

HUMA 12400 4 - Human Being and Citizen II - Instructor(s): Sarah McDaniel

Project Title: College Course Feedback - Winter 2024

Number Enrolled: 17
Number of Responses: 9

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

Learned about scope, reverse outline.

I deepened my textual analysis abilities and got valuable practice in writing academic papers.

Generating thought-provoking ideas from reading texts.

This course felt like a run of the mill English class; we read books, discussed them, and wrote papers on them.

How to critically analyze a text.

Interpretations and analysis of Dante's Inferno, Augustine's Confessions, and Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics. How to write academic essays.

The contents and meaning of Nicomachaen ethics, Inferno, Confessions.

We encountered different genres this quarter, ranging from lecture–styled teaching, autobiography, to epic poem. Specifically, on top of the more concrete story–based literature, we extended our exploitation to the more theoretical and religious realm.

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

Comments

Class time was always wonderful! Sarah is such an excellent discussion facilitator that it felt like a natural conversation between her and the students. I always left class feeling like I had a deeper understanding of the texts we read.

Lectures had interesting discussions, and the weekly assignments were good practice for writing concise paragraphs.

There was a mandatory discussion post once a week that forced us to be somewhat familiar with the material.

Sarah has a great way of facilitating a class — a lecture at the beginning to center the class discussion to come.

Discussions and individual reading

Discussions helped explore these texts in a meaningful manner.

The discussion posts every week is able to help me grasp the texts better and engage with the thematic exploration more thoroughly. Professor Sarah does a great job leading the discussion in class. This quarter, we tried to do pair presentation on the reading, which was also really effective in helping me understand the texts better.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.11	4.00	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	44.44%	44.44%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	44.44%	55.56%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.22	5.00	11.11%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	55.56%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	22.22%	66.67%
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.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%
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

Readings were more dense than fall quarter imo. Sarah is a really solid professor.

My best experience in the HUM core and any UChicago course thus far!

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	11.11%	88.89%
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

Prof. McDaniels tried very hard to keep people engaged during discussions. She is very encouraging of any contributions (even bad ones).

First of all, Sarah is so warm and receptive to every student's comments during discussions. She made me feel entirely comfortable to speak up, and even if I struggled to articulate my thought perfectly, she had the most brilliant way of distilling it into an eloquent, succinct statement that sounded even better and more profound than what I heard inside my own head. She used slideshows to guide each class discussion, and I found this very helpful in maximizing our discussion time. She also gave excellent, detailed feedback on assignments.

Sarah's individual feedback on certain assignments and especially papers was the most helpful.

She is wonderful! Take any class with her if you can! The classes are structured very well and she is super kind and considerate of everyone's skills/situations. Her classes were very engaging and the format varied enough to keep you interested.

Sarah is genuinely invested in the content and facilitates engaging discussions.

Availability, clarity, and flexible assignment prompts.

Discussions

Sarah raises really good discussion questions and she is really attentive in incorporating outside knowledge the students are interested in into the lecture slides. Her lecture slides are straightforward and engaging, which allowed me to understand the difficult sources better.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments

I didn't love the text selections in winter as much as in the fall—they were a lot more difficult conceptually and yet we didn't treat them any differently than the easier texts from the fall. I think it would have been helpful to have like summaries of arguments provided alongside the texts like some SOSCs do.

N.A.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	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.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	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.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	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		
Tom Sawyer	r	
Thomas Sav	wyer	

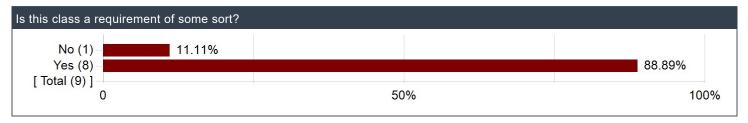
The TA/CA or Intern...

	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.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%

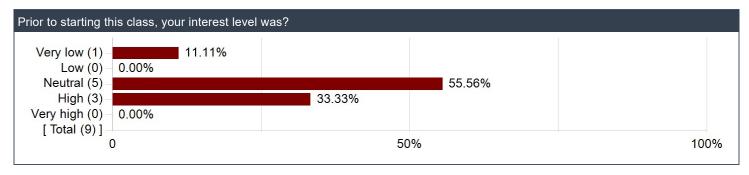
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	3.00	3.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	0.00%	0.00%	83.33%
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	3.00	3.00	16.67%	33.33%	0.00%	33.33%	16.67%	0.00%

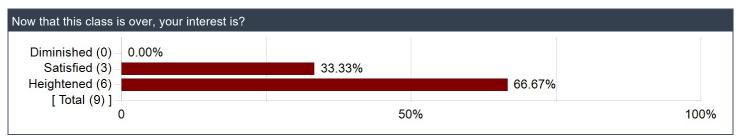
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



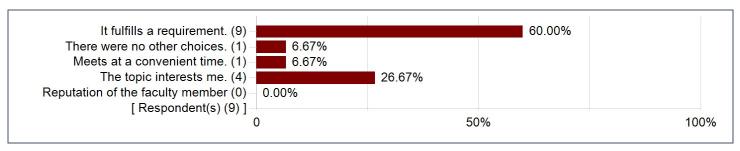
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



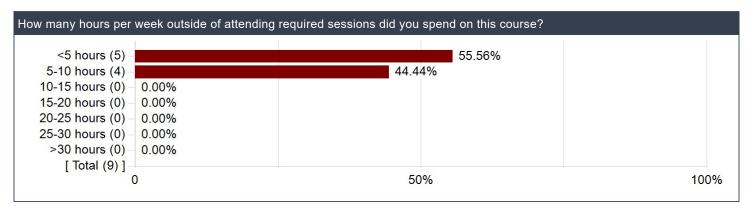
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



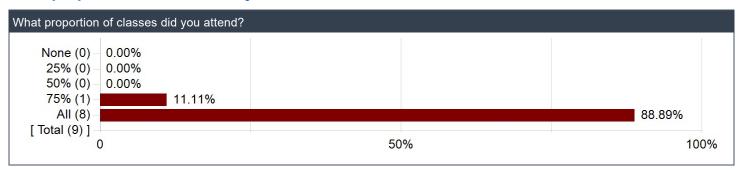
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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

Quite an easy class. The readings weren't too difficult.

It wasn't difficult as long as you don't procrastinate your essays. If you took English in high school and can write a paper that follows a cohesive argument you'll probably do well in this class.

It was a very do-able class. The texts themselves are challenging but Professor McDaniel makes it possible to succeed in the course despite this.

Not difficult

If you feel comfortable in an high-school English classroom, you will feel comfortable here.

Not difficult, especially if you know what to expect from first quarter

It is definitely more challenging than high school English classes. However, it is a really good gateway transition from high school to college as it starts to teach you how to read and engage with challenging classes.