



HIND 10100 1, HIND 10100 1 - First-Year Hindi I - Instructor(s): Jason Grunebaum

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

Number Enrolled: **14**

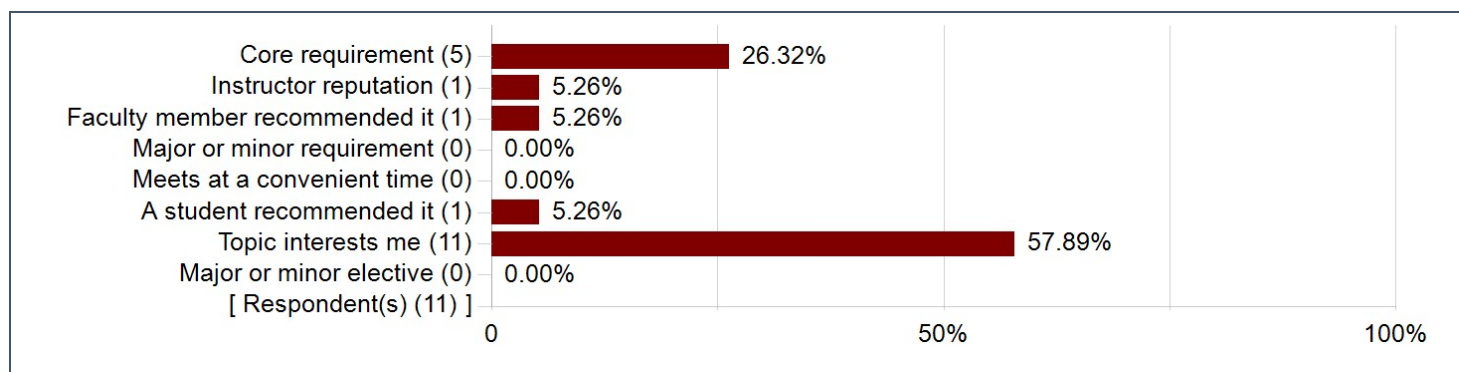
Number of Responses: **11**

Report Comments

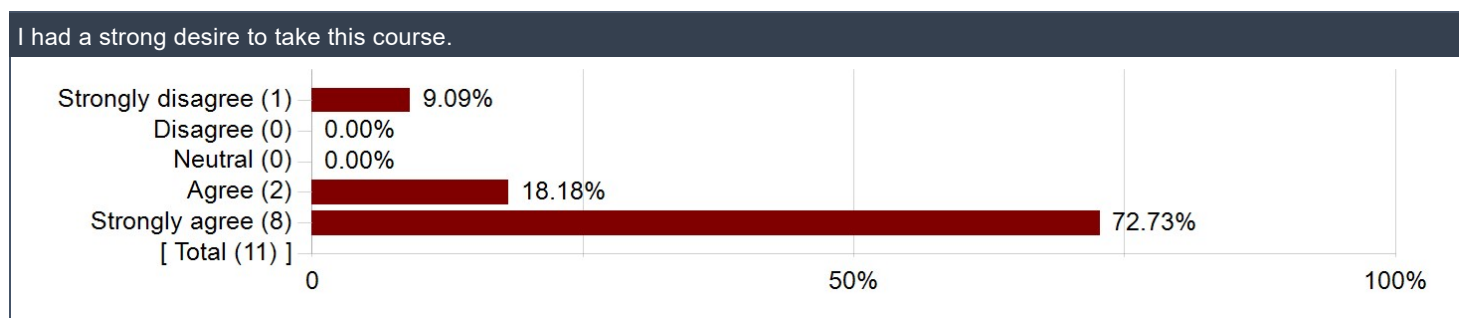
Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Friday, February 2, 2024**

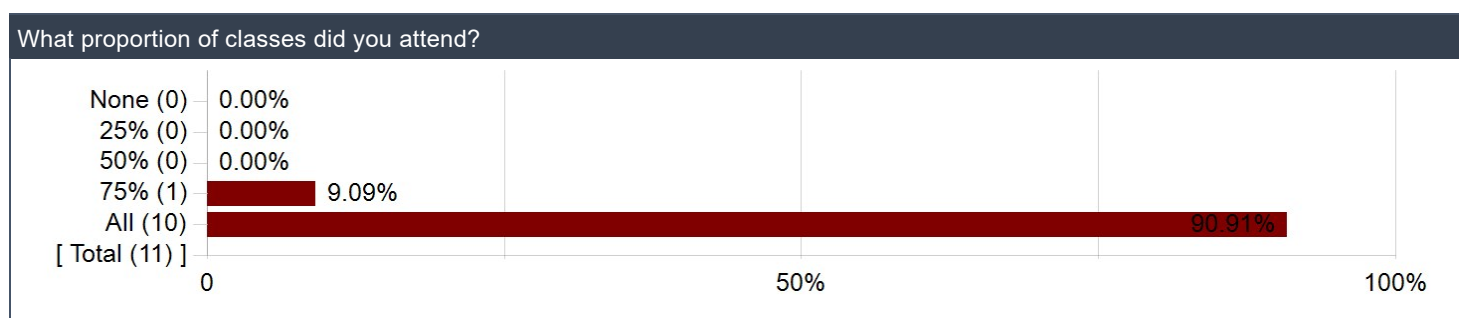
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



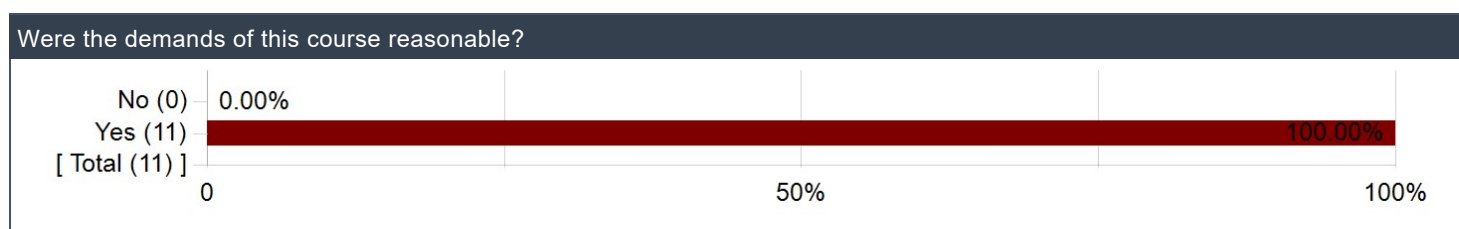
I had a strong desire to take this course.



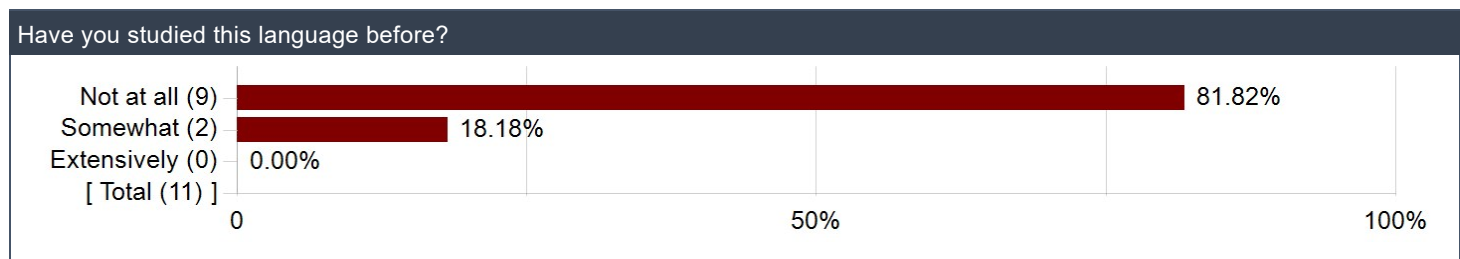
What proportion of classes did you attend?



Were the demands of this course reasonable?



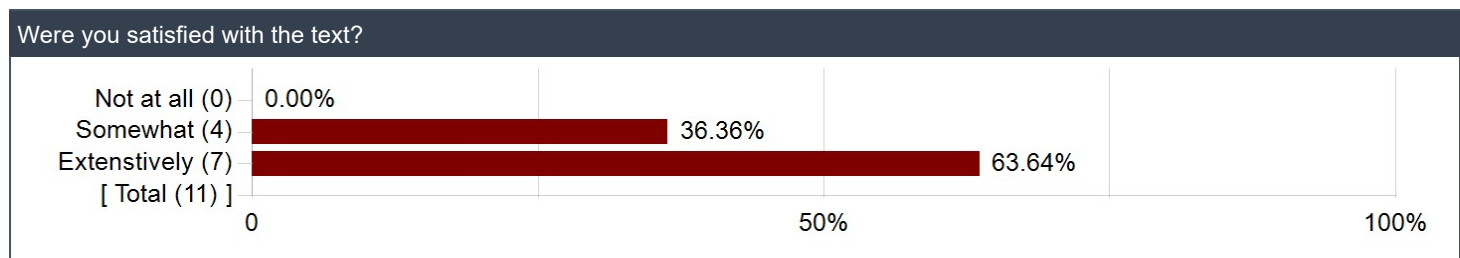
Have you studied this language before?



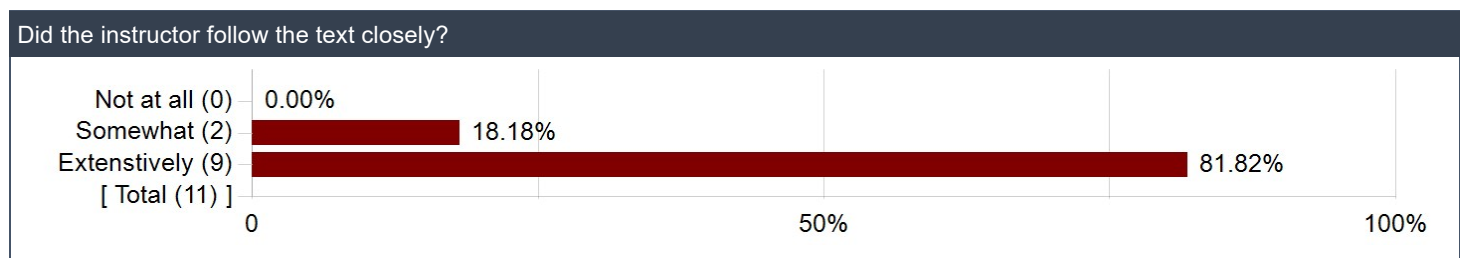
Rate the extent to which different aspects of the language were stressed:

	Mean	Median	Not At All	A Little	Some	A Lot	Extremely	Vigorously
Speaking	4.18	4.00	9.09%	0.00%	18.18%	27.27%	27.27%	18.18%
Spelling	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	18.18%	72.73%	0.00%
Reading	4.55	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	45.45%	27.27%	18.18%
Writing	5.09	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	27.27%	36.36%	36.36%
Grammar	5.27	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	36.36%	45.45%
Vocabulary	4.64	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	36.36%	9.09%	36.36%

Were you satisfied with the text?



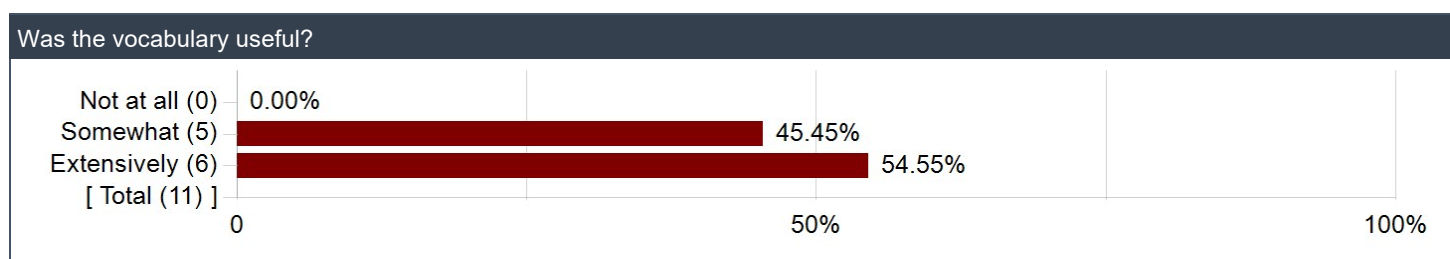
Did the instructor follow the text closely?



Explain:

Comments
Usha Jain's book was the basic structure of our class with every single homework assignment being straight out of the book
We used the exercises at the back of each chapter, but the instructor's explanation of the concepts was typically clearer than the book's.
Lowkey wish we had gone at a faster pace, was very hard to construct sentences that were meaningful till later in the quarter, wish we did more reading + listening comprehension that put us out of our depth a little because I find that's how I learn best
Usha Jain Grammar + other resources
textbook was good
The Hindi Grammar book by Usha Jain was not central to class time, but was a hugely helpful tool Prof. Grunebaum used to reinforce concepts, and assign homework and vocabulary terms.
Jason had amazing judgement of when to stick to the text and when to try something new, all in the interest of maximizing learning
The text book is not always well scanned so it can be a challenge to read.

Was the vocabulary useful?

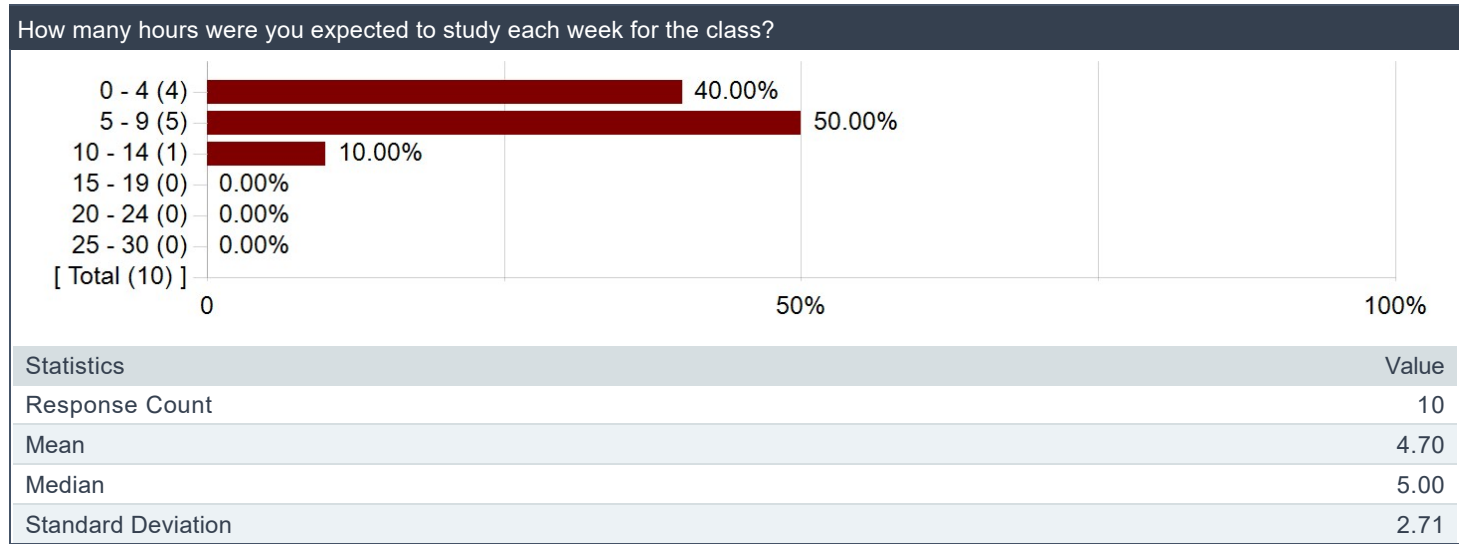


Why?

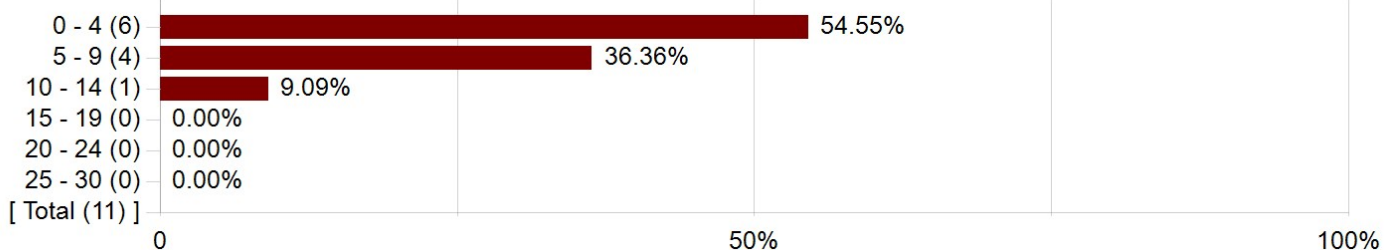
Comments
It was definitely a lot of vocab at the beginning but it was nice to be able to draw on a lot of words when we were learning grammar
The vocabulary we learned felt a bit random at the start, but as we've pieced grammar concepts together it's feeling more sequential.
Followed what we had to know in class and for test/quizzes. Vocabulary was commonly used words as well.
Thought that the chapter vocabularies were well structured
Beginner vocab, not specialized, ok for now.
vocab was relevant
The vocabulary was very useful and covered concepts relevant to/contextualized each grammar concept. For example, when we were learning commands, it was useful to learn it alongside vocabulary that would help with asking for foods/ordering at a store or market.
wish the vocab list had been refocused according to word frequency

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

Comments
monday and friday were led by TAs, quizzes on tuesdays, and TWTh were taught by Jason. It was nice to have a schedule like this every week to keep us on track
Lectures, Homework, Recorded Videos
Lecture three days a week, discussion two days a week, pretty productive, discussion TAs were Ws
3 days with instructor (50 min), a 2 days with TAs (also 50min). The days with the instructor were the most productive. It's been more of a challenge for the TA to find their rythm and ways of working. not always knowing where we are in our learning. Things got better towards the end of the term, but there is still opportunity to rethink our Monday and Friday sessions to be more productive, despite the rather large size of the class.
professor explains grammar in English, students ask questions in English, do exercises from textbook, always translating things into english, occasionally dialogues and group activities, but always class discussion is in english
The class used a flipped-classroom format, with readings and videos done outside of class, so that class time could focus on reading, writing, and speaking exercises in addition to review of grammar concepts. This was very helpful.
3 days a week with Jason and 2 days a week with the TAs. this was productive because we'd learn new concepts with Jason and get to reinforce them with the TAs, and were also held accountable to keep Hindi top of mind all week.
A lot of speaking practice. It was a productive format. Class times are a little short so it can feel difficult for every student to have time to speak frequently.
very productive

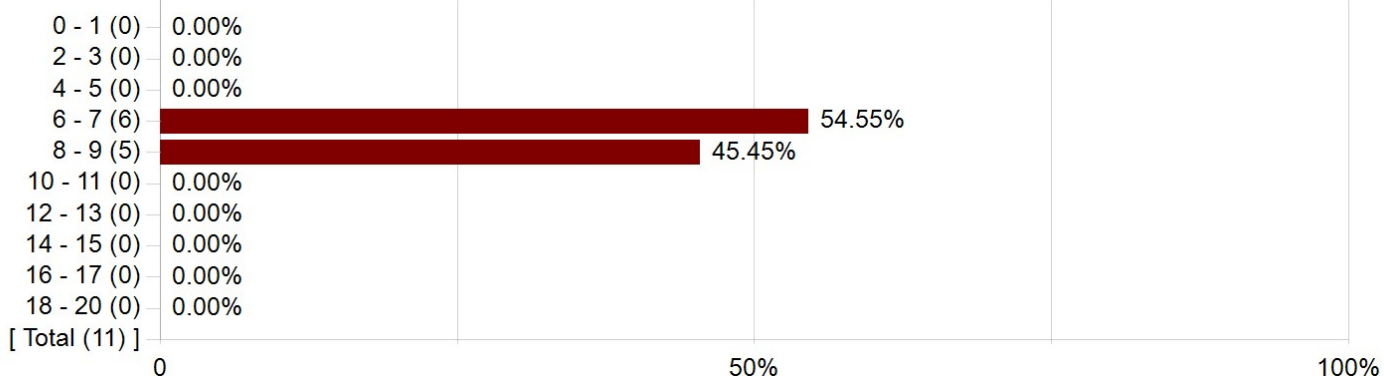


How many hours did you spend?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	4.36
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	2.98

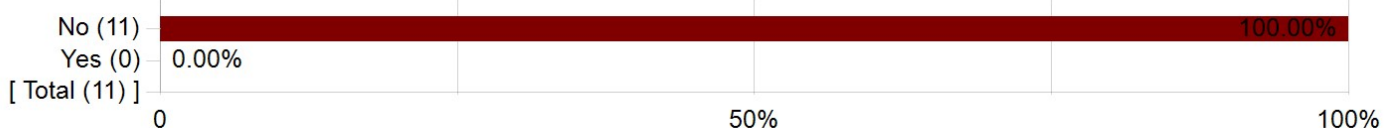
How many written quizzes were given?



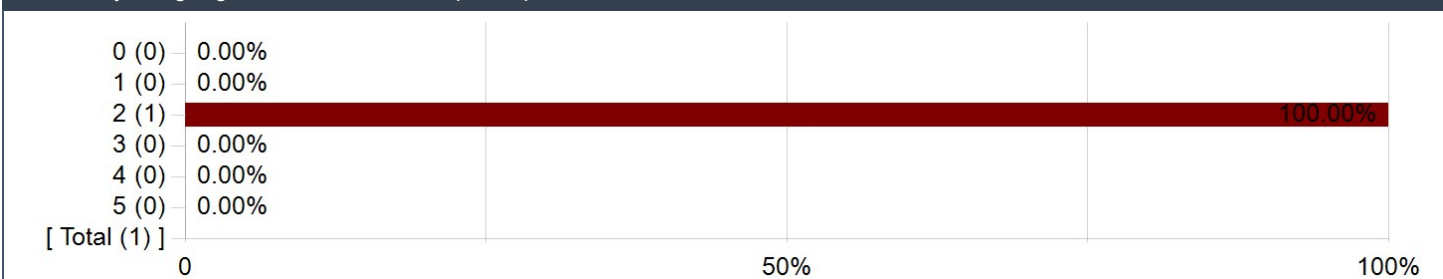
Statistics	Value
Response Count	11
Mean	7.36
Median	7.00
Standard Deviation	1.12

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

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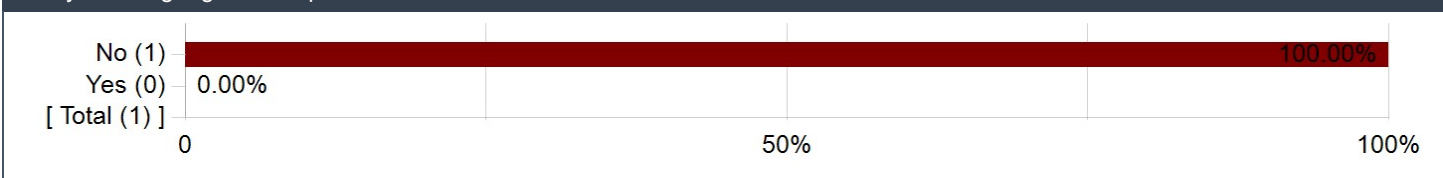
How many Language Lab hours were required per week?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	1
Mean	2.00
Median	2.00
Standard Deviation	N/A

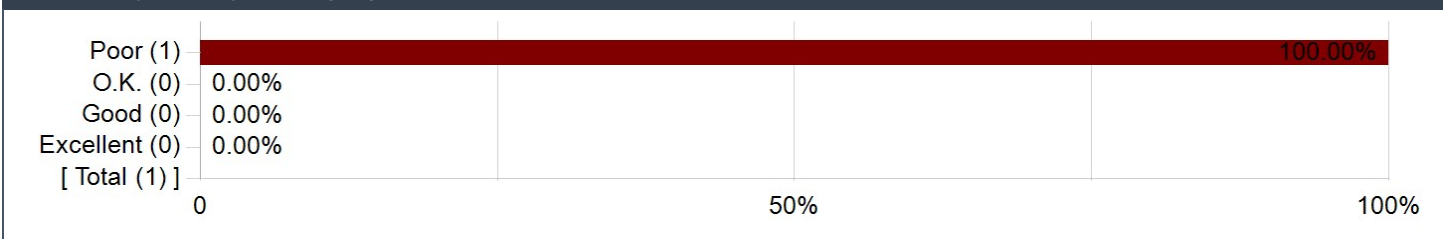
Was your Language Lab experience useful?

Was your Language Lab experience useful?



How would you rate your Language Lab experience?

How would you rate your Language Lab experience?



Why? Please be specific

Comments

TA's do not understand / were not trained in Hindi grammar so they don't help with that – that would be fine if they helped us with speaking, but they conduct their sessions entirely in English and don't even help with that

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

Comments

I wish! We did not do this.

no

N/A

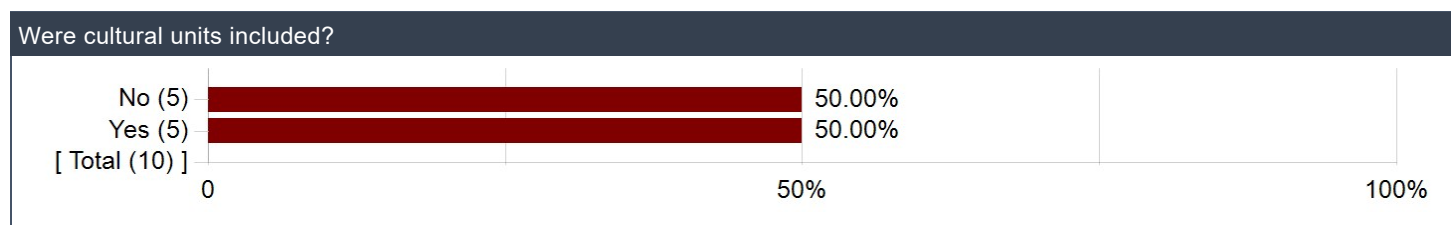
Was your instructor organized?

Mean	Median	Very Unorganized	Somewhat Unorganized	Fairly Organized	Somewhat Organized	Very Organized
4.55	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	27.27%	63.64%

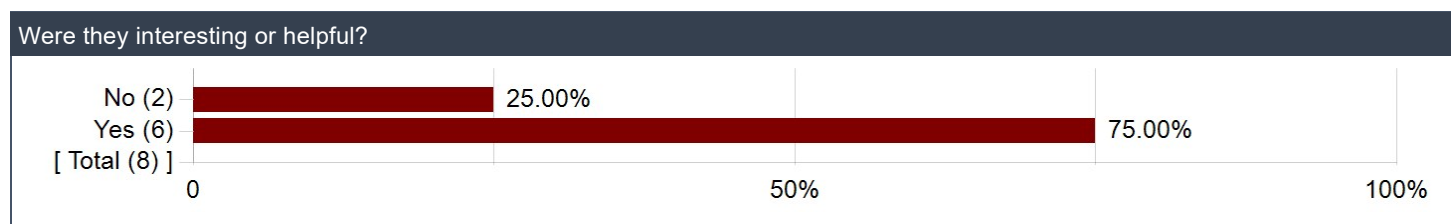
Explain

Comments
it was pretty regimented, except the Canvas page was kind of a mess
Sometimes it was unclear what material would be quizzed or tested.
Followed text closely, came to class prepared
Instructor is very organized, very pointed in his explanations, class plan. Sessions are intense and productive. Less so with TAs who did not always have a clear plan.
Prof Grunebaum followed a weekly schedule by topic for grammar concepts, and stuck to it pretty closely. Homework was due on the same day every week, which was very useful too.
I feel like the TAs might have needed better instruction from him just to know what to teach and when.

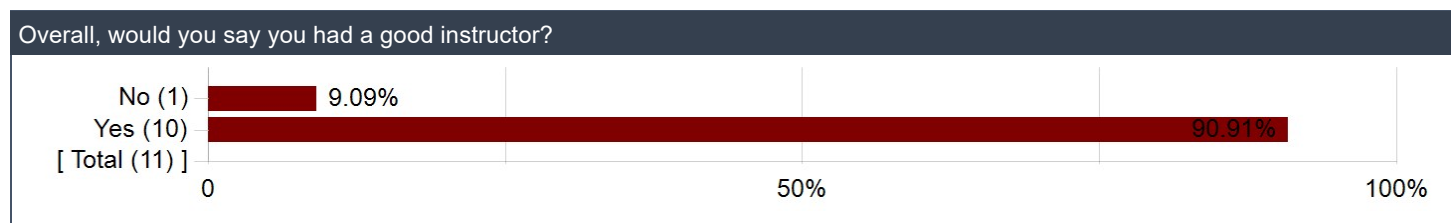
Were cultural units included?



Were they interesting or helpful?



Overall, would you say you had a good instructor?



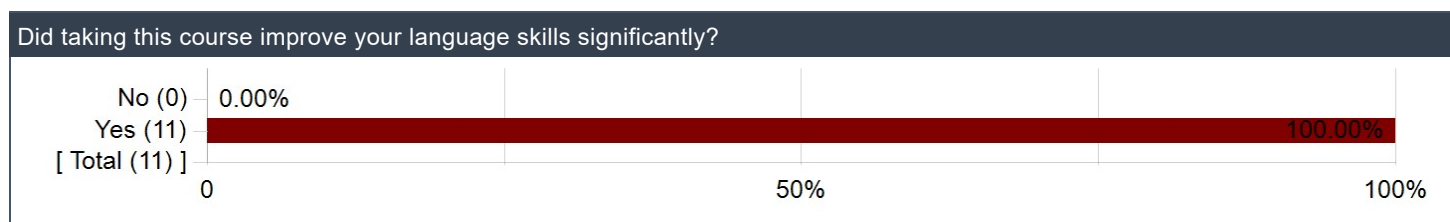
Why?

Comments
He was amazing at explaining new concepts from the ground up, and really cared about our learning
Prof. Grunebaum is engaging as an instructor and extremely well qualified.
Knowledgeable, good at answering questions
The Instructor has a wonderful way of explaining the grammar and layering our learning at a high pace. He clearly knows what works well with beginners/english speakers, and he has created a positive atmosphere in class. He also has an incredible amount of energy and passion for his topic, even though he has clearly been teaching it for a long, long time. I would suggest that he slow down his elocution however, and sometimes sit down. He often speaks in English and in Hindi faster than my brain is able to compute. I freeze up sometimes trying to speak or trying to understand the answer to a question. Slowing down would help me relax and learn more efficiently without performance anxiety. It should be noted that he is incredibly responsive over email, which is so unusual and helpful! This said, I don't always find him that approachable, he seems to be very busy, which is fine, but our TAs are not really grammatically trained so they are not able to answer questions in the way only he can. PS. The pronunciation feedback on our Canvas recordings is excellent.
Prof is good at explaining grammar, but the lack of use of target language inhibits learning so much that I cannot say yes. Class is so english focused, I get the sense most in the class would struggle to have a basic conversation in spoken Hindi. I have taken Arabic / Chinese coursework and in both of those language of instruction was target language FROM DAY ONE. We could have the grammar videos in English and then have class be entirely in Hindi, and I think there would be much better results.
Prof Grunebaum made a very comfortable learning environment. This is imperative to level 1 language courses, where everyone is at square one and you're essentially a toddler in terms of language skills and have to learn the alphabet, etc. From the very first day in the class, I felt like I was in a healthy space to make mistakes and learn from them.
Jason is great; he was always very energetic and understanding.
Jason cares a lot, knows his stuff, and brings good energy to class.
He was such a good teacher and I'm excited to continue taking Hindi in the winter.

Please provide your TA's name. Did the TA answer your questions fully and clearly?

Comments
Kanika Singh Sisodia — she was wonderful, providing insight into more vernacular and practical usages of Hindi.
Anushka Bansal and Kanika Singh Sisodia
Kanika Singh Sisodia and Anushka Bansal. Both of them were helpful, but especially Anushka.
Anushka Bansal & Kanika Singh Sisodia
Kanika + Anushka, Kanika is so funny W, Anushka answers all questions, super helpful
Anushka Bansal and Kanika Singh Sisodia
Anushka: not really Kanika: not really – TAS are not trained in grammar which should be required for this class. TAs also do not actually speak Hindi with us.
Kanika Sisodia and Anushka Bansal – they were both fantastic! Both TAs were willing to help with anything we wanted, taught us about cultural concepts, and made a very safe/inclusive learning environment.
Kanika and Anuska, and yes
Anushka Bansal and Kanika Singh Sisodia. Yes the TAs were both very helpful.
Yes, both TAs

Did taking this course improve your language skills significantly?



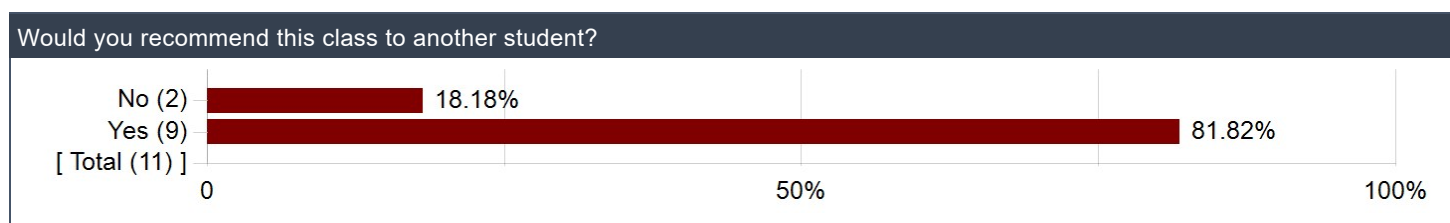
In what way?

Comments
I can read and write Devanagari, and I have a rudimentary grasp on hindi
I am now fairly literate in reading and writing hindi.
Learned a lot of the basics. Can form some sentences
Know some Hindi: familiar with imperatives, present tense, and present progressive tense + direct objects and postpositions, able to construct some about me sentences, understand extremely basic conversation.
I am developing a strong grammatical foundation and some vocabulary. I lack confidence in speaking.
Helped me with grammar but I had to put in a lot of work outside class to actually be able to speak.
Learning a language is itself a wonderful skill, but learning a new script is especially eye-opening in terms of linguistic knowledge.
I had no idea I'd be able to have simple conversations in only a single quarter... I'd been learning Latin for 5 years in high school and can barely come up with a sentence now, but that's certainly not the case with Hindi!
Vocabulary. Speaking comfort.

How would you improve this course?

Comments
i don't think I can
I feel that phrases of conversational importance were left out in favor of learning grammar first, and I wish that balance was different.
More rigorous
I think the TA sessions need a bit of a rethink, as much as I appreciate the support, especially as it's quite demanding to come 5 days a week. Both TAs are wonderful humanly speaking but what we do has felt at times hit or miss, a bit random, and not necessarily productive or augmentative. Often they ask what we are doing or have done in class, which takes time away from actual work. Clearer learning goals and tasks sustained over several weeks would help. Ex. learn to count to 100, learning the days of week and months, or telling time, or going to the doctor, giving and receiving directions, etc. Because they are not able to answer many grammar questions that arise, focusing on culture and spoken language would be more helpful. The reading exercises are ok but too methodologically similar to what we do during the rest of the week, and small group work is not effective versus time interacting with a native speaker, which is the whole point of having TAs. I suggest we learn Hindi songs and poems by heart and really focus on conversation practice — which I know is hard in a large group. At one point, we watched a part of a movie and unpacked scenes and vocabulary, which was great. More of that please! Perhaps we can try and listen to a podcast or read the news? It's really helpful to totally switch learning methods. Also, I wish the course were hybrid so we could sometimes join on-line, given the intensity of the schedule.
More use of target language!!! from day one! less focus on translation into english, both in class and in homework.
Nothing! it was great!
a bit more transparency on what it takes to earn an A
Four days a week, one hour and fifteen minutes each.
less mandatory vocab, more speaking homeworks

Would you recommend this class to another student?



Why?

Comments
it was super fulfilling to see how far I've grown every week
Other language courses at UChicago would likely result in a bigger gain of applicable skills.
If you're interested and have no knowledge, definitely a good place to start, lowkey big time commitment to go to class everyday, so don't take if you're unwilling to put that time in
The professor is excellent and it's really possible to build a good foundation.
Hindi is not used at all unless we are doing drills.
This class is challenging, but very rewarding in terms of the amount of content covered in just nine weeks. By the end of the course, you have a working grasp of basic Hindi.
Jason's great!
Good instructor, interesting topic.