



HUMA 16000 6 - Media Aesthetics: Image, Text, Sound I - Instructor(s): Haitham Ibrahim

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **18**

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
How to think critically about media, specifically, movies, paintings, etc.
How to analyze media
Doing media analysis
What media is, how to analyze it, and various philosophical concepts relating to images. This is a very philosophy-heavy course.
I learned how to examine an image using philosophical concepts from notable thinkers like Plato, McLuhan, Bazin, and Agamben. I learned how to structure an argument and read/analyze difficult text.
I learned critical thinking skills regarding philosophical texts
We covered a vast amount of philosophers/theorists in an impressively short amount of time. We learned about the different ways media can be perceived and impact the society we live in. I learned a lot about how to write using language of media aesthetics, and how to deeply analyze various forms of media.
I learned how to organize my arguments and how to choose claims that were specific and interesting.
I learned about the idea of recursion, the Platonic form and imitative versus non-imitative images, which contributed to an enhanced understanding of the idea of the image itself as it relates to consciousness, the self and other aspects of human and societal behavior.
How the medium of an image shapes our understanding of it and how to use different theories of media to analyze an image.
I entirely learned countless new philosophical ideas in regard to media. Topics such as: Imitation, form, medium, cybernetics, and so on.
A variety of different philosophical perspectives and their insights on media. Overall, the course has provided me a new way to analyze the media I consume and improved my analytical skills tremendously.
The most important thing I learned about the course is that it really taught me a new way to learn and appreciated how the course subverted my expectations in the best way possible.
how to construct an argument
How to perform media readings using several philosophical sources. I also gained a deep understanding of these sources and how to do a close reading.
One of the most important things I've learned is how to analyze different forms of media and analyze the medium itself.

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

Comments
In-class discussions helped me understand the contents well. Also, his lectures on the required readings were helpful.
The lectures were very helpful. There was a good combination of lecture and discussion, and if we were ever off track in discussion, then the professor did a very good job bringing us back to important concepts.
Lectures and discussions
The lectures really helped.
The lectures were useful for analyzing the pieces of media and texts we read, and the discussions helped me figure out how to analyze the images we were given in relation to the texts.
Professor Ibrahim is a great leader of discussion that allows us to do our own thinking to arrive at conclusions. The discussions were always a group effort and were very insightful.
the small class size allows for fruitful discussions
I think being taught a different form of thinking/a different philosopher almost each week forced me to stay attentive to the material and retain information quicker. I also enjoyed the balance of looking at the different pieces of media and and outside of class.
Discussions were a very good way of handling difficult topics.
Class discussions contributed significantly to my learning as Prof. Ibrahim both clarified anything that was confusing from the assigned reading and also facilitated thoughtful, insightful discussions about the concepts we discussed in class. Additionally, the 3-4 person breakout groups within these larger class discussions were quite helpful as they allowed us to practice verbally presenting our takeaways as well as sharing insight with others.
Discussions were helpful for trying to understand the different theoretical concepts, and Prof Ibrahim is very open to questions you might have/things you didn't understand. The annotations on the readings were usually pretty helpful too because they mirror a little of what discussion looks like and help clarify some concepts (a lot of the readings are excerpts from bigger books, so the added context helps you understand the previous concepts).
The discussion based learning was incredible. I adore this kind of learning and our Professor would always keep us on the right track. Also my professor was brilliant.
The discussions were very helpful and made the readings in the class significantly easier to understand.
The seminars are a key element to the whole class as without it the class has no soul. It was most useful to hear from all my peers how the interpreted our readings/films/concepts and have professor Ibrahim give his own thoughts on the concepts and/or clarify concepts.
I liked seminars
Professor Ibrahim shows us examples of media that aligns with the concept we are learning and we discuss them in small groups, then as a class.
Discussions helped me expand on my perspectives and how to analyze profoundly any piece of literature, movie, song etc. The assignments have and continue to help me in my writing capabilities.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	5.56%	33.33%	61.11%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	66.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.72	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	5.56%	16.67%	77.78%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.28	5.00	5.56%	5.56%	0.00%	33.33%	55.56%
I felt respected in this class.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	5.56%	22.22%	72.22%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
You should definitely take this course!
Ibrahim slays, but he expanded so much and made this course 2x difficult.
I like that Professor Ibrahim asks for input from the class about the direction the course could go and specific film examples we would like to analyze
Loved this class!! It is truly one of my favorites!!!

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	5.56%	94.44%
Anyone interested in the topic	11.11%	88.89%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
His questions during classroom discussions helped me understand the texts more in detail.
The lectures and explanations of readings or movies that we watched were very helpful
He asked questions and guided us towards a better answer.
Involving the class in discussions and helping us come to a consensus on how to analyze the images.
His ability to ask questions that facilitated thinking/learning without spoon-feeding
They were never super strict about discussions, I felt I had a lot of freedom
I think the best part about his teaching was how engaging he was during lectures. We were all so fortunate as students to have been taught by a professor of such prestige in the realm of media that he provided very understandable explanations of complex theories. He was also extremely open to our input on which films/images we would like to cover
His opening of conversation to the class.
Professor Ibrahim's presentation style in class contributed significantly to my learning, both through the thoughtful, complex questions he posed in order to facilitate discussions and through his use of supplemental images such as music videos and movie scenes which helped make the content more engaging.
Office hours. They were very useful for going through essay ideas and a lot of times Prof Ibrahim would give you more food for thought about things you could include in your essay. Also, if you were confused by a concept that you were planning on writing about, he would help you better understand the concept.
The way the class was structured allowed philosophical topics to flow naturally among conversation. Yet, even if we (as a class) didn't understand something he would explain it very well.
Professor Ibrahim's in class discussions were very helpful in understanding the different readings and philosophical ideas
What helped most in Ibrahim's teaching is that he made sure to use Seminar for us the students to really understand all the concepts we learn and try to make us see the connections between everything we learned throughout the quarter.
the way he goes through concepts slowly and thoroughly
When we are struggling to understand a concept, he does a great job of guiding our class towards the answer without giving it to us outright. He also annotates every source he gives us to help us understand it.
His feedback on my writing most contributed to my learning.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
The instructor could give us an example essay that shows us what an ideal one looks like, but that's not exactly necessary because the requirements/ goals of each essay are very clearly spelled out
The class was a little too challenging; hopefully he had more time to explain
The essay prompts were very open-ended and I feel it was rather difficult to know how well I responded to them.
More discussion about essays
–
I think he did a great job teaching in general.
Nothing in particular – maybe a bit more support/guidance on how to structure essays, but writing seminar instructors/core writing tutors can also help students with that so not a huge deal
The discussion posts weren't that helpful because it just felt like busy work rather than something that actually helped me learn more about the readings/concepts.
NA
I am not sure honestly it is all great!
give better feedback during office hours
N/A
Nothing is needed to modify. His flexibility on assignments is very helpful, additionally, his discussions are very clear and easy to comprehend.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	5.56%	38.89%	55.56%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.72	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	27.78%	72.22%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.89	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	88.89%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	5.56%	0.00%	16.67%	77.78%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.61	5.00	0.00%	5.56%	0.00%	22.22%	72.22%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	5.56%	5.56%	16.67%	72.22%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.61	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	5.56%	27.78%	66.67%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	5.56%	0.00%	33.33%	61.11%	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
Michelle Hoban
Michelle Hoban – writing advisor
Michelle Hoban
Michelle Hoban
Michelle Hoban's writing seminars were helpful for essay writing and allows us to evaluate our work and other peers' work. I think it would be helpful to directly look at our essays more often instead of writing separate pieces for the seminars.
Michelle Hoban. She was amazing in our writing seminars and very open to talk outside of class time which was extraordinarily helpful.
Michelle Hoban
Michelle was great as our TA for our writing seminars but at times the writing seminars to no fault of her own did not feel too useful.
N/A
Michelle Hoban

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.00	5.00	9.09%	9.09%	0.00%	18.18%	45.45%	18.18%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.30	5.00	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	27.27%	54.55%	9.09%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	3.90	4.50	9.09%	9.09%	9.09%	18.18%	45.45%	9.09%
Challenged you to learn.	4.20	4.50	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	36.36%	45.45%	9.09%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.00	4.50	9.09%	9.09%	0.00%	27.27%	45.45%	9.09%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	18.18%	54.55%	18.18%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.00	4.50	9.09%	0.00%	18.18%	18.18%	45.45%	9.09%

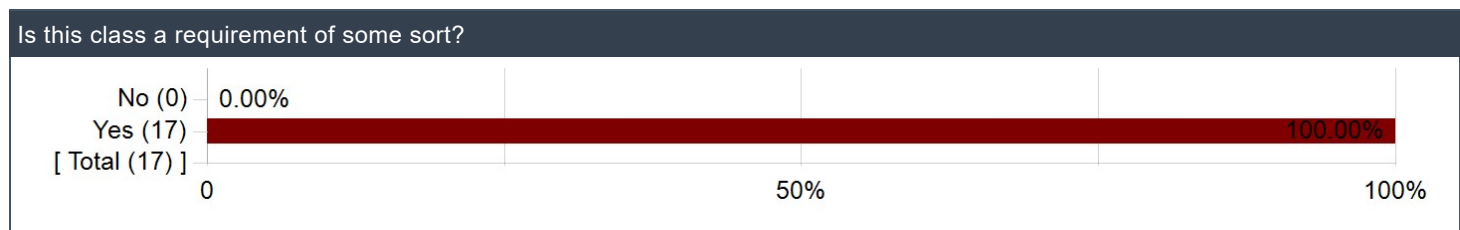
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Library Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	3.38	4.00	15.38%	23.08%	7.69%	15.38%	38.46%	0.00%

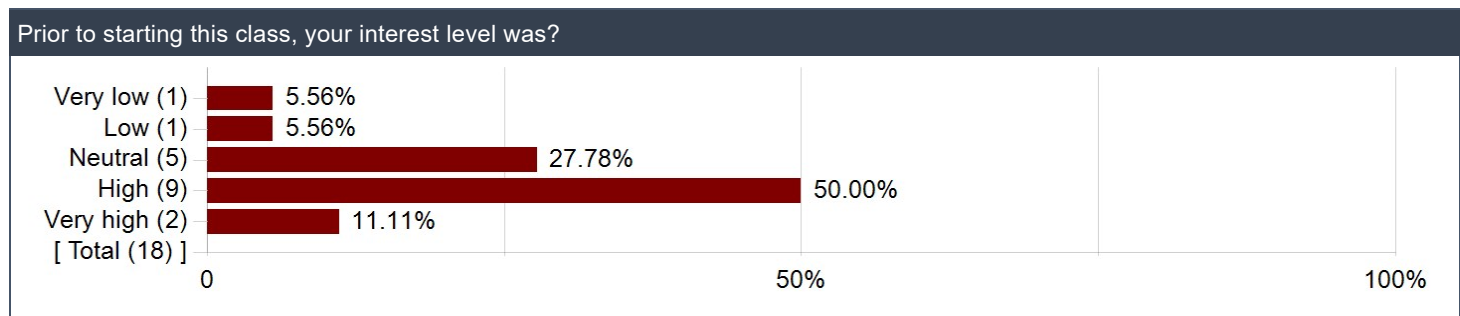
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
N/A
N/A

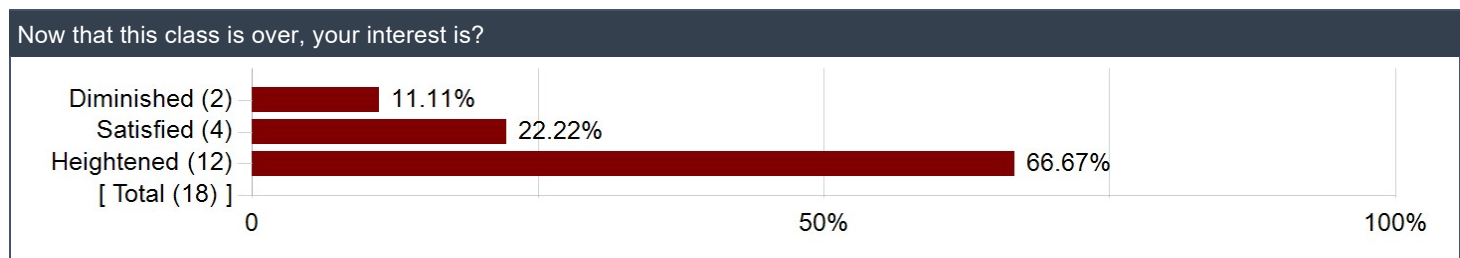
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



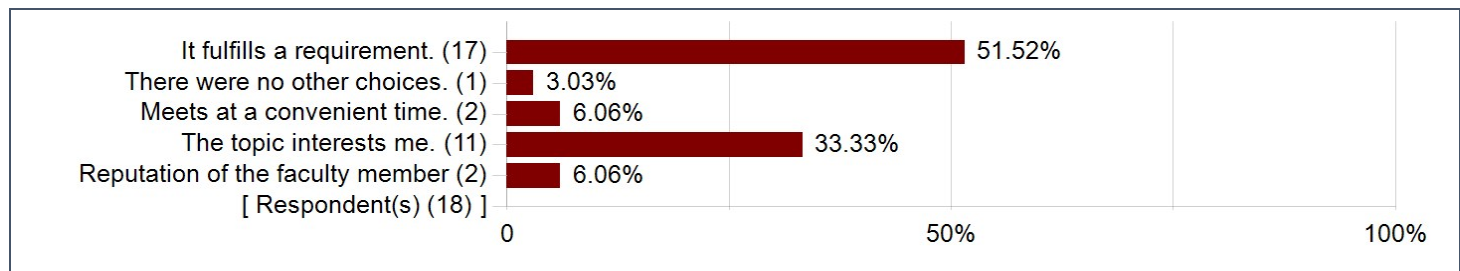
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



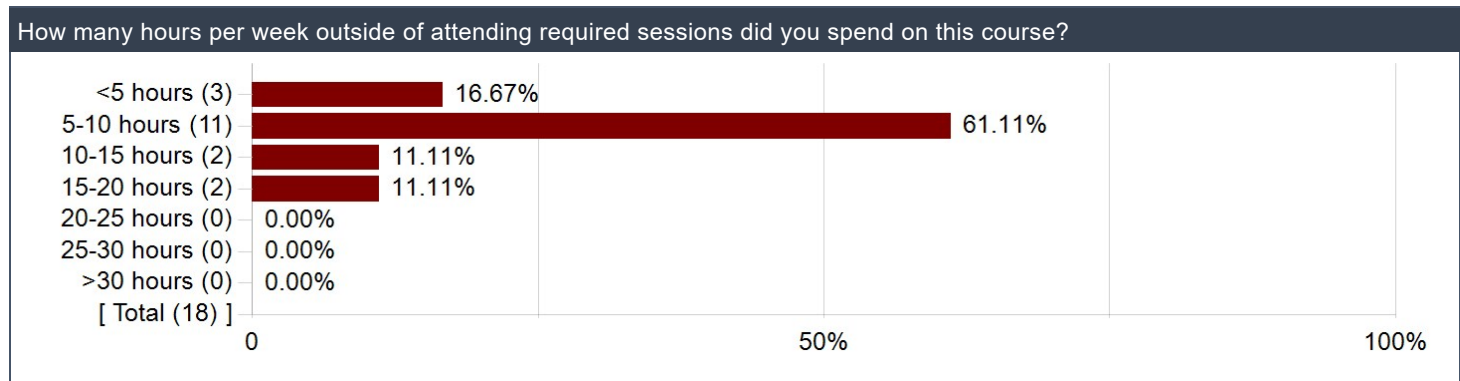
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



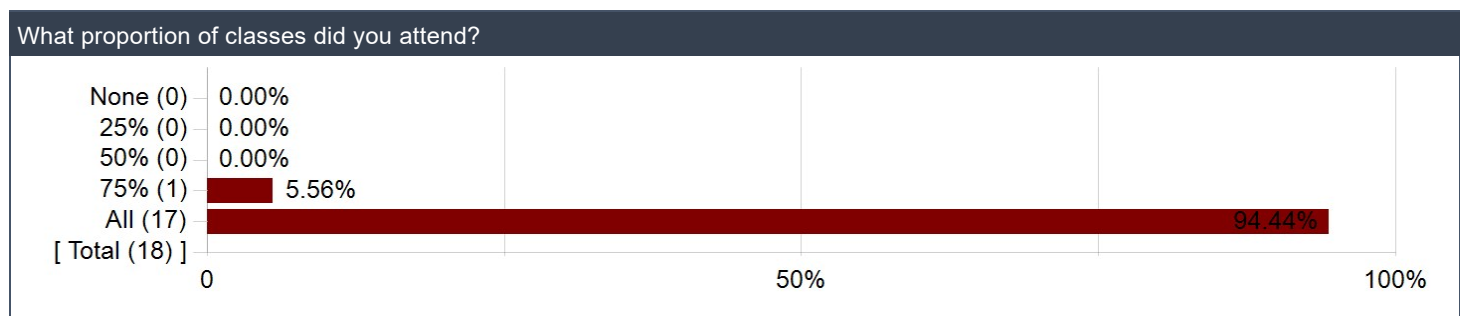
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
Some concepts are a bit challenging but manageable in terms of the overall course workload
This class was very intellectually stimulating and challenging, but not to the point where I was discouraged. In fact, the complexity of the ideas presented in this class through the readings and lectures heightened my interest in the topic, and I would definitely recommend anyone considering this course to just go ahead, sign up and take it.
Very difficult
The essay prompts were very open-ended and I found that to be very challenging, but it was not too difficult otherwise.
Manageable
This class was not very difficult as I was already familiar with how to write.
Overall, the course wasn't too difficult as the instructor explained the concepts well, although some of the denser and more philosophical readings were hard to make sense of at first.
I had very little background in philosophy/images and some of the readings were hard, but the examples in class make it easier to understand
The workload in this course isn't too bad yet, the topics can be very tough to wrap your mind around. Although I found it engaging and fun.
No experience required
It was new and challenging but not overly difficult.
The course is somewhat difficult. The most challenging part of the course is the essays.