



HUMA 12300 2 - Human Being and Citizen I - Instructor(s): Claudia Hogg-Blake

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

Number Enrolled: **18**

Number of Responses: **16**

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
Writing essays at the university level
Talked a lot about the meaning of love within the context of various texts. I also learned the fundamentals of writing a paper in college.
The most important topics that were covered in this course include the nature of love, justice, citizenship, and war.
I learned to make strong arguments about texts, mainly in discussions but also in papers.
I feel like this course has definitely fostered more personal reflection about what it means to be human, and I'm glad I've been able to think about the human experience in these ways. On a technical level, I feel like I've gained skills in communicating my ideas succinctly through writing, which is something I've struggled with in the past.
I learned how to analyze text in ways apart from the obvious and use that information in papers.
– I learned a lot about the content and broader ideas of various philosophical texts throughout history.
I learned how to effectively write in an academic manner.
I learned how to more effectively construct an argument based on a text, grounding it with textual evidence and backing it up with my own ideas. This course also taught me how to read closely to extract interesting parts of a text, while keeping in mind its overarching themes. My ability to read a considerable amount in a short time period also improved during this course.
I find that a large part of this course is 1) being able to learn how to write structured, clear essays by crafting an argument with clarity and 2) being able to pick up major themes and look for the most important details when reading texts.
How to read texts effectively and efficiently; how to extract main ideas from the text; how to form coherent arguments
How to closely read course texts, write a comparative essay, writing at the college level, evaluating flaws with my own writing and commenting on the writing of my peers.
In this course, I feel like I've gained very valuable and applicable knowledge on analyzing literary texts and writing academic papers.
How to think analytically when reading different texts

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

Comments
Discussions allowed me hear a wide variety of interpretations of the text from other students and the professor
Class discussions were helpful. I feel like writing a short discussion post before every class was helpful for class participation.
The small-group and class discussions contributed most to my learning by allowing me to share ideas with other students/the instructor and build upon my initial understanding of certain texts. The discussion post assignments also contributed to my learning by causing me to reflect on and analyze a certain aspect of a text in order to enhance my understanding and analytical skills.
The discussion comments about the reading that we submitted before class on Canvas were a great tool to be prepared for class discussion and in the end for paper ideas.
The discussion posts really force me to read the texts critically and make sure that I REALLY understand what the text is saying before discussion, which I appreciate. I think the in-class discussions are also really illuminating because my classmates always have fascinating things to say, and I like hearing their thoughts.
This course helped me improve my writing skills.
– in-class discussions helped us understand ideas in the text and practice arguing interpretations, essays challenged us to do that in a well-defined format
The discussions were very interesting and helped gain deeper insight into the texts, which were then useful for essays. The discussion posts and essays helped teach and later reinforce the ability to write in an academic standard.
Class discussions (and discussion prompts we answered beforehand) helped guide my understanding of the texts we read and synthesize my ideas. I found it beneficial to hear others' perspectives on the material for the class. Moreover, it was interesting to make cross-text connections, both during class discussions and for paper assignments.
The writing seminars are definitely helpful for refining essays, especially if one has full drafts — the instructors give helpful feedback that is applicable to all essays that one will write, so I was able to get a grasp for the types of general organizational mistakes I would make when usually writing essays. Additionally, by breaking down the text into separate themes and seeing where the class discussions go, I was able to better guide my reading as the quarter progressed so that I would pay the most energy towards reading topics or passages that hold the most important points.
Lectures were largely discussion-based and featured class-wide discussion as well as small group discussions. There were also bi-weekly discussion comment assignments and 3 essays throughout the quarter, as well as three writing seminars. The writing seminars were very helpful for essay-writing because we used them to discuss two of our essay drafts, and the in-class discussions contributed to my understanding of the texts and helped me generate ideas for the essays. The discussion comments were always written prior to discussing a text in class.
Because our class is relatively small, our discussion sections have been very engaging and interesting. Our writing seminars have been useful in teaching us how to format papers and construct arguments at an elevated level.
Discussions during class were the most beneficial

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	3.94	4.00	0.00%	6.25%	6.25%	75.00%	12.50%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.38	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	62.50%	37.50%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	6.25%	0.00%	81.25%	12.50%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.19	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	81.25%	18.75%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.31	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	68.75%	31.25%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	6.25%	62.50%	31.25%
I felt respected in this class.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Professor gave very good feedback on my essay
The course is called "Human Being and Citizen" and I was interested in it to explore various topics related to justice, humanity, society, etc. Yet, we spent most if not all our time talking about love. This is not really an issue with the teacher, but more so with the department that creates the curriculum. I wish more themes/topics were covered inside the class other than the meaning of love. Be prepared to do daily discussion posts (100–300) words that are graded on completion. I found those to be really helpful in giving me ideas for class participation.
The course was very engaging.
I would recommend this class to those who are looking for an intellectually stimulating but not absurdly difficult HUM class. It was a friendly environment but definitely not the priority of my course load.

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
Daily discussion posts.
The aspect that contributed most was the instructor's ability to moderate a class discussion by asking students guiding questions about a text and pointing out key ideas or details in a certain part of a text.
Her interaction in class discussion were particularly helpful to develop ideas that would later help when writing papers.
I like the way the instructor facilitates discussion. Unlike other teachers I've had in the past, she isn't trying to keep us to a strict interpretation/set of points about the text. I feel like she guides the discussion with a more gentle hand and allows us to say what we want to about the text.
The discussions really helped me understand the texts further.
After each person said something, she would talk for a bit and add on to / clarify / pose a question in relation to their point which helped boost my engagement with every person's opinion.
Feedback on writing assignments and discussions.
I found class discussions to be engaging and beneficial and thought the professor set us up for fruitful conversation where we were encouraged to build on each other's ideas over merely stating something new, which was unrelated to the current discussion.
I think that Dr. Hogg–Blake's ability to facilitate and build upon the ideas of each student allows for conversations to build on ideas effectively, and ideas from the class were consolidated well as discussions progressed. Her follow–up questions during class are also helpful in guiding the discussion forward to other central topics for the text that we are reading, and she also gives helpful background information that is useful for understanding the context of the story.
My instructor listens carefully to the arguments of the students, and points out if the student's arguments are not relevant to the text.
Claudia guided our thoughts and comments in discussion well. She didn't do large lectures on the texts or their background, but instead prompted us to think about certain concepts and themes, which was helpful for writing assignments.
Professor Hogg–Blake's teaching style is a really good balance of explaining her own interpretation and knowledge of the works we read, and encouraging us to discuss and analyze our interpretations. She's been an amazing instructor and I've really enjoyed being in her class.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Maybe speak more on how to interpret the text from an expert's perspective instead of letting the students say everything for the vast majority of the class
More in-class writing instruction, which is probably more of an issue with the writing seminars.
I think the instructor's teaching was great and do not have any particular suggestions about modifications.
I think she could be a little stricter when it comes to class discussions in terms of how textually grounded and relevant people's comments are. They sometimes got too interpretative and lost sight of the actual text.
I think the most helpful parts of the course for me were the small group discussions, so maybe more of these!
Everything was good.
I think that somehow encouraging organic conversation where people are super engaged would be the thing that boosts the class to the next level. Like making fun assignments and stuff like that.
Provide even more feedback on discussion posts.
I found it beneficial when the professor synthesized the ideas brought up in our class discussions on the board and would have liked for this to have been done more.
It is fine the way it is currently.
Sometimes the prompts for writing assignments were vague, and she provided further clarification in class that would have been helpful to have when starting the assignment in the first place.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.53	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46.67%	53.33%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	6.67%	26.67%	46.67%	20.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.73	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	26.67%	73.33%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	6.67%	26.67%	66.67%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.53	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46.67%	53.33%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.53	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46.67%	53.33%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	6.67%	33.33%	53.33%	6.67%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	6.67%	0.00%	20.00%	73.33%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.53	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	6.67%	33.33%	60.00%	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
Writing instructor for this course: Rose Malloy. Aspects that contributed most include providing detailed information about the essay writing process and providing individual feedback and suggestions on students' essays.
Rose Malloy. I appreciated learning about how to move on from a five paragraph essay and implementing evidence and reasoning to paragraph and essay-level claims. I do wish we were provided more with the creative liberty such an outline can provide in the evaluation of our work.
Rose Malloy, the writing specialist

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	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.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	33.33%	33.33%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	3.67	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%	0.00%

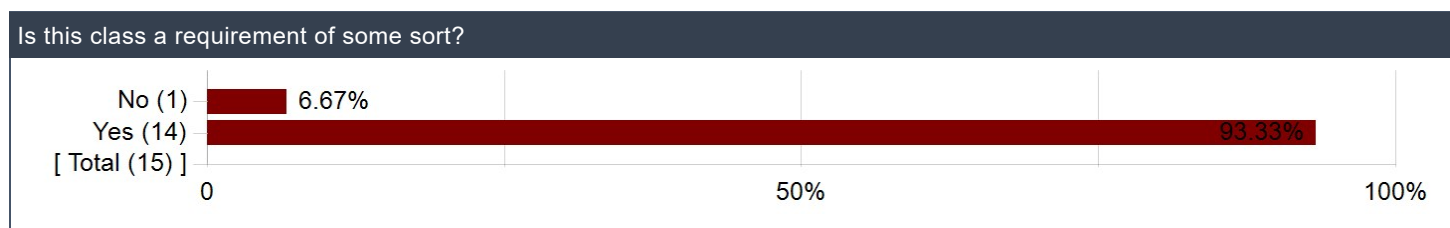
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	2.80	3.00	7.69%	7.69%	7.69%	15.38%	0.00%	61.54%
Library Sessions	3.00	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	0.00%	0.00%	91.67%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	4.29	4.50	0.00%	7.14%	7.14%	35.71%	50.00%	0.00%

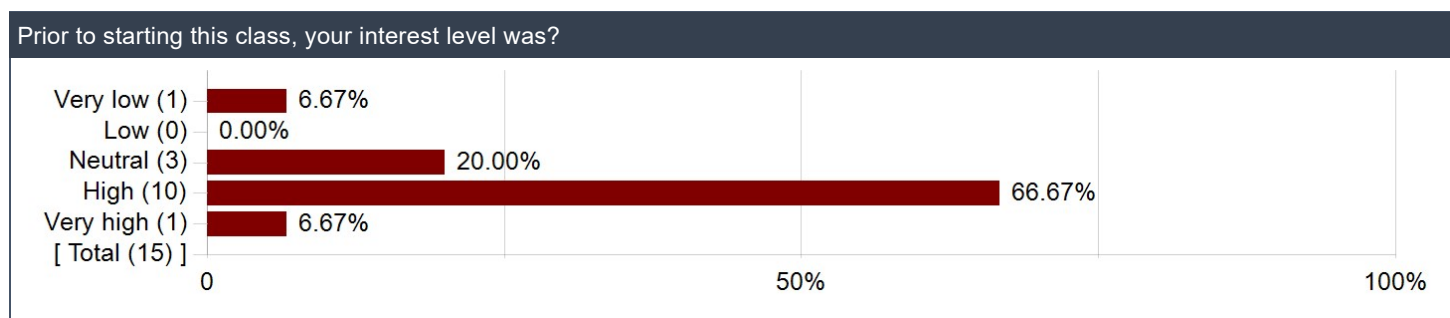
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
Trip to Museum outside of class.

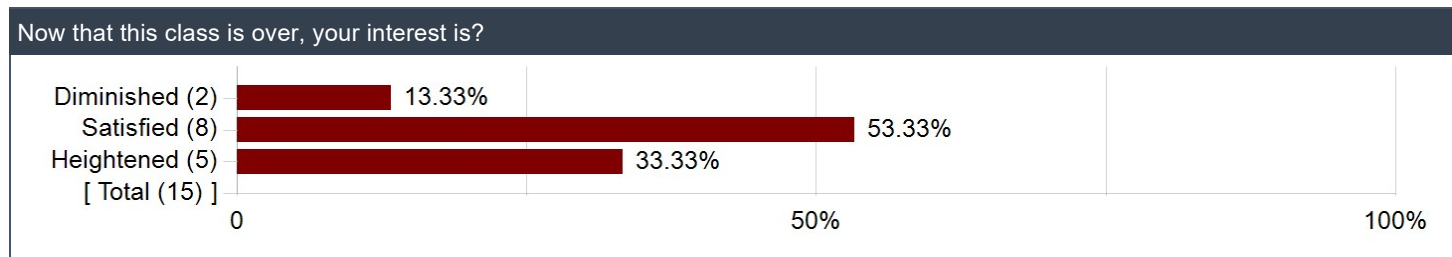
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



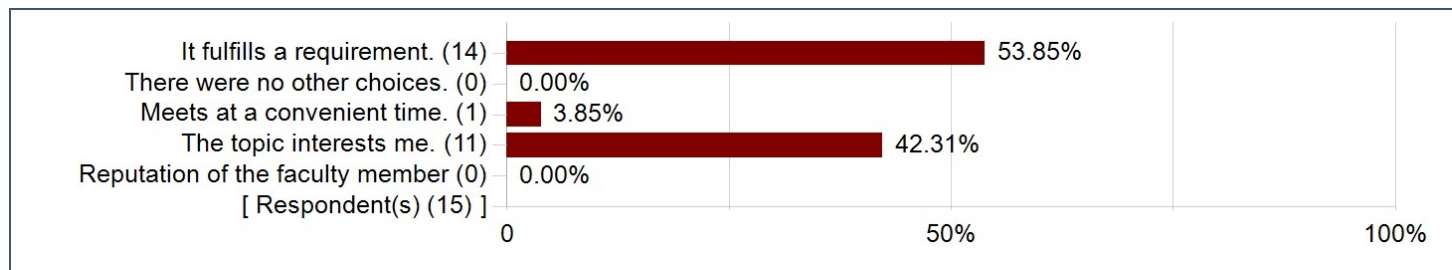
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



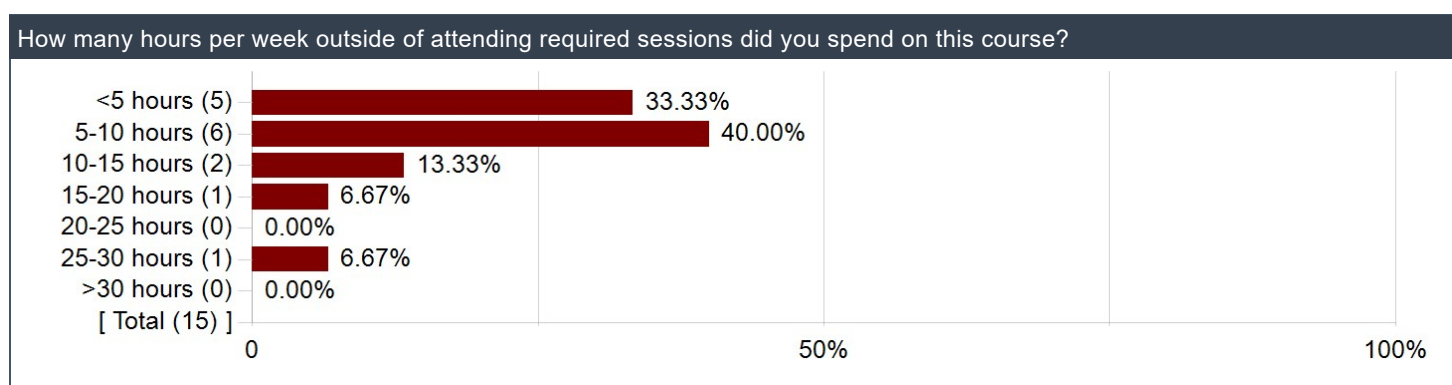
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



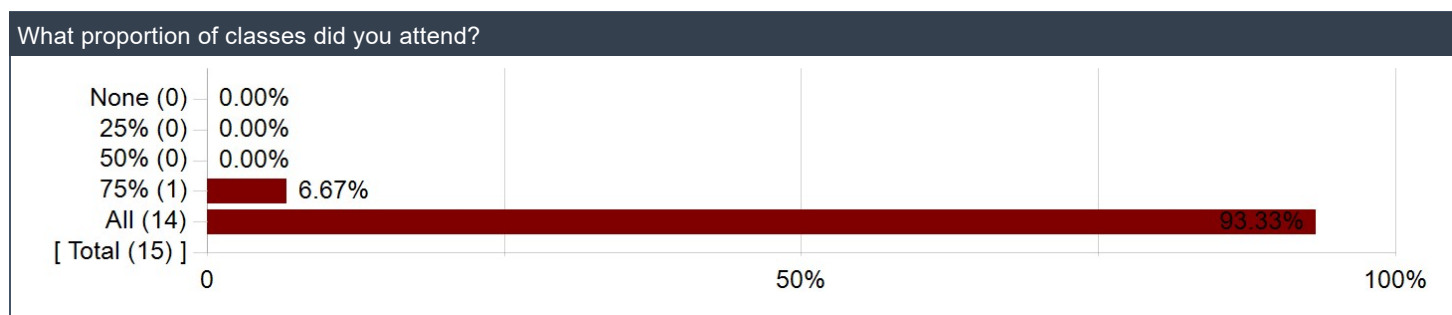
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
Difficulty level was not too high, some essay prompts were challenging while others were more straightforward
It helped me become a better close reader and writer.
I think this course is appropriately challenging for someone who has taken honors/AP level coursework in English Language Arts.
The class was pretty manageable. The reading was sometimes challenging to complete but the assignments and papers were considerably easy.
I didn't come from a super strong writing/reading high school, so the amount of content was daunting. The level/scope of the ideas we were writing essays about seemed very beyond me initially.
Course had a good difficulty level. You just had to put some work in and try on the assignments.
not super hard
This was my first class that involved essays in college, and I found it moderately difficult but manageable.
This course challenged me reading a considerable amount of text in a short period, keeping me on my toes with assignments. However, it was overall an appropriate amount of reading and the expectations became easier to meet with time (and practice). Although it is easy to fall victim to imposter syndrome in the class discussions and writing essays, there is no need to doubt your understanding of text, while being perceptive to feedback and others' perspectives.
Good
Largely graded on completion of assignments and class attendance, writing tutors are a great resource for doing well on essays. Not terribly difficult as long as you care to do the work on time.
The amount of reading can be a lot, but it isn't overwhelming