HUMA 18000 10 - Poetry and the Human I - Instructor(s): Na'ama Rokem

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

Number Enrolled: **18**
Number of Responses: **13**

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
I learnt how to write an essay in a particular style and how to close read poetry.
learned about poetry throughout history
Understanding how to analyze poems and write about close readings on . I learned how to pay attention to not only structure but delivery of various poems.
How to identify problem, how to craft an analytical argument, the role line and accent plays in poetry.
Arguing about poetic texts based on specific observations about them; contributing valuable observations and potential arguments to class discussions; understanding how formal features of poetry relate to the substance
Enhanced ability to read poems critically, write an effective close reading of a poem, increasing the literature and perspectives I had been exposed to
How to do close readings of poetry and delve into the minutiae of poems to make arguments about them.
Translated Poems, Illiad, Song of Songs, Popol Vuh
The course was very discussion heavy, both on Canvas and in class. It definitely helped me develop my writing skills for English papers.
I learned how to take a step back and think about every element of a poem – even those that seem exceedingly simple. We also spent a lot of time looking at translations, the purpose of translations, and the effect translation can have on a piece.

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

Comments
Seminars were discussion–based, and assignments were larger essays and discussion posts. Discussion posts were usually every week, and very helpful to recap the poems.
discussions were sometimes productive, sometimes less so
Seminars based and discussion questions before every class twice a week. Pretty relaxed though
Discussions were nice, nothing special.
The readings introduced me to various types of poetry and literature on poetry; class discussions sparked many new ideas about that I could not come up with independently; the papers along with the writing seminars stimulated me to ground my arguments closely on evidence from texts; our work at the Smart Museum inspired us to consider what poetry means to us in the modern world.
The class discussions were very informative and allowed me to see what my classmates, teacher, and experts had seen in the body of work.
The class discussions themselves were great (if tangential) and super interactive. The writing seminars were also helpful guides when it came to writing our papers.
discussions were very helpful in reinforcing material learned from readings!
Discussions are by far the most helpful thing to understanding the texts and participating in class.
In–class discussions were helpful in unpacking some of the more complex readings. Discussion posts were also a nice way of reflecting individually on a piece.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.23	5.00	0.00%	7.69%	15.38%	23.08%	53.85%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.38	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	46.15%	46.15%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.92	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	30.77%	46.15%	23.08%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	3.69	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	53.85%	23.08%	23.08%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.15	4.00	0.00%	7.69%	15.38%	30.77%	46.15%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.38	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	46.15%	46.15%
I felt respected in this class.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	30.77%	61.54%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.25	4.50	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	33.33%	50.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I like the structure of the course: good selection of works.
it's definitely a great option to fulfill the hum requirement!

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
The discussions we had in class.
guiding questions for discussion
The teacher had interesting questions that prompted our interests about the class and challenged our ideas.
Definitely the more lecture–style moments of the class. I remember writing out poetic tensions in the Illiad on the whiteboard and exploring the intersection between them being one of the highligts.
Class discussions, which unfolded at a reasonable pace
She was very well–versed with the poetry and led the discussions with very relevant and important themes; she repeatedly connected poems we'd read all throughout the quarter and that was really helpful.
The discussions were definitely student–led, with Professor Rokem directing what we should be focusing on. Professor Rokem is very understanding and a great person, but this is definitely a course where your success relies on you as an individual.
Professor Rokem was really good at cultivating a positive, productive class culture. She also always had insightful comments and thoughts on the pieces we were reading.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
more group work in the beginning of the course to help the atmosphere of the class
earlier posted discussion questions
I think more work around class discussions would be nice. I felt at times that the questions that were being asked weren't things the students could actively engage with and discuss and I think it would help if some broader discussion topic was selected, where students can each give their opinions on all aspects of the assigned readings, rather than solely focusing on form and structure for the whole class, for example.
Professor Rokem takes a bit of a backseat in this class, which I think actually was beneficial to this specific class. When she did interject, it sometimes derailed the conversation. I think taking more of a guiding role, and allowing the students to come to their own conclusions would be better (Professor Rokem does this often, but not always). I also think the discussions would be GREATLY improved by establishing a popcorn/Harkness style discussion that does not rely on raised hands.
She sometimes didn't put up discussion posts until very soon before class, which made it harder to get as many inputs on the poems as possible.
Feedback for the essays could definitely be more specific and in a timely manner
I wish there were some type of written record of key ideas/takeaways Professor Rokem wanted us to walk away with after each class. I personally found it hard at times to take notes while simultaneously participating in the discussion.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46.15%	53.85%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.08	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	53.85%	23.08%	7.69%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.42	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	41.67%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.38	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	46.15%	46.15%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.46	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	38.46%	53.85%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.31	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	38.46%	46.15%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.23	5.00	0.00%	7.69%	15.38%	23.08%	53.85%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.38	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	46.15%	46.15%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	23.08%	69.23%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.38	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	30.77%	53.85%	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
Clara Mitchell; writing seminars were helpful but a very different way in which I'd written before – we were expected to write according to these, rather than to write a good essay overall.
Clara Mitchell: easily the most helpful feedback I've gotten. I feel like the vast majority of my learning and success stemmed from the sessions lead by Ms. Mitchell. She was fantastic!
Clara Mitchell
Ms. Mitchell, she was great in helping me make my essays better!
Clara was our writing TA – she's always available to help and a great resource when writing papers for the class! Her feedback is super helpful but the writing seminars were sometimes a bit disorganized.
Clara Mitchell – She walked us through how to write a college–level essay and provided feedback on our writing. The only flaw with the writing seminar schedule was that we were asked to reflect on our essays two days after submitting them.

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	0.00%	71.43%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	85.71%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.29	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	42.86%	42.86%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	71.43%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	28.57%	71.43%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	42.86%	57.14%	0.00%

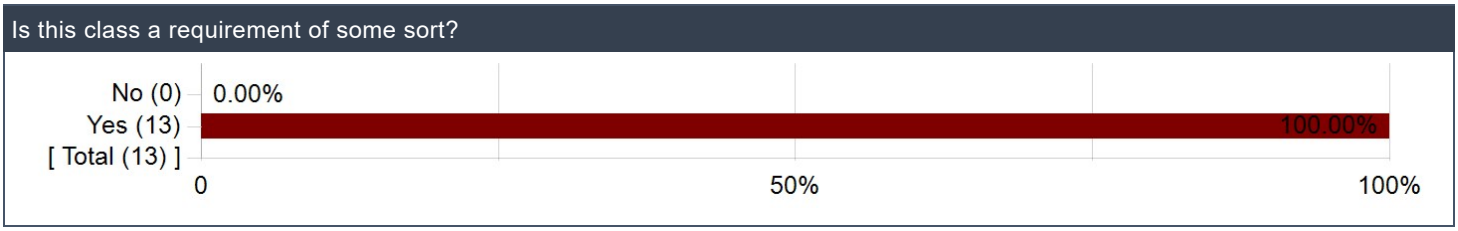
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	4.29	5.00	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%	30.00%
Library Sessions	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	60.00%	10.00%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	4.00	4.00	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	41.67%	33.33%	0.00%

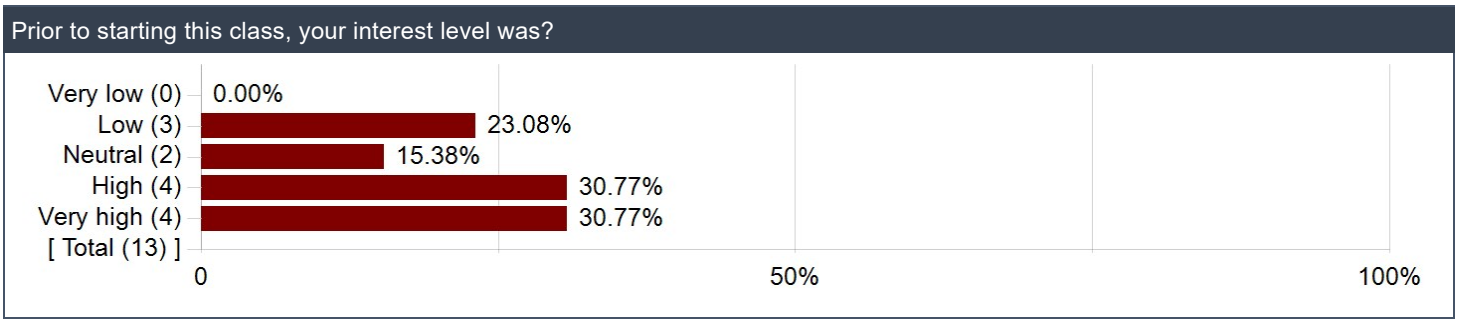
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
n/a
Artist Talk (Bethany Collins); group work at the Smart Museum; visit to Special Collections; poem recitation

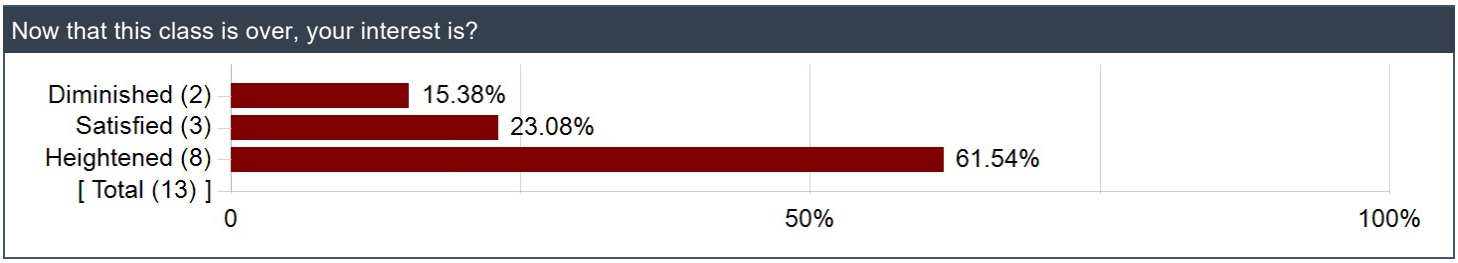
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



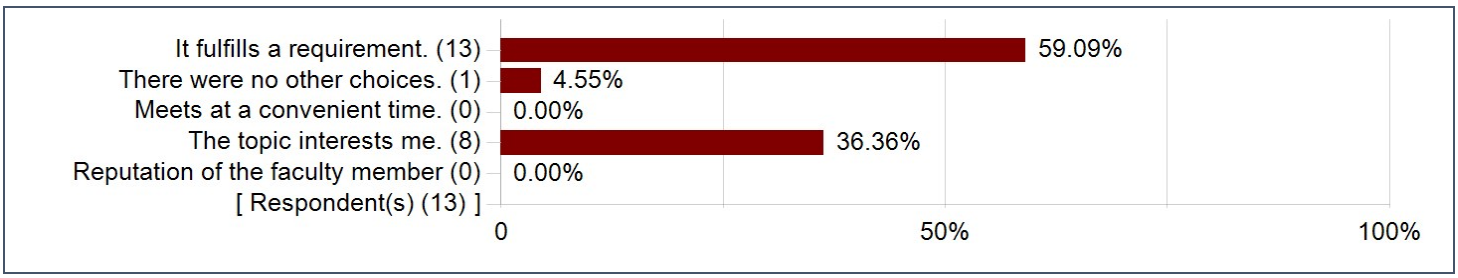
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



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?

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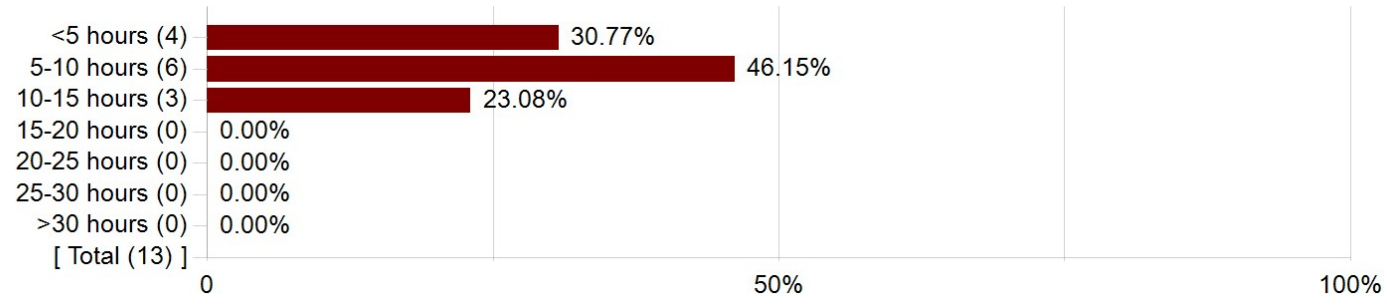

What proportion of classes did you attend?

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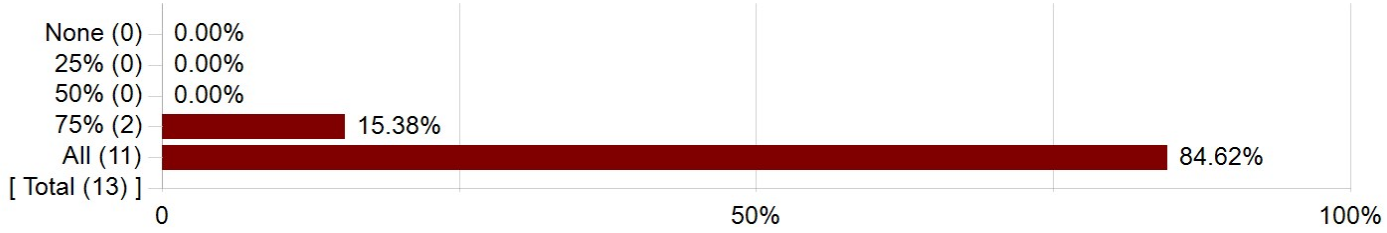

Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
Hard to write essays in a different style.
even with some prior poetry knowledge, this course covered new topics. difficulty is not correlated with background.
very understanding amount of work, shorter readings but closer analyzations, read before class, relatively relaxed. Favorite class of the year
I had a substantial background, and this course was quite easy to me.
As a Chinese student interested in Chinese poetry, I have little experience reading poetry from other cultures; nevertheless, this course is a great platform to explore them encouraging everyone to succeed.
It was a very welcoming class even though I'd never done poetry before, so it got easier and easier as the quarter progressed.
I had some previous experience analyzing poetry, but this is a great course for beginners and a really good hum class!
I had read some poetry in high school, and this was definitely a step up in terms of analysis and writing expectations. The poems themselves were not too difficult to grasp, but I was challenged to break away from some of the writing habits I relied on in high school.