



HUMA 14000 12 - Reading Cultures: Collection, Travel, Exchange I - Instructor(s): Joseph Stadolnik

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **12**

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
The one thing I could get from this course was a slight improvement in the organization of my writing. Beyond that, absolutely nothing was gained from Professor Stadolnik's course — he introduced concepts and analysis of the text that was at a middle-school level at best, and led "discussions" in a way that was incredibly limiting to the students.
The most interesting things we learned were about the different cultural contexts of writings especially translations and their role/purpose
I learned how to write an essay with a coherent and detailed argument.
How to craft an argument properly. How to close read and analyse texts as well as how to speak about these things.
We learned how to close read and analyze texts as well as write essays.
Learning how to close-read and how to write an argument.
I learned how to write a college level paper and how to analyze texts
The effect of translation and how stories become distorted
Close reading, productive class discussion
Expectations for papers and thesis statements.

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

Comments
I came into Reading Cultures very excited for the course, having enjoyed seminar-style discussion in my AP Literature and other history classes in high school, so I was thoroughly disappointed when the "seminar" class I had here was anything but. Professor Stadolnik led "discussions" by calling on students individually, and spoon-feeding interpretations of the text to us. There was no meaningful discussion of topics or ideas that arose as a result, because there was no actual seminar-style discussion that happened, just responses to the professor's questions. This led to an incredibly boring and disheartening experience, and I found myself dreading the class that I was initially happiest to take. This is not the fault of the text or curriculum, but rather the professor. If you are interested in taking Reading Cultures, for your own sake, make sure you're not in Professor Stadolnik's section.
class time was spent on discussions. the reading wasn't super difficult. people make good points
The discussion parts especially with my peers help me look at things from different perspectives.
Discussions were a major contributor to learning in this class. Every class is a discussion on the reading for the day, Dr. Stadolnik did a great job of giving an introduction/context to whatever we were reading and led the discussions well.
Class time was very helpful in analyzing the books, as it allowed me to practice a critical analysis lens and gave me ideas for my essays.
Prof Stadolnik took us on classroom visits to the Smart Museum and The Special Collections Center at the Reg which were incredible!
The discussions helped enlighten me about the texts
discussions helped with debriefing the reading that was assigned.
I LOVED the smart museum and special collections aspects of the course. I think it put our readings into perspective and grounded them in history.
I think unpacking a text and it's context in class through discussion/lectures helped me better understand the material than I would've on my own.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	3.92	4.00	8.33%	0.00%	16.67%	41.67%	33.33%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.08	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	41.67%	33.33%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.92	4.00	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	66.67%	16.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.00	4.00	8.33%	0.00%	16.67%	33.33%	41.67%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	3.92	4.00	8.33%	0.00%	8.33%	58.33%	25.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	41.67%	41.67%
I felt respected in this class.	4.17	4.50	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	25.00%	50.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	3.83	4.00	8.33%	8.33%	8.33%	41.67%	33.33%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
If attendance was not graded, I would have skipped every class , and probably would've have been happier this quarter.
Very Good Class
I was honestly disappointed with how the course was run. While Joe is a great and very helpful professor, the course felt at times like a high school English class rather than a college level Socratic seminar and I wish discussions were more open-ended without an agenda. Additionally, I found the writing seminars unhelpful and think they could be run much better.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	9.09%	90.91%
Anyone interested in the topic	8.33%	91.67%

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

Comments
The feedback that was given on essays was comprehensive and helpful.
Guiding of particular discussions by bringing us to certain passages
I really enjoyed the time I had to go over my essay ideas in office hours.
Dr. Stadolnik would talk about the topic that we would be discussing for a short while before the class started discussing it.
Professor Stadolnik was incredibly helpful in guiding discussions and building upon our ideas. He also kept office hours that were very helpful for me, as I could discuss essay ideas with him and get feedback on what I had already written.
Prof Stadolnik's short powerpoint presentations providing us with context on what we were about to read were really helpful. Further, the small facts he would drop about the book helped place the book into context.
Professor did a good job explaining things
When the instructor
I liked his mini-lectures before the discussions of each book because it allowed us to ground our reading in history and purpose.
Definitely the context for each text he would provide whenever we started a new one.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Actually let students discuss the text, and guide discussions instead of just making it a faux-lecture.
I don't like writing seminars at all
Essay Grading is tough. A bit more guidance on the papers and grading scheme.
More lecture-based teaching/ taking control of discussions. Professor is very welcoming in facilitating discussion but sometime I feel I'd learn more if he took control over the class and presented an accurate interpretation of the text with real historical context.
Nothing
I think discussions could have been more productive.
I'm not sure.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.42	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	41.67%	50.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.18	5.00	8.33%	0.00%	8.33%	25.00%	50.00%	8.33%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.25	5.00	8.33%	0.00%	16.67%	8.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	3.92	4.00	8.33%	0.00%	25.00%	25.00%	41.67%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.08	4.00	8.33%	0.00%	0.00%	58.33%	33.33%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	3.75	4.00	8.33%	0.00%	33.33%	25.00%	33.33%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	16.67%	58.33%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.08	4.50	8.33%	0.00%	16.67%	25.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.33	4.50	0.00%	8.33%	0.00%	41.67%	50.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.00	4.00	8.33%	0.00%	16.67%	33.33%	41.67%	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
Cameron Powell
Cameron Powell; He was the writing seminar leader and helped us write

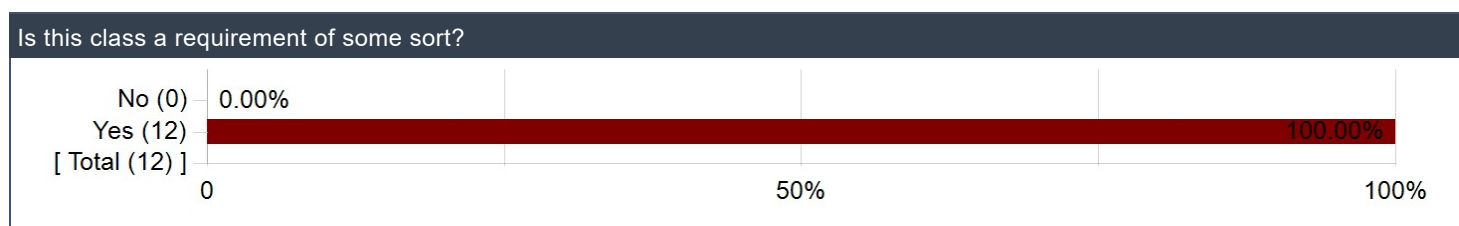
The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	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%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	3.50	3.50	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%

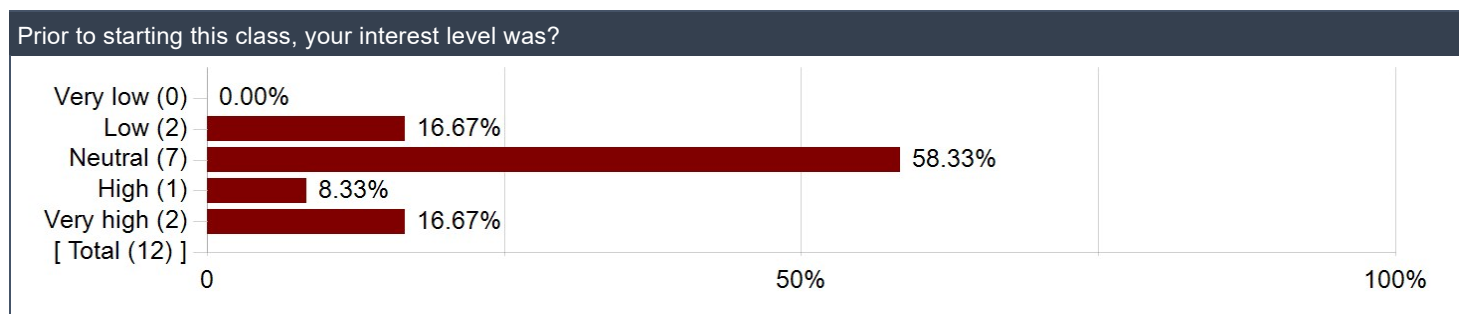
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	4.20	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	22.22%	44.44%
Library Sessions	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	66.67%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	2.00	1.00	60.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	0.00%	0.00%

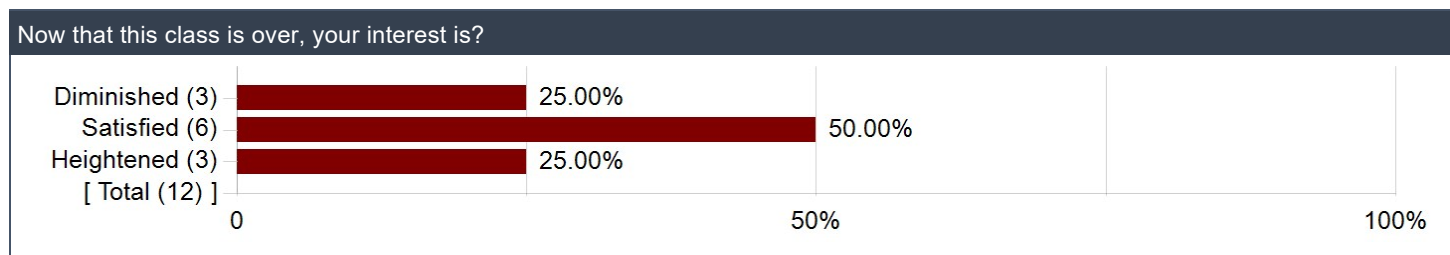
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



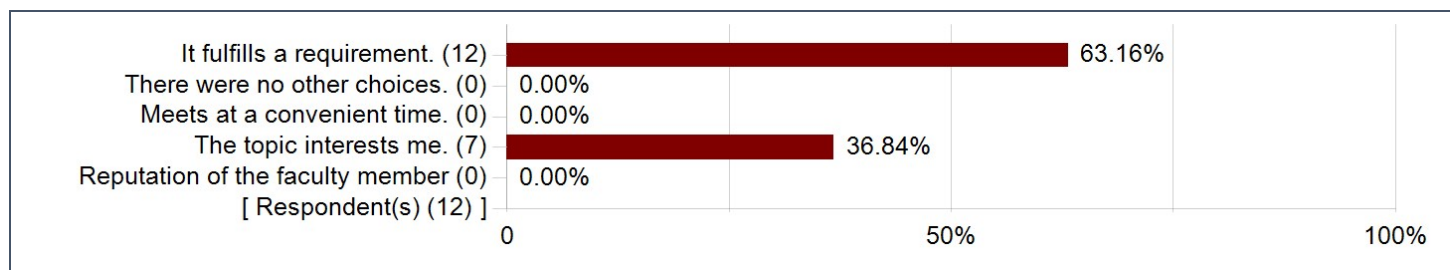
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



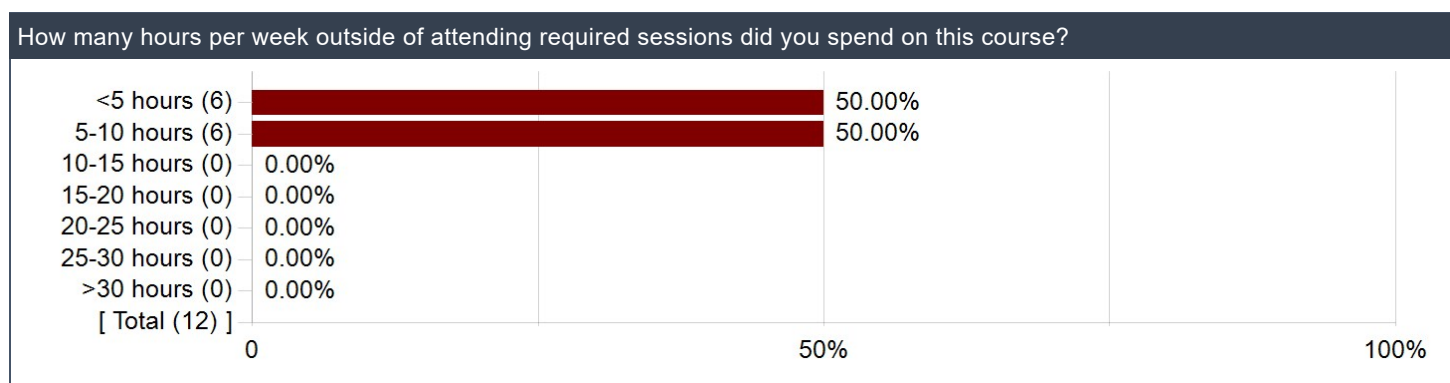
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



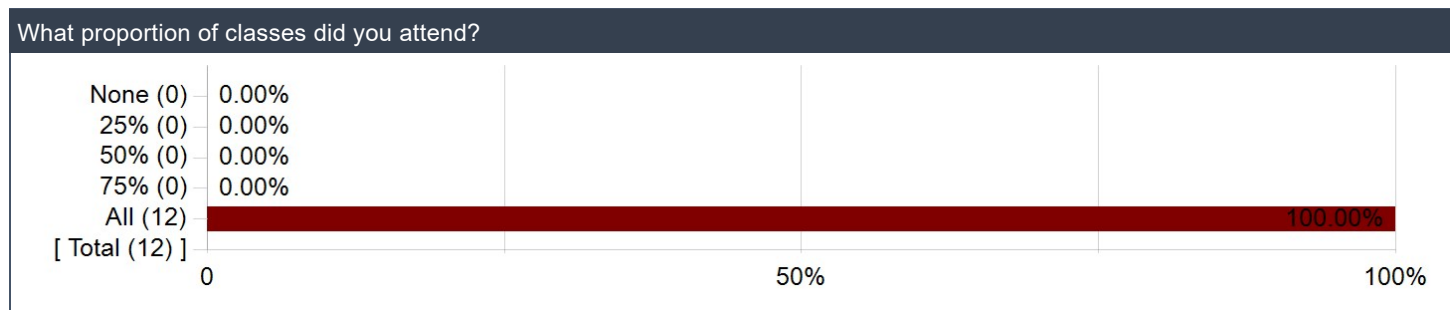
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
Was incredibly easy, and incredibly boring
It was challenging due to the amount of reading that needed to be accomplished.
Little bit harder than an AP English class.
Not too difficult once you learn how to write an argument.
There is more reading than other courses, and it seems the grading is tough but justified.
As someone interested in reading and writing I had no problems with the difficulty level.