



HIST 16700 1, CLCV 20700 1 - Ancient Mediterranean World I: Greece - Instructor(s): Jonathan Hall

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

Number Enrolled: **26**

Number of Responses: **14**

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
History of ancient Greece from the Minoans to Alexander the Great.
History of ancient greece, how to piece together historical evidence and consider what may be missing
I learned about the important pivotal moments of ancient Greek history through the Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic period. I learned about Greek culture through plays and comedies, and the organization of their social, political, military and cultural institutions.
To take notes in class, serious notes.
Lots of information about Greece.
how to interpret historical evidence from multiple sources, the politics/culture of ancient Greece
While, as the name suggests, this course provided an overview of Greek history from the earliest period for which we have any sort of archaeological evidence down to the Hellenistic period. There was a special emphasis placed on historical method, which proved especially interesting to me.
The history of the ancient Greek world from the Bronze Age to the Hellenistic Period
The practice of history and the history of the Ancient Greek world

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

Comments
Hall is a great lecturer; he makes the material very fun and engaging. I felt that the reading workload was very fair (roughly 30 pages per lecture). Typically class was more lecture (with questions to the class) than discussion.
Jonathan Hall is a very organized, knowledgeable, and clear lecturer. Excellent command and delivery of subject matter. It's very clear that he's optimized his instruction and it makes for a great class experience.
Lectures were engaging, we had a weekly quiz that was on canvas and was open for multiple days so that was great and then a final paper
I absolutely loved the lectures given by Professor Hall – he was very knowledgeable and passionate about the subject, and always brought his own expertise into the room. I felt like he guided us effectively through the course, and he made it as smooth as possible for the students in learning and understanding. Out of all of my professors in the humanities, I think he was one of the best I've had so far, both in terms of his excellently prepared lectures, his positive attitude towards his students, and the way in which he structures his classes. The way his class is organized in terms of grading and assignments perfectly balances workload (where you never feel flooded with assignments, it's a weekly quiz and no midterm essay) and learning (you have the time to really absorb the readings and lectures) – I hope he doesn't change that because it really helped me get the most out of the course.
Lectures were most important! I liked that Prof's strict attendance policy forced me to come to class
Had weekly quizzes on content, pretty helpful to make sure you are aware of what is going on. Final paper and participation were the other parts.
The lectures/discussions (ie a seminar of 30 people that was an interactive lecture) was a really good format. We could ask questions without it being super formal like in a lecture, yet we learned a lot with the slides.
Each of the lectures and their corresponding readings were focused on a given period of Greek history, and the weekly quizzes were meant to evaluate our understanding/retention of that week's lectures.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.27	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	72.73%	27.27%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.73	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	27.27%	72.73%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.55	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	45.45%	54.55%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.91	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	90.91%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.11	4.00	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	33.33%	44.44%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	60.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.91	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	90.91%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.91	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	90.91%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Perfect course for the civ requirement. Very doable course load, designed in a way that other core classes should be. Very clear expectations and well-organized lecture schedule. Prof. Hall is an engaging, charismatic lecturer and as someone who had no interest in ancient Greece going in, I was thoroughly entertained by his stories and lecturing style. He is also very accommodating to any level of experience in the course material and does his best to help when you ask. One of my most memorable professors (in a good way) at this school!
Prof Hall is one of the best I have had at UChicago. Had 0 interest in ancient Greece but loved the class. He is very knowledgeable

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	8.33%	91.67%
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
Lectures
Lecture
This professor is incredibly knowledgeable on the subject, and is able to provide strong insights while also making the material very interesting.
His ability to make Greek history extremely accessible, fun and interesting. How he has structured the class workload and grading to maximize learning over constantly grinding assignments. I can't say enough good things about Professor Hall. If you get a chance to have him as your professor, consider yourself very lucky! I wish I could take another course with him next quarter...
Prof. Hall's lecturing style! His encouragement to go to office hours really paid off, as he does his best to help you for the paper assignment and understanding course content.
Lecture
Prof. Hall is extremely knowledgeable about all of ancient Greece and could answer any possible question. The lectures were dense but coherent on each theme which made them fairly easy to follow because they seemed to have a narrative.
While the vast majority of class time was spent with lecturing, and the homework to prepare us for these lectures, I think this style fit the professor well. The lectures were captivating and he did a nice job of bringing students into the discussion while still remaining on task (as there was a lot to cover).
Professor Hall's interest in the material at hand
Everything about the lecture instruction was excellent—the instructor was organized, the pacing was manageable, and the content was both thorough and broad

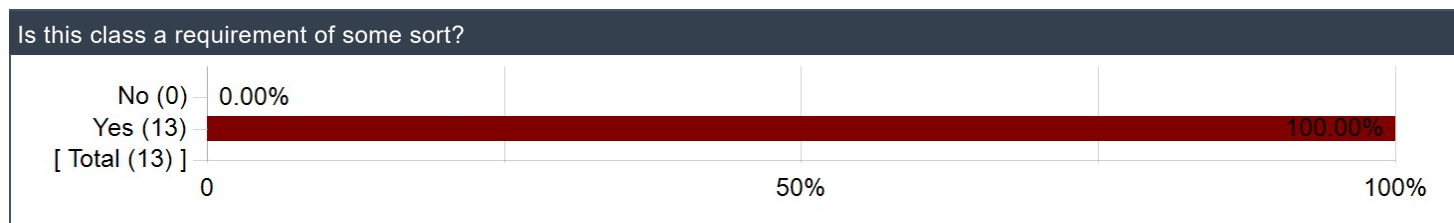
What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
I would like if we had spent more time discussing in small groups; people are more candid in small groups and it's easier to have a back-and-forth. Also, it would be helpful if the slides contained more material (and if the maps that appeared were easier to read); I often found it hard to guess at spellings of terms that did not appear in the reading but were said verbally in class.
Nothing!
Nothing~
Nothing
NA, great class
If there were anything I would recommend tweaking, it would be the formatting of assessments. While I know class time is precious, I think it might make more sense to have short, straightforward in-class quizzes rather than take-home quizzes with intentional trick-questions.

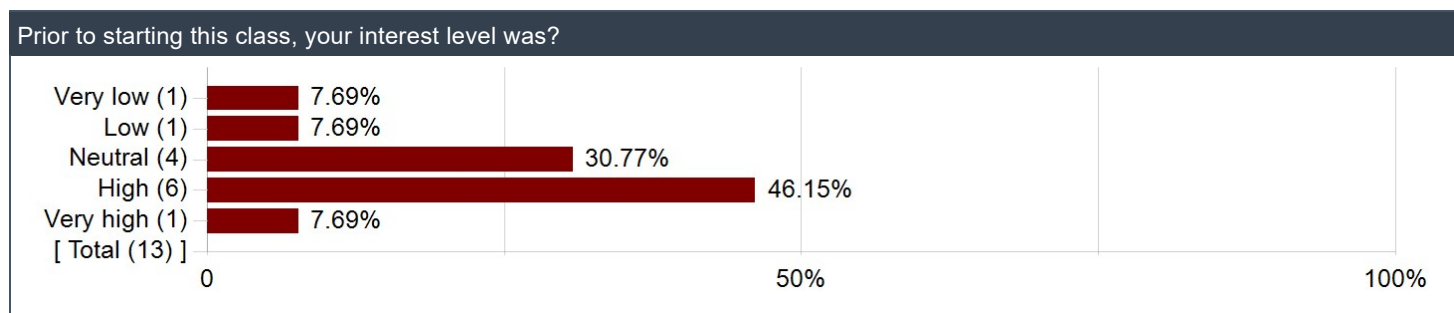
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	83.33%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.82	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	75.00%	8.33%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	0.00%

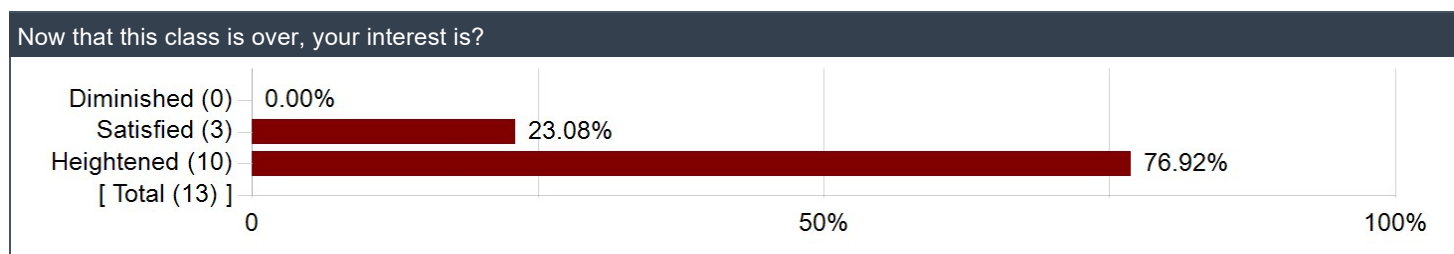
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



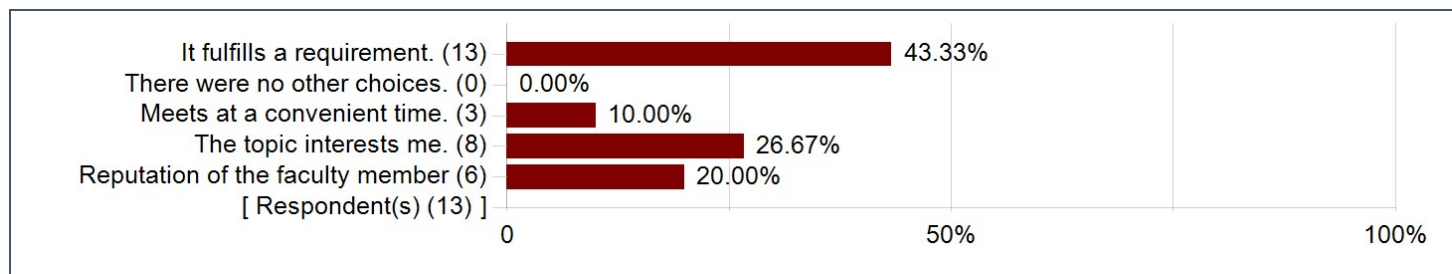
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



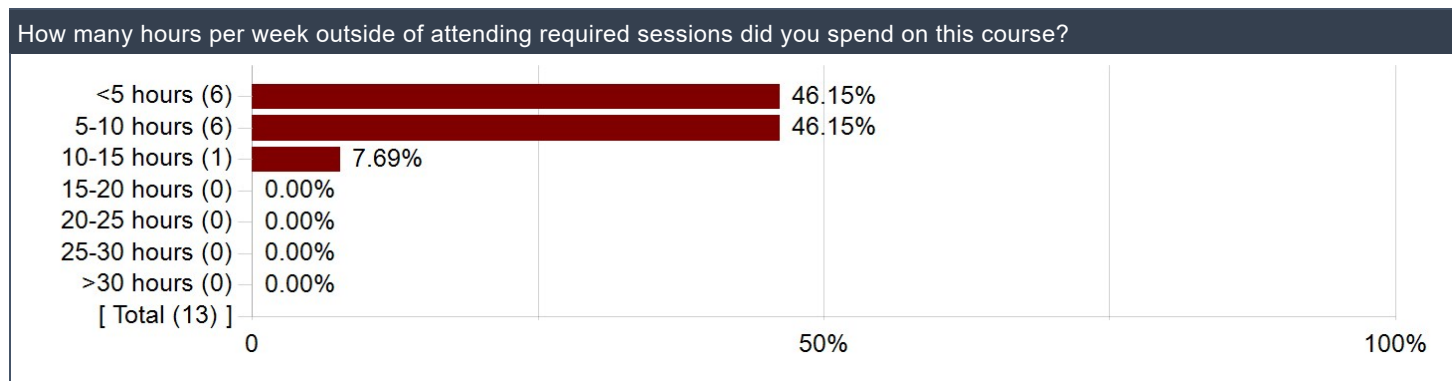
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



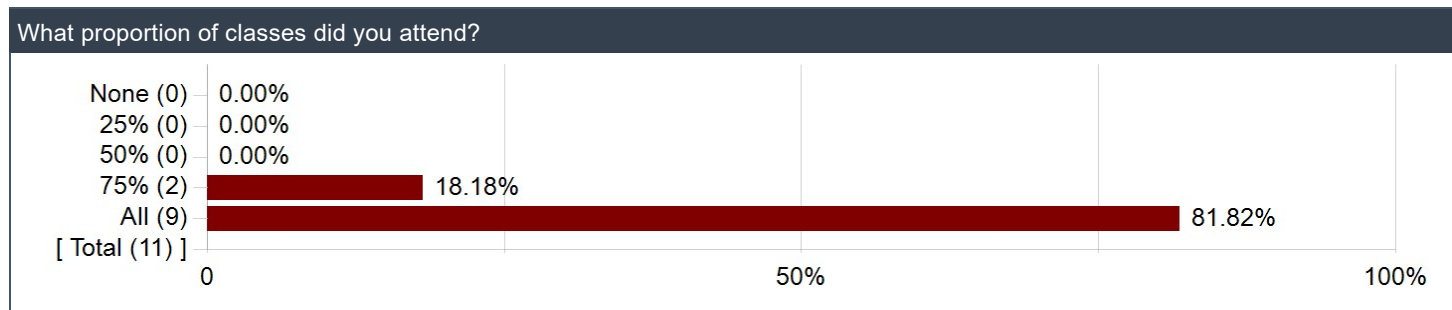
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
Harder than SOSC (I took SSI), but a lighter workload than Language and the Human.
Take it. great CIV, would recommend for everyone
Easy
Very doable! No prior knowledge abt ancient Greece is needed, you can do the readings and still make as significant contribution to discussion as students who did
Was a bit hard but not crazy, would highly recommend
Optimal difficulty for CIV class – Aside from readings, we just had a quiz every week + the final essay which was very manageable, but I still feel like I learned a lot. Wasn't looking for a "difficult" CIV, but I still got a lot out of the class.
I had some minor background knowledge on ancient Greek history prior to this course, and I found it to be of moderate difficulty overall