

# HUMA 12400 14 - Human Being and Citizen II - Instructor(s): Korey Williams

Project Title: College Course Feedback - Winter 2024

Number Enrolled: **19** 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: Thursday, March 28, 2024



# What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

#### Comments

- -How views on good & bad lives evolved and were formed throughout history
- -How to analyze the presuppositions and implicity assumptions that underpinned certain texts
- -a lot of religious background

I learned how to step out of my comfort zone when it came to discussion time in class, and I gained various writing skills through essays and my writing seminars.

How to structure an essay.

Learned more about the text and writing strategies.

Improving argumentation skills in writing. Understanding how to interpret and discuss texts such as Nicomachean Ethics, Inferno, and Confessions.

Crafting an intelligent, full-fledged argument

I have learned so much from this course and have become a much stronger writer. I understand the different components of writing a persuasive paper and how to come up with a unique argument.

I grew a considerable amount as a writer, this quarter. Specifically, I began more explorative writing, as well as developed a better understanding of structuring my argument throughout the entirety of my paper.

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

#### Comments

-Essays were helpful for me to reflect on the ideas discussed in the course and engage with them not just as abstract ideas but with their interactions with our world today

Discussions and assignments contributed most to my learning because they were engaging in a way that pushed me to be out of my comfort zone and think harder.

The writing discussions were very happy

Course was discussion based which was good.

Discussions allowed us to take in many different perspectives from our peers as well as understand the author's intentions.

I think the biggest contribution to my learning was the discussions we had in class. I always gained new insights about the readings or found new ideas to ponder and consider my position on.

I loved how the class was structured. It was a very encouraging environment to speak out and I enjoyed the spirited debates we had almost every class.

If you love yourself, you absolutely need to sign up for a class with Professor Williams. He is great at facilitating interesting conversations about the content we're covering, is open to consider all sides and opinions, and is pretty funny. He makes class enjoyable, and I look forward to every meeting. He encourages us to really think about the content and its underlying meaning, he pushes us to think independently, and creates an environment that strives for students to create claims that have specific and substantial grounds, which, in turn, has made me a better student and writer.

I throughly enjoyed discussions. I gained the most benefit from listening closely, usually chiming in to ask questions/clarifying questions. There was a great balance between professor and student involvement during discussions.

### Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.44	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	33.33%	55.56%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	77.78%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	44.44%	55.56%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%
I felt respected in this class.	4.89	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	88.89%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%

#### Additional comments about the course:

#### Comments

Professor Williams is a phenomenal professor who encourages students to share their own ideas and perspectives. I took a lot from this class, and it was a very valuable experience!

I really enjoy this class! So much so that I decided to take the third, optional quarter of this sequence.

I enjoyed concentrating on the broader view of our readings and then honing in on a specific passage or chapter which was closely connected to the discussion. Professor Williams did a very good job of organizing this.

#### I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	22.22%	77.78%
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

Mostly, the Professor's adaptability and ability to engage students on their terms helped contribute to my learning: he would make sure that we were learning all that was necessary, and he would do it in a way where we felt like we were exploring the ideas of these philosophers and authors.

The instructor creating a welcoming and safe environment for discussion to happen was a big part.

I really enjoyed the classroom discussions we had about the books we read. It always showed me topics I didn't pick up reading.

Instructor was great at leading discussions.

Professor William's ability to facilitate productive and engaging discussions really made this course worthwhile. I really enjoyed the dynamic debates and team exercises we did throughout this course.

His openness and engaging, though-provoking questions during class discussion

If you love yourself, you absolutely need to sign up for a class with Professor Williams. He is great at facilitating interesting conversations about the content we're covering, is open to consider all sides and opinions, and is pretty funny. He makes class enjoyable, and I look forward to every meeting. He encourages us to really think about the content and its underlying meaning, he pushes us to think independently, and creates an environment that strives for students to create claims that have specific and substantial grounds, which, in turn, has made me a better student and writer.

Professor Williams catalogue of contextual knowledge provided a more modern approach to many of the texts, while still respecting original interpretations. From this, we were able to see a contrast between how related topics were conceptualized during the times they were written, versus a well–educated modern approach.

# What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

#### Comments

N/A

Instructor could have greater time management of lectures

I liked it when we were given specific chapters to focus on — sometimes the text can be very crowded.

I am not sure.

I think it would greatly benefit me if the agenda was split up more evenly between discussions and readings. Often we would start a conversation based on a passage, and didn't branch out as much as I'd hoped.

#### The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.89	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	88.89%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.71	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	55.56%	22.22%
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%	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	77.78%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.89	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	88.89%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.89	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	88.89%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.89	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	88.89%	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

Maya Shenoy – Her writing seminars were very helpful to me, as I learned many important tools to make my essays more readable and strong, and some elements of argumentation that were quite useful. I thought analysis on specific elements of our essays could have been integrated more, as it helped me understand quite a bit.

I really liked my writing instructor — she did an excellent job.

Maya Shenoy. Maya was a very big part of my writing growth this quarter. I enjoyed the seminars, not just because of the casual yet structured design, but because they taught me to think more critically about my writing.

### The TA/CA or Intern...

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.25	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	25.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	75.00%	25.00%	0.00%

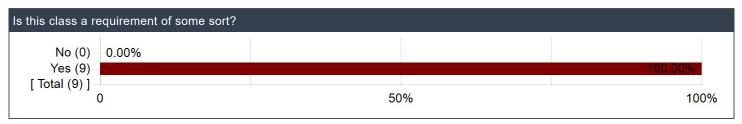
# How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	66.67%
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	4.63	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	62.50%	0.00%

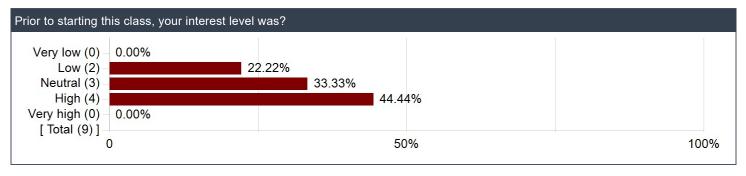
### Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
For field trips I was referencing the required production of Antigone.

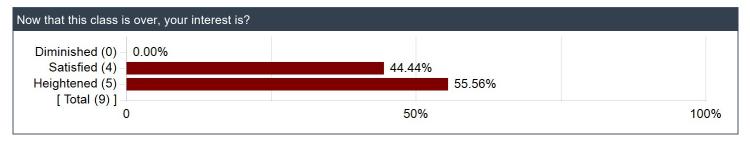
# Is this class a requirement of some sort?



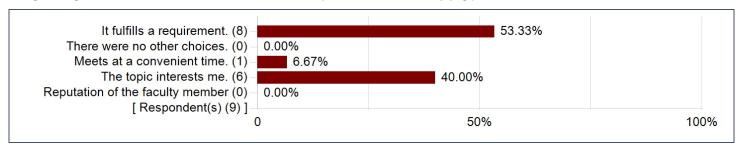
# Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



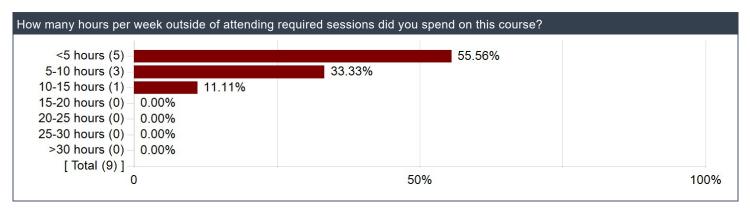
# Now that this class is over, your interest is?



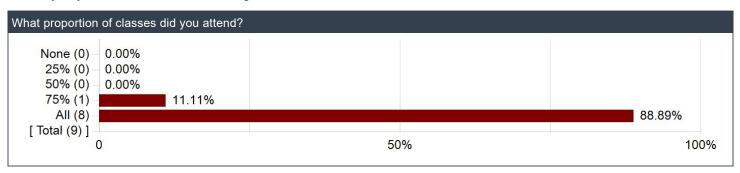
# Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



# 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

It's not too challenging work-wise but it's challenging intellectually.

This class was a wonderful introduction to UChicago humanities, philosophy, and note—worthy texts. I highly recommend Professor Williams for this course!

I think it was difficult, but to an enjoyable level. I really liked it and I feel it bettered my writing and discussion skills.

I went into this course with basic writing skills and was indifferent to the subject of english/writing/reading, I ended both quarters with good grades and most class times that we met.