



ARAB 20101 2, ARAB 20101 2 - Intermediate Arabic I - Instructor(s): Aidan Kaplan

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

Number Enrolled: **14**

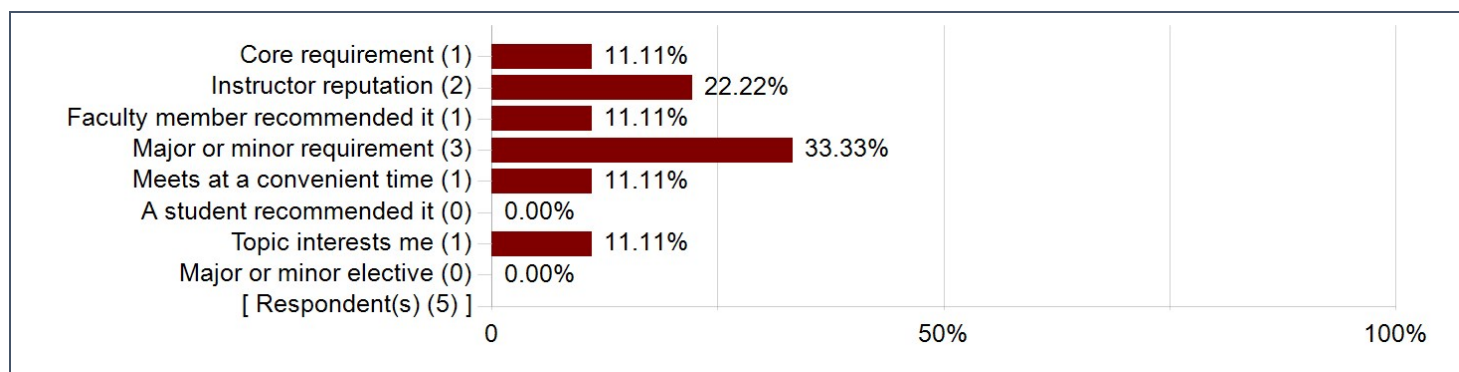
Number of Responses: **5**

Report Comments

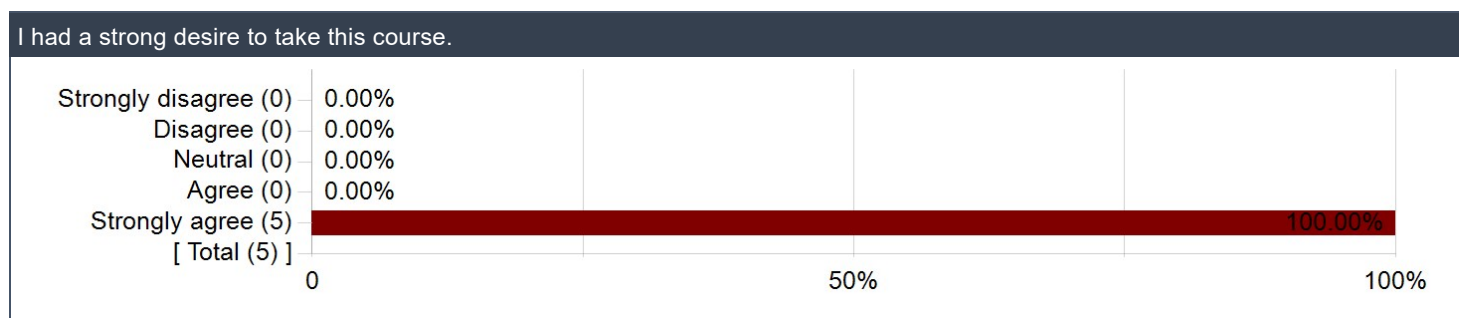
Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

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

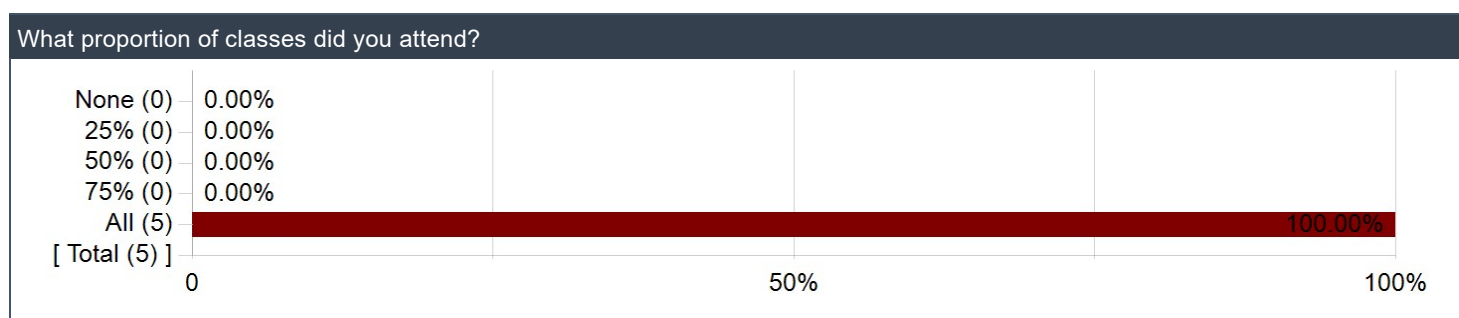
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



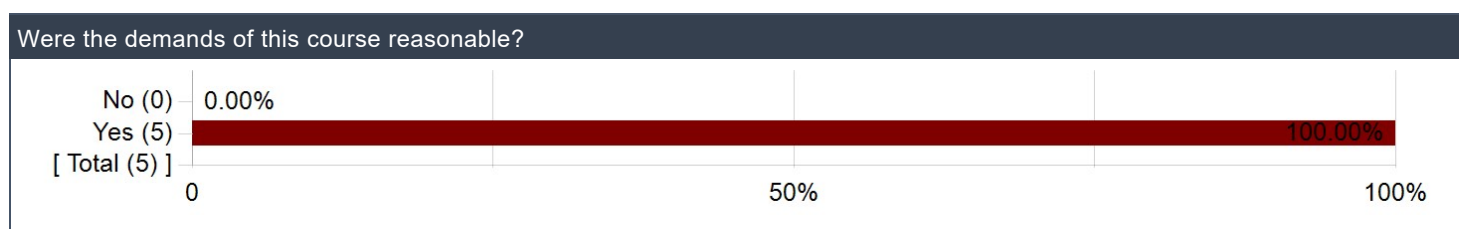
I had a strong desire to take this course.



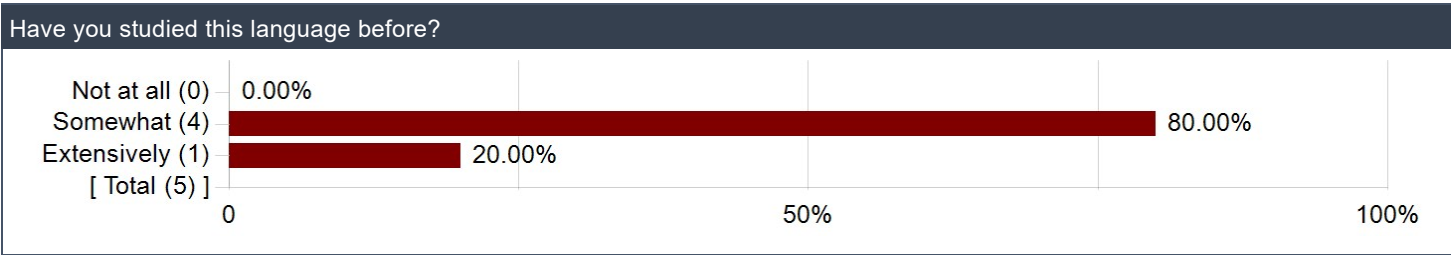
What proportion of classes did you attend?



Were the demands of this course reasonable?



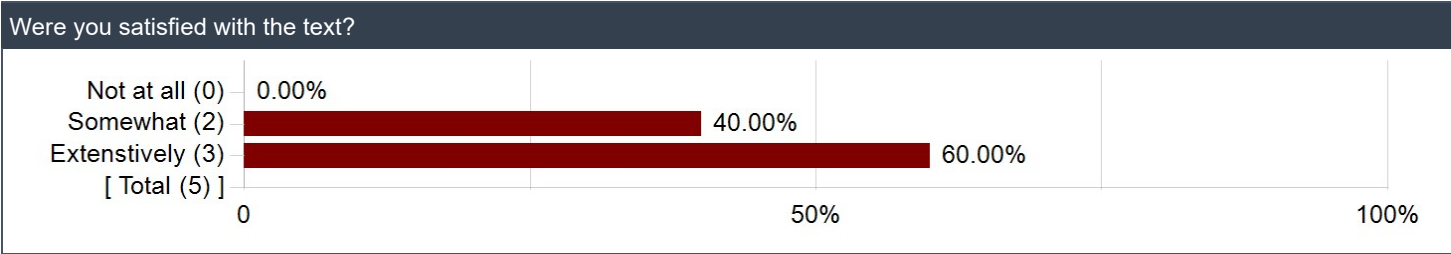
Have you studied this language before?



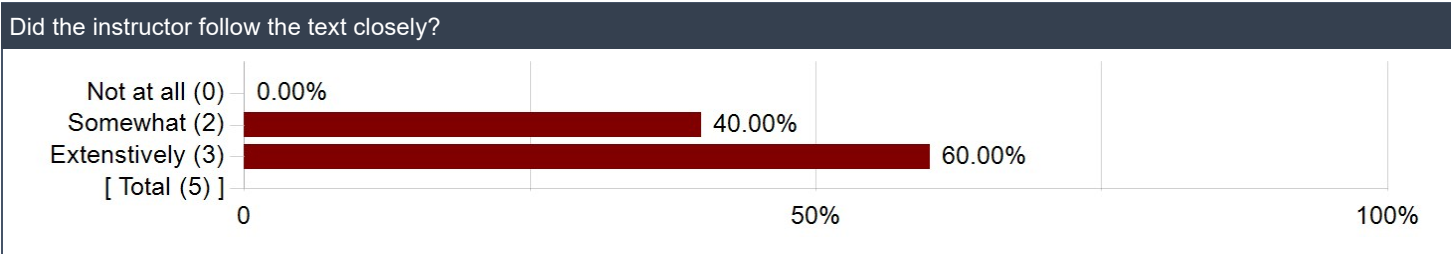
Rate the extent to which different aspects of the language were stressed:

	Mean	Median	Not At All	A Little	Some	A Lot	Extremely	Vigorously
Speaking	4.80	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	60.00%	0.00%	40.00%
Spelling	4.00	4.00	20.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	20.00%	20.00%
Reading	4.40	5.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%	20.00%
Writing	4.40	5.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%	20.00%
Grammar	4.60	5.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	40.00%
Vocabulary	4.00	4.00	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	20.00%	20.00%	20.00%

Were you satisfied with the text?



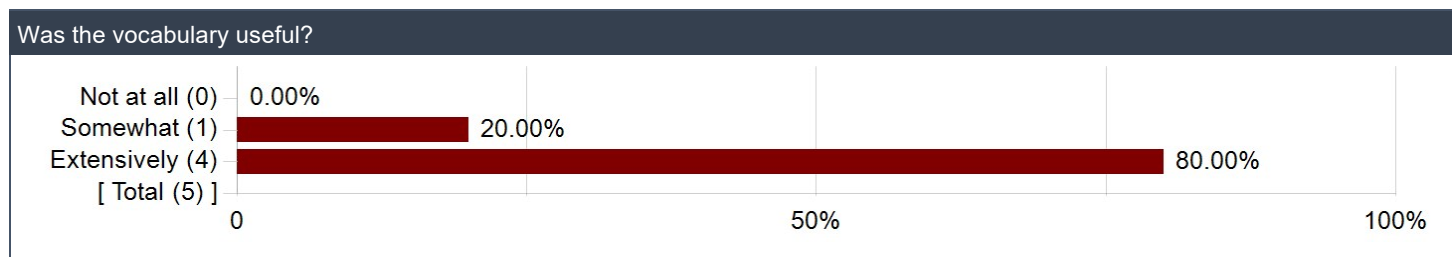
Did the instructor follow the text closely?



Explain:

Comments
yes; Professor Kaplan did an excellent job of sticking to the textbook and incorporating it into class discussions
Our drills, vocab, and grammar assingment were from the book Al-Kitaab Part 2. We followed the book by units.
The instructor incorporated supplemental material that was engaging and challenging for all modalities over purely using Al Kitaab.

Was the vocabulary useful?

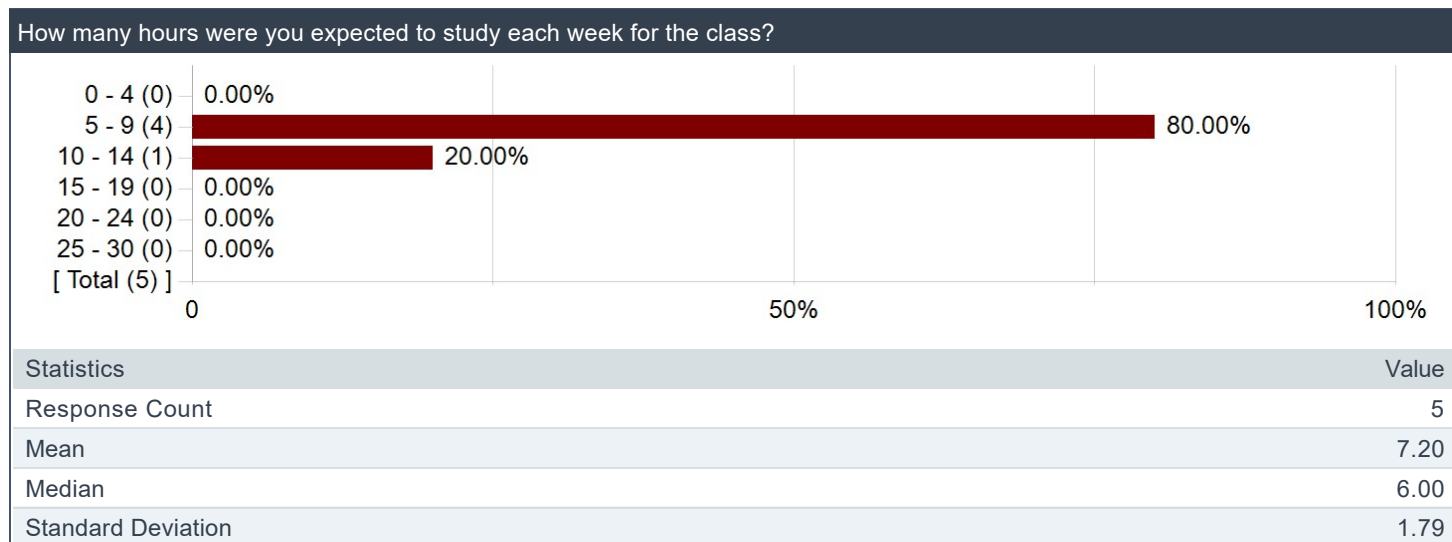


Why?

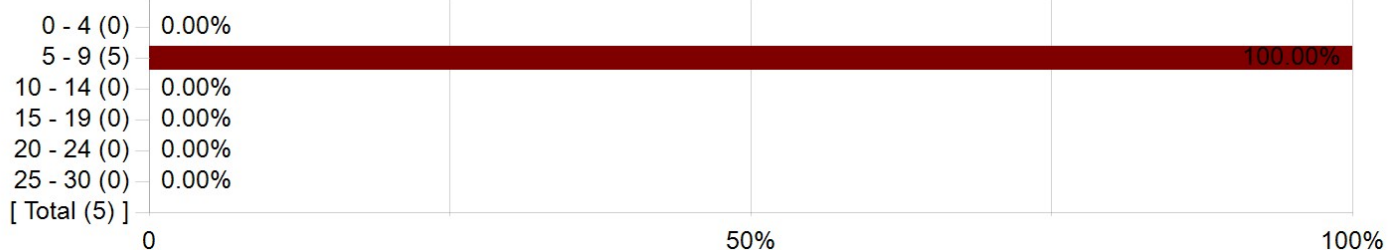
Comments
there was a good and varied range of vocabulary that included both words important in everyday conversation and words good for academic discussions
This year, with a new book, there was a large amount of vocabulary but it was very manageable because we focused on two units for the whole quarter plus some review from last year. You really take your time with the same set of words and we divided them up thematically so it was easier to memorize and incorporate into speaking.
The textbook vocabulary was a little random but the instructor provided plenty of additional vocabulary and phrases that were much more useful for conversation and expressing the language.

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

Comments
class was usually a mix of discussions in Arabic, vocab and grammar lessons, and textbook drills. This worked very well by engaging all parts of language skills
The format of the class was pretty consist with speaking activities with partners or groups, listening to music, reviewing tough homework assingment, watching videos, splitting up drills to work on and present, vocabulary games/activies, etc. Every lesson was dynamic and little bit different
The class included lecture, conversation/discussion, drills, projects, essays and homework assignments. This format was very productive in challenging my language and developing my proficiency.

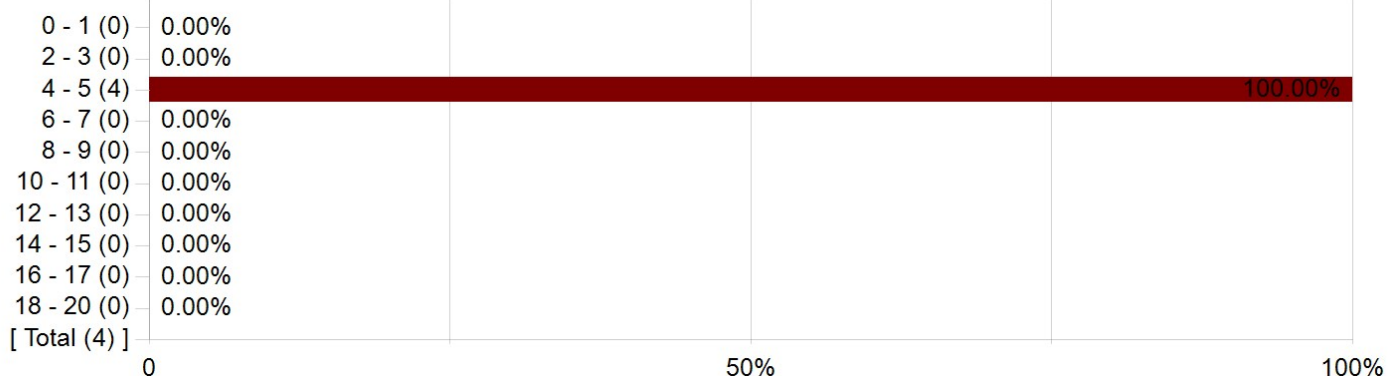


How many hours did you spend?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	7.20
Median	7.00
Standard Deviation	1.30

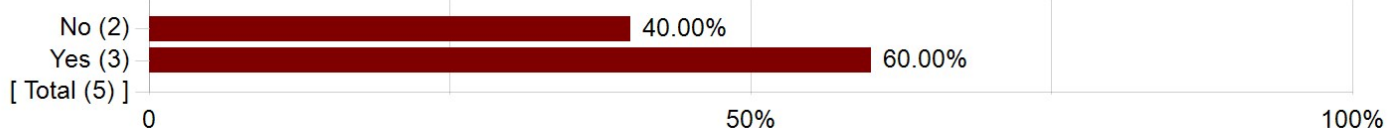
How many written quizzes were given?



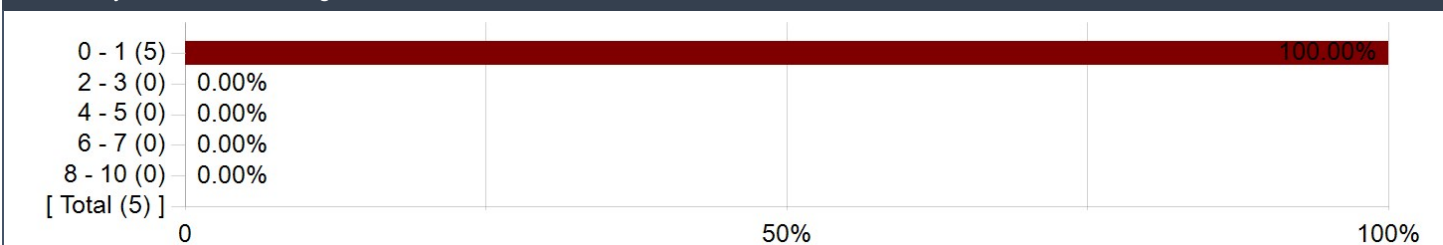
Statistics	Value
Response Count	4
Mean	4.00
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.00

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

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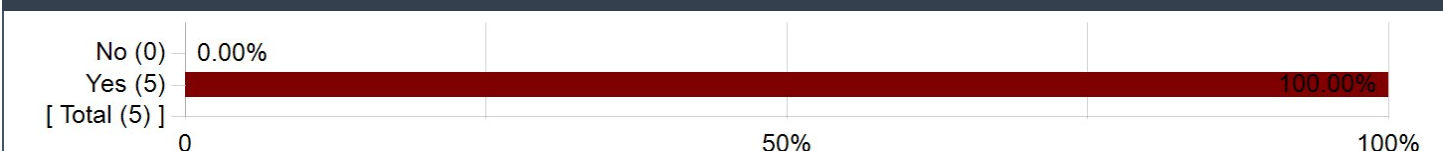
How many oral exams were given?



Statistics	Value
Response Count	5
Mean	1.00
Median	1.00
Standard Deviation	0.00

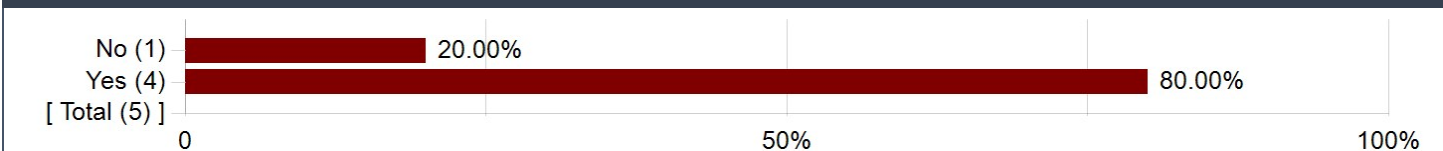
Were the oral exams fair?

Were the oral exams fair?



Were the oral exams challenging?

Were the oral exams challenging?



Why? Please be specific.

Comments

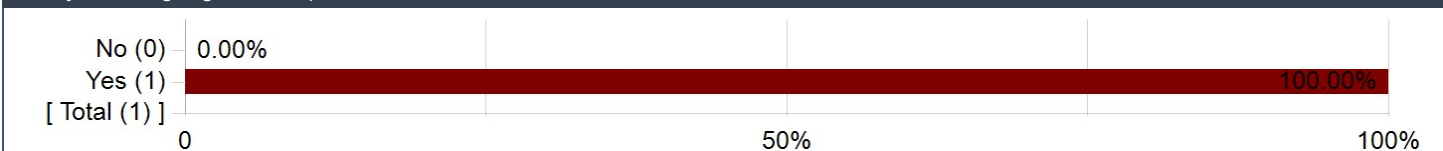
They used vocab and grammar structures we had learned well

Putting language into use is challenging because you are thinking and formulating speech in Arabic on the spot but its fair because you are talking about topics from the units in class. And we practice similar speaking activities in class too.

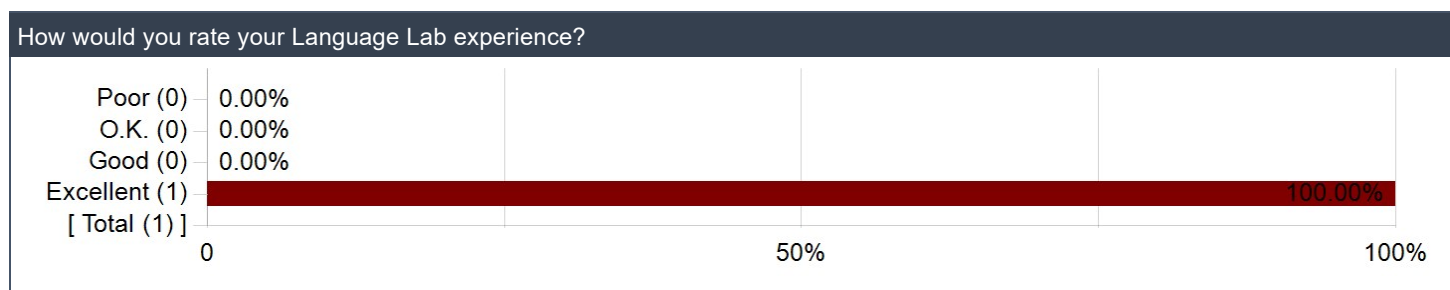
The oral exam mimicked an Oral Proficiency Interview used by the US Government to assess oral proficiency in communicating in MSA. The instructor challenged the student to adjust to questions and activate vocabulary learned from the quarter.

Was your Language Lab experience useful?

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How would you rate your Language Lab experience?



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

Comments
I went to a documentary to fulfill a requirement for an extracurricular activity; this was very good. I also had productive discussions with a foreign language partner on natakallam
no
Yes, we had to do one extracurricular activity related to the Arabic language or Middle Eastern culture. I went to a guest lecture. The NELC departments puts on a lot of events, and there's RSOs too so overall lot of ways to get this fulfilled.
We watched Amreeka about Palestinians immigrating to America that was in the target language and English. We also had to take a dialect language through Natakallam tutoring. We also had to do an extracurricular activity where I attended a lecturer that provided a talk about Shia hadiths in Arabic, although the discussion was mostly in English. This talk was useful to understand a specific sect of Shia Islam.

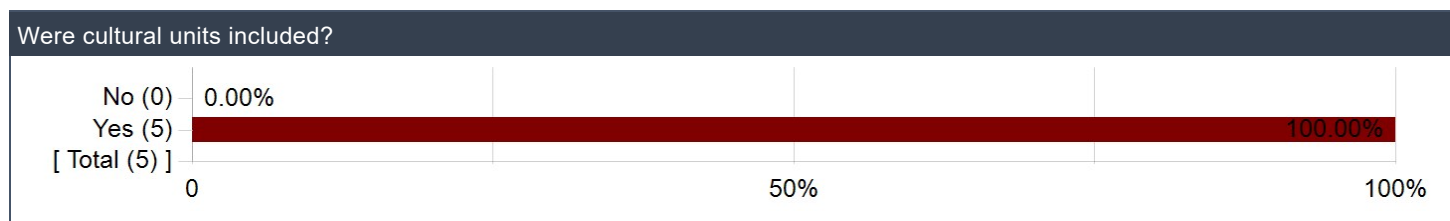
Was your instructor organized?

Mean	Median	Very Unorganized	Somewhat Unorganized	Fairly Organized	Somewhat Organized	Very Organized
5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

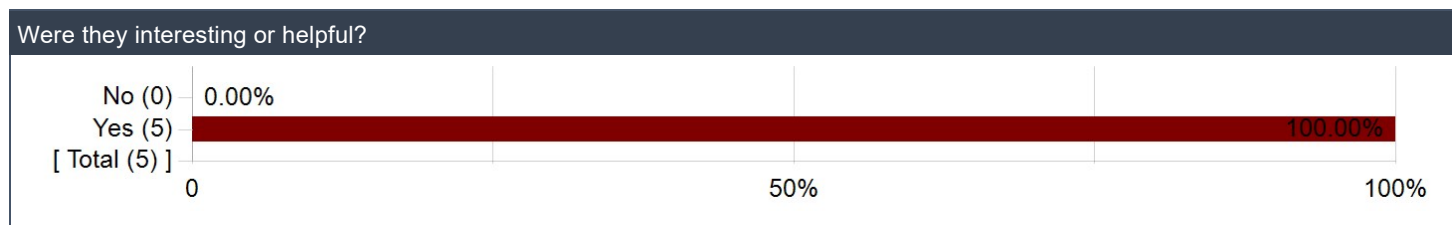
Explain

Comments
Professor Kaplan did a good job of making lessons flow well
We transition into various activities during lessons so our class time is always jam packed. The canvas is really organized with assignments and resources are easy to find.
The instructor was never unprepared and one of the most time efficient individuals I have worked with. He had a clear lesson goal each day but still allowed for flexibility based on students'

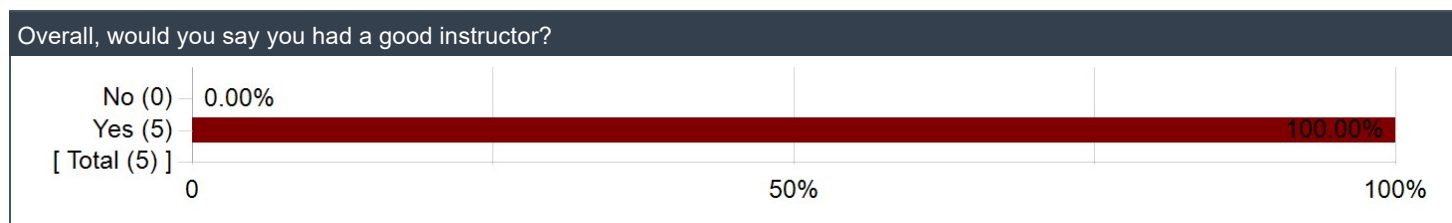
Were cultural units included?



Were they interesting or helpful?



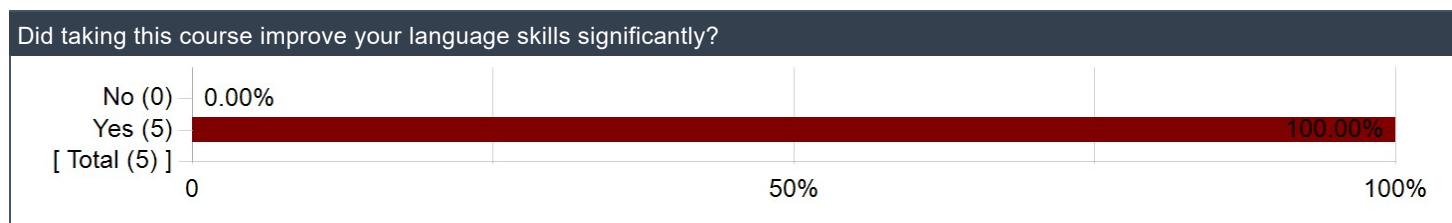
Overall, would you say you had a good instructor?



Why?

Comments
Aidan is a very responsible and helpful instructor.
Professor Kaplan is one of my favorite professors at the University of Chicago; not only does he teach Arabic in an amazing and intuitive manner, but he includes discussions of Arabic culture and linguistics that elucidate the importance of various aspects of the Arabic language
Kaplan is a great educator and he cares a great deal about each students success. He is very flexible and accessible throughout the quarter outside of class. Overall, very engaging!
This instructor showed an immense knowledge and respect for the language. He was relentlessly passionate to teach students and develop their linguistic understanding. I often learn more in 10 minutes of tutoring with him than I have in years of studying.

Did taking this course improve your language skills significantly?



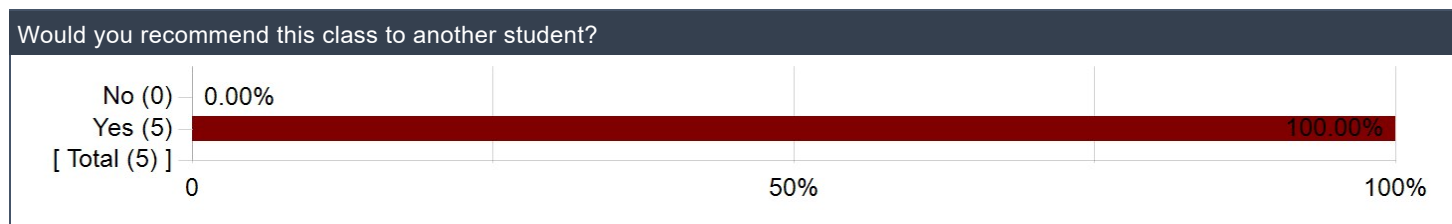
In what way?

Comments
improving my speaking ability a lot
I learned more vocabulary and more complex grammar structures
This quarter my reading and speaking abilities improved the most. We focused on longer readings which helped with comprehension.
I was unable to type in Arabic at all prior to the course and now I can confidently write two page essays. I also had no understanding of colloquial Arabic and now I can listen/speak fairly well in Levantine. Finally, I improved my grammar significantly since starting this course and reading skills.

How would you improve this course?

Comments
I think I would put more effort into making sure students talk with different partners every day; because we tend to sit in the same places, we end up with the same partners for activities about 80% of the time. I would like to talk to more people
N/A
There is not much to improve. I would recommend more class games to test vocabulary like the Jeopardy game. Providing some more flexibility in essay writing or project concepts (such as requiring certain word use or limiting to certain scenarios) to enable a more creative process. Vocabulary could be tested more so in the quizzes.

Would you recommend this class to another student?



Why?

Comments
this course is very helpful for those who are interested in Arabic
it did an excellent job of improving my Arabic skills
I would definitely recommend this course to students who finished the elementary sequence. If you see yourself continuing to study Arabic, this professor is a great choice. We have built upon the previous year drastically and Kaplan is really great to work with!
This class was a very successful course in improving my Arabic and I feel more prepared to take more advanced Arabic already.