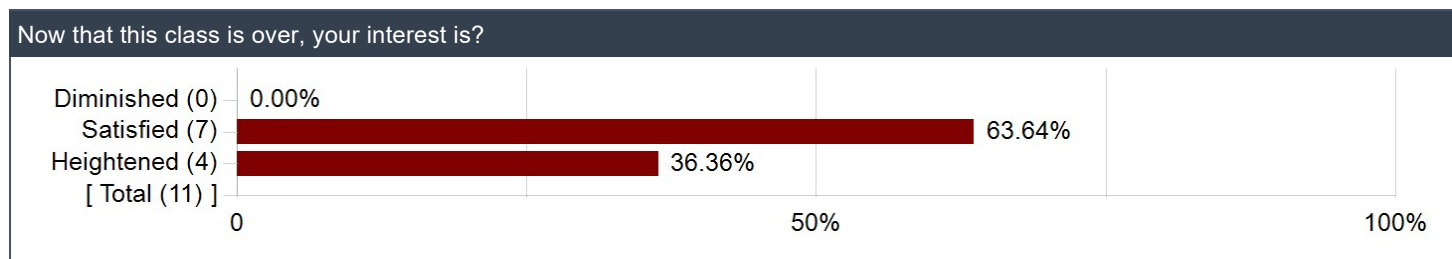
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



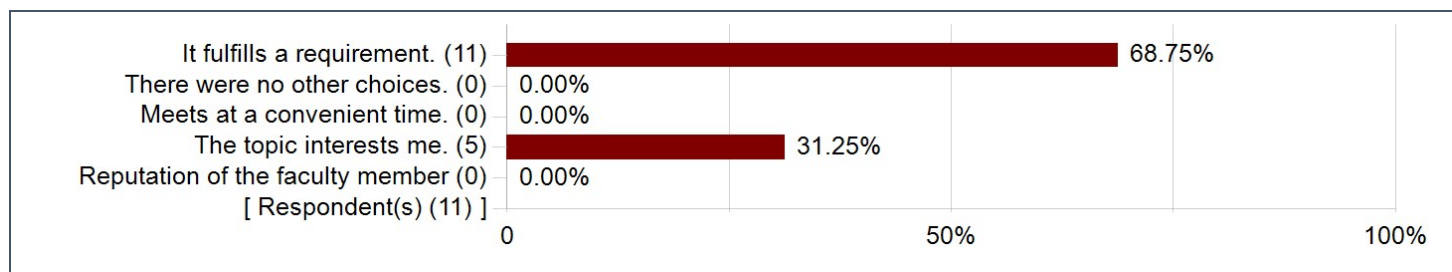
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



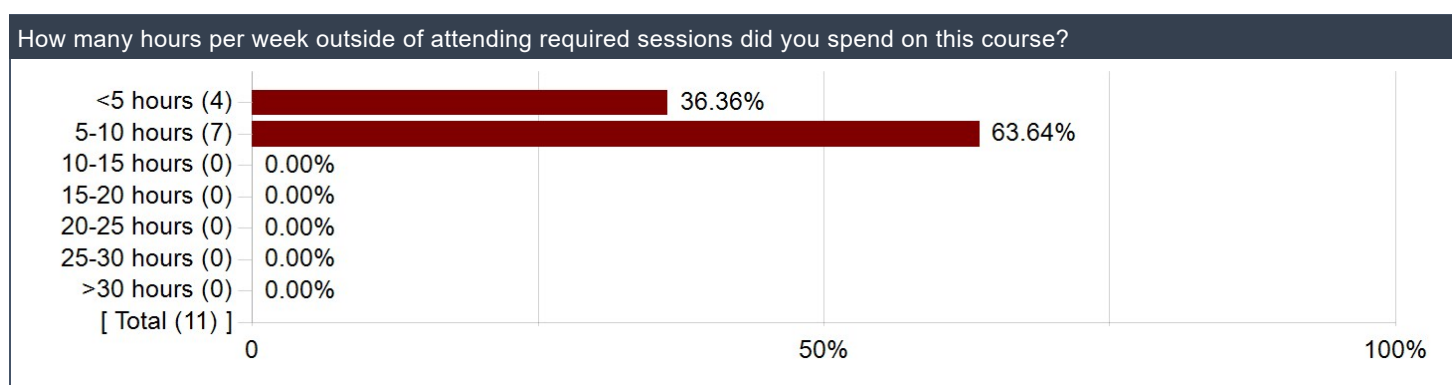
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



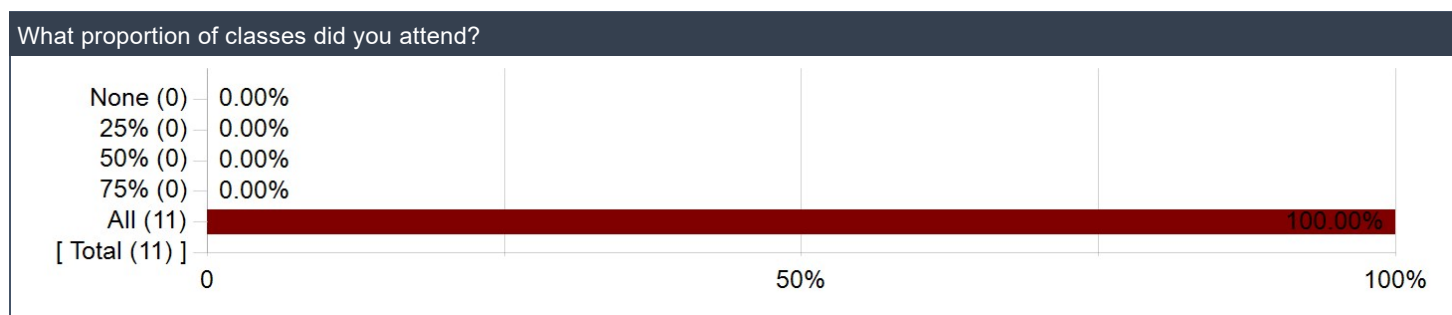
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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 was not too difficult if you do most of the readings, can write at a good level, and have an interest in the material.
It was not difficult at all, just sometimes time consuming at inconvenient times
The readings were manageable. The writing was challenging but laid a tremendous foundation moving forward
I had very little writing experience but more experience with these texts and the class was not too difficult for me.
Engaging and intellectually–stimulating, but not very difficult or unbearably so.
n/a
The course was challenging but not extremely difficult