

URDU 10200 1, URDU 10200 1 - First-Year Urdu II - Instructor(s): Romeena Kureishy

Project Title: College Course Feedback - Winter 2024

Number Enrolled: **12** Number of Responses: **5**

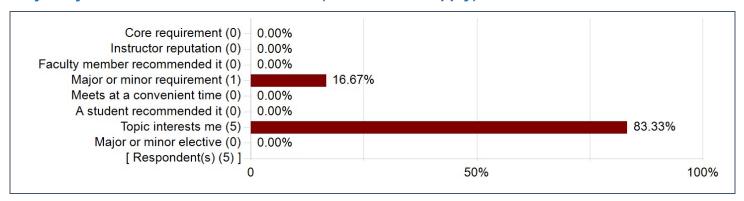
Report Comments

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

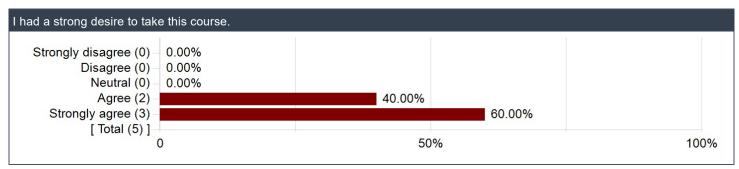
Creation Date: Thursday, March 28, 2024



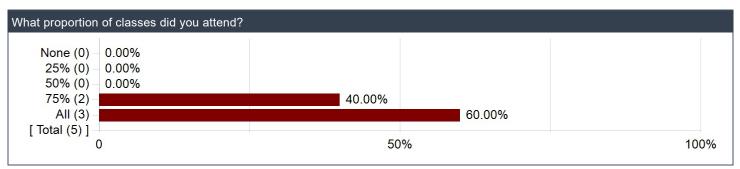
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



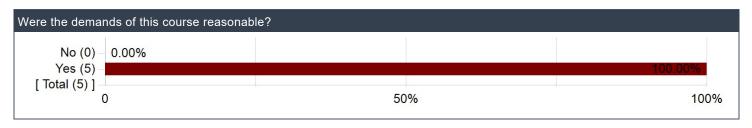
I had a strong desire to take this course.



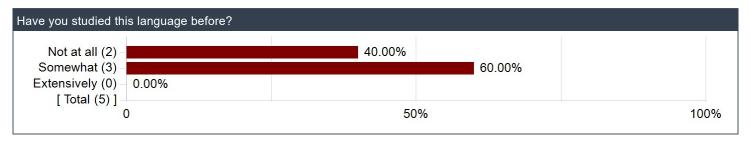
What proportion of classes did you attend?



Were the demands of this course reasonable?



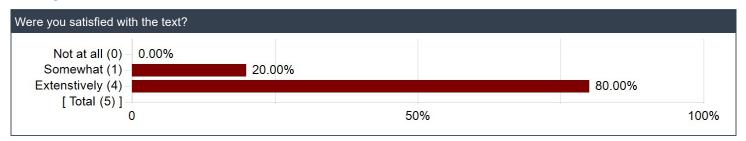
Have you studied this language before?



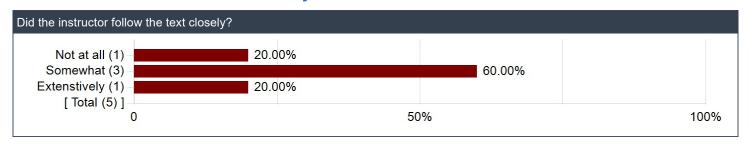
Rate the extent to which different aspects of the language were stressed:

	Mean	Median	Not At All	A Little	Some	A Lot	Extremely	Vigorously
Speaking	4.60	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	60.00%	20.00%	20.00%
Spelling	3.00	3.00	20.00%	20.00%	40.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%
Reading	3.80	4.00	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	40.00%	0.00%	20.00%
Writing	4.60	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	60.00%	20.00%	20.00%
Grammar	4.80	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	60.00%	0.00%	40.00%
Vocabulary	4.60	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	60.00%	20.00%	20.00%

Were you satisfied with the text?



Did the instructor follow the text closely?



Explain:

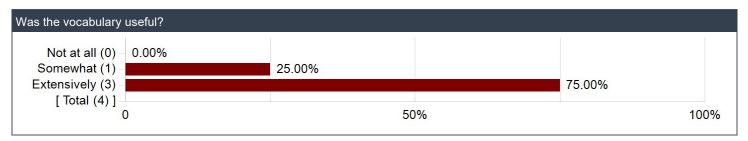
Comments

We didn't have a text but I was satisfied with the course material.

The teacher did not use a textbook, but she did include a lot of material/resources for us online. These resources were helpful but I felt that if we had followed a textbook the pace of the class would have felt more organized.

A text was not heavily involved

Was the vocabulary useful?



Why?

Comments

While I think we certainly learned some vocabulary, I think it probably would have been better to do less vocabulary and spend more time with it. For instance, rather than trying to remember vocabulary words relating to weddings it probably would have been best if we could really just make sure that we know most of the most commonly used verbs etc.

Helped me formulate my ideas

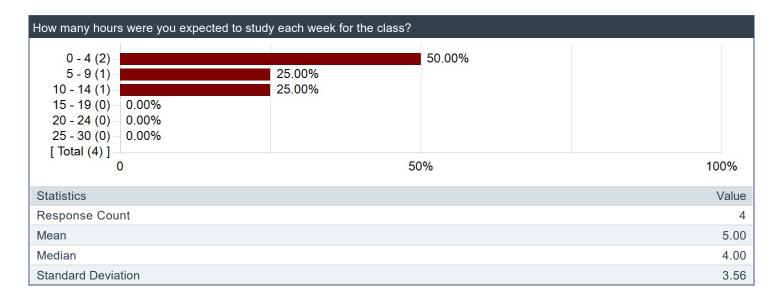
Describe the format of the class (lecture, drills, etc.). Was this format productive? Please be specific.

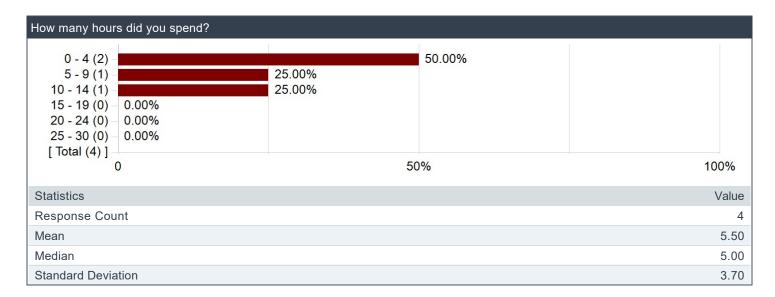
Comments

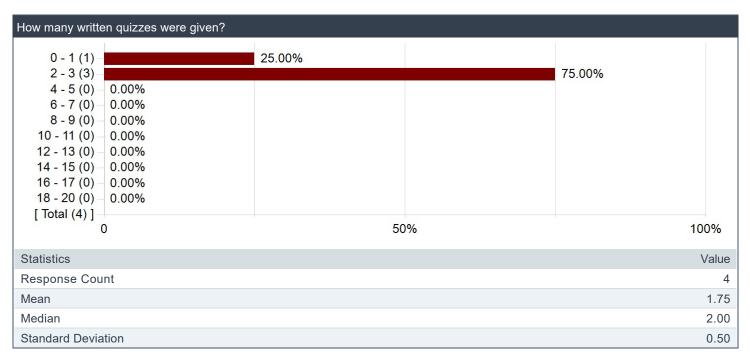
Mixed—presentations, chats with native speakers, worksheets, practice conversations, cultural immersion, lecture. I found the mixed method productive.

The best part of the format of the class was when we would get a chance to use the vocabulary we had learned to talk with one another about a subject. That said, it was frustrating that at times the vocabulary would be introduced and then we'd be expected to immediately use it after having only seen it briefly for the first time. I really appreciated when we would go over the core grammatical elements of the language slowly, and when the teacher would give us time to do that but this did not always happen. When it did I found that it was especially helpful for learning the language.

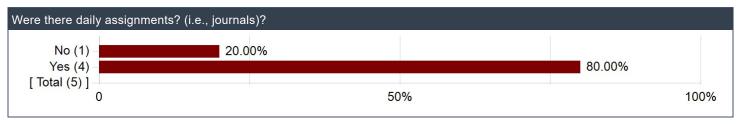
Discussion - very productive



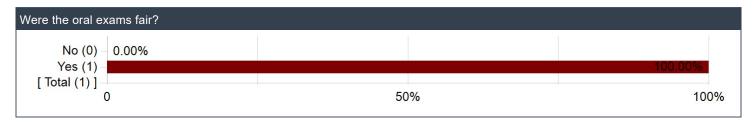




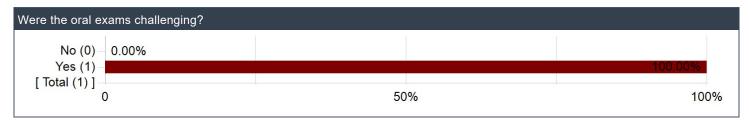
Were there daily assignments? (i.e., journals)?



Were the oral exams fair?



Were the oral exams challenging?



Why? Please be specific.

Comments

In a good way. Helped my vocabulary skills.

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

Comments Cultural materials were available and discussed in class. I had a great time getting Pakistani food at Devon street with our Urdu class! We had lunch at a Pakistani restaurant. It was very very fun:)

Was your instructor organized?

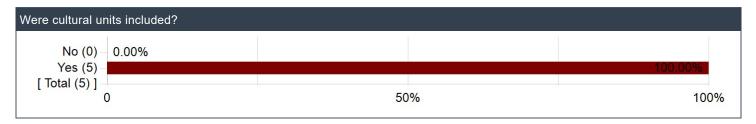
Mean	Median	Very Unorganized	Somewhat Unorganized	Fairly Organized	Somewhat Organized	Very Organized
4.00	4.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	40.00%	40.00%

Explain

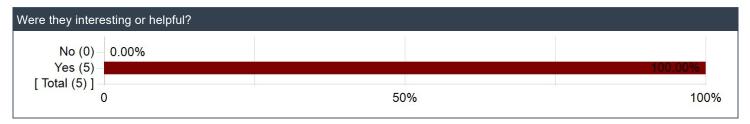
Comments

Our teacher was very conscientious and available to meet at any time and invested in us learning the language, but I felt that overall the pace of the class was way too fast/frantic because we would only practice a bit before moving on to a new thing and there was very much a sense that we had learned it after we had seen it for one day. I think overall we were really encouraged to be able to make very complicated sentences which was challenging because I felt that I was still trying to learn the basics. I really do think it might have been helpful to use a textbook just because that might have resulted in a slower pace. My impression was that we would learn whatever our teacher felt we should learn at whatever point that was, but I think realistically it would have been best to slow down and do more repetition with simpler things before immediately moving on to more and more complicated things

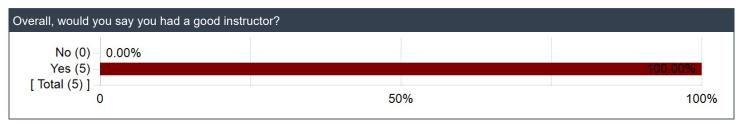
Were cultural units included?



Were they interesting or helpful?



Overall, would you say you had a good instructor?



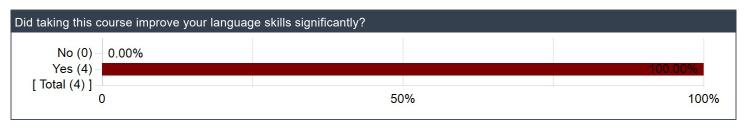
Why?

Comments

Prof.Kureishy prioritized our learning rather than making us worry about grades. We also had a fun and low–stress classroom environment.

I would say that this instructor is passionate and enthusiastic about the material and about helping her students learn Urdu. That said, I think in the future it would be better if the instructor slowed down the pace of the course and helped us practice with more basic sentence construction. Likewise, I think if we were able to spend more than double the time of each unit of vocabulary we would learn the vocabulary better and also feel more comfortable speaking. I thought that it was really cool that this instructor was able to have native speakers zoom with us to practice the language, but what was frustrating to me was that I really didn't feel like I had enough practice using the language to be able to hold a conversation with them, in part because I felt that the class was so fast that I couldn't keep up enough to just really perfect the basics. Perhaps this is a function of the fact that the class only met 2 days a week, but I do think if the class is going to meet only two days a week then we need a lot more active practice working on speaking and internalizing the vocabulary/sentence structure. From my own experience, the time spent on each topic was simply not enough to really feel like i had internalized and understood it.

Did taking this course improve your language skills significantly?



In what way?

Comments

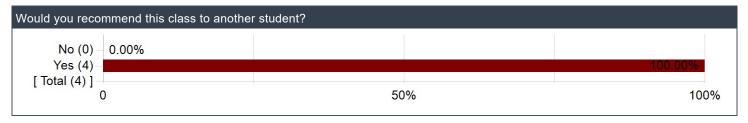
I would say that I'm honestly not sure. While I feel that I have more exposure to more complicated aspects of the language than I did when I started the course, and I'm able to understand more Urdu than I was before I started the course, I nevertheless don't feel confident when speaking in part because I feel like I don't have enough practice with the basics.

How would you improve this course?

Comments

While I already mentioned that the course would be improved if we slowed down and did more practice for each unit (vocab/grammar), I would to reiterate that here. I really feel that the material was difficult enough that if we had spent more time before immediately jumping into something new that my language skills would progress more.

Would you recommend this class to another student?



Why?

Comments

I would say that I would recommend this course if you already previously have a background in the language and/or you feel comfortable with pushing yourself independently to make sure you are grasping everything and practicing enough. I would not recommend this course if you are someone who needs a lot of structure to learn.