



# HUMA 14100 10 - Reading Cultures: Collection, Travel, Exchange II - Instructor(s): Valerie Levan

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Winter 2024**

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **13**

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## Report Comments

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

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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
I liked learning about how to write about a book without any outside resources.
Shared topics across world literatures, mainly travelling and one's struggle for his/her identity across cultures and communities
Different levels of analysis, how to construct an essay. Interpretation.
This course is a great introduction to college writing. Engaging with different cultural contexts helped me to understand how to write about different viewpoints with equal appreciation of each author's perspective.
The most important things that I learned in this course involved an enhanced reading and writing capability. I learned how to produce academically productive and informative essays in this quarter specifically in addition to supplementing the reading capabilities I had acquired in the previous quarter.
The ability to take complex books, analyze content, and create good essays that focused on textual analysis rather than authorial voice. I feel that my essays became sharper and more focused as a result of Professor Levan's teaching.
close reading of different texts around the world
I learned a lot about how to analyze texts and convert my observations into strong academic claims.

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

Comments
Discussions helped me consider new perspectives I hadn't otherwise considered.
The class times are very engaging and the discussions are well-guided
Only discussions. They are really helpful.
I think the discussions definitely made me understand the texts more.
The seminars greatly contributed to my learning as I grew in my reading capabilities through an enhanced understanding of the thought processes of my peers. Thus, the critical readings from an in-class and out-of-class perspective greatly improved my skills in the humanities. Additionally, the writing assignments greatly helped me improve my writing ability that translates to other fields beyond the humanities.
Discussions in class were engaging. Professor Levan effectively guided the discussion and ensured that any one who wanted to participate did.
the class discussions contributed the most
Discussions contributed to my learning by giving me new insights into the texts. I was able to hear how my fellow classmates interpreted our readings, often presenting new perspectives and ideas.

## Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	41.67%	58.33%
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.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	8.33%	0.00%	16.67%	75.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
I felt respected in this class.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.73	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	9.09%	81.82%

## Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I wish I could take it next quarter, I just have scheduling conflicts.
The professor makes me feel welcomed and included (I changed to this section due to time conflict in schedule, and my classmates have already spent one quarter studying together with the professor)
LOVE THIS COURSE!!!
In terms of the writing aspect, I think "finding a problem" is slightly tricky. It feels odd to write strictly about a problem and not just a theme/symbol we are interested in. I understand the importance of finding a problem and writing about it, but it feels restrictive in this way. Also, the course makes us focus on how this analysis of a problem reveals more about the book—it feels confining at times.
Even though it was a core humanities class that was not my first-choice selection, I still gained a lot from the experiences over the past two quarters and met many great people.
Highly recommend this course to any first year student interested in gaining a view of worldwide culture's and their bodies of work, both classical and contemporary.
This was a fantastic course! I was unsure whether I would like HUM, but Professor Levan's style of teaching, as well as the great selection of readings, convinced me to take the third quarter. I had a great time, and I hope she keeps the course just as engaging for future students.

## 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
I like how Prof. Levan guided conversations but didn't take control of them.
Her good organization of class time and the backgrounds offered for readings/authors
Her detailed yet clear teaching style.
I think it was Valerie's ability to veer the conversation towards a certain, more complicated subject—although, it felt a little unnatural to not let the conversation flow naturally.
The instructor's teaching model was very helpful for my learning and the learning of my peers. Instead of acting as an overbearing instructor, Professor Levan appeared practically as yet another active participant in a highly motivated seminar amongst students. Additionally, she showed a lot of interest in continuing to explore the intricacies of the text, encouraging everyone, especially me, to expand on novel interpretations of the text.
Strong desire to engage students in in-class discussions, highly motivating for me. Great in-class discussions encouraged reading of the material and made engaging in the class a very rewarding experience.
the instructor was really involved in the discussions and pushed us to dive deep into the text
Professor Levan led the discussion, but always allowed us to share our thoughts. This perfect balance resulted in the class being able to provide a broad range of comments, but they were always tied to the main themes or crucial elements of the stories.

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

Comments
I don't know, I liked how it was taught.
nothing
Nothing
I believe that Professor Levan was very helpful overall and does not need to modify much bar potentially encouraging more students to participate actively in discussion.
nothing she was great
This is not a complaint about the class, but I would have appreciated the incorporation of the main theme of the course, "reading cultures," into the discussions more often. Even dedicating 10–15 minutes per book to discuss how it deals with the topic of "culture" would enhance the class conversation.

## The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.55	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	41.67%	50.00%	8.33%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	25.00%	66.67%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	36.36%	63.64%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	25.00%	66.67%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.92	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	91.67%	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
Claire Palo
Claire Palo. She's perfect.
Claire Palo
Claire Palo
Claire Palo. Claire was very helpful in terms of directly outlining concepts related to writing strong essays throughout the course's writing seminars. However, Claire could do a better job of potentially making more suggestions on the writing assignments.
Claire Palo, writing specialist for the course. Helpful in engaging students in discussion during writing seminars. Helped break down the format of essays/assignments clearly.
Claire Palo
Claire Palo was our Writing Specialist. She contributed to our learning by leading helpful writing seminars. I wish she provided more commentary in our seminars instead of just having us comment on each other's work.

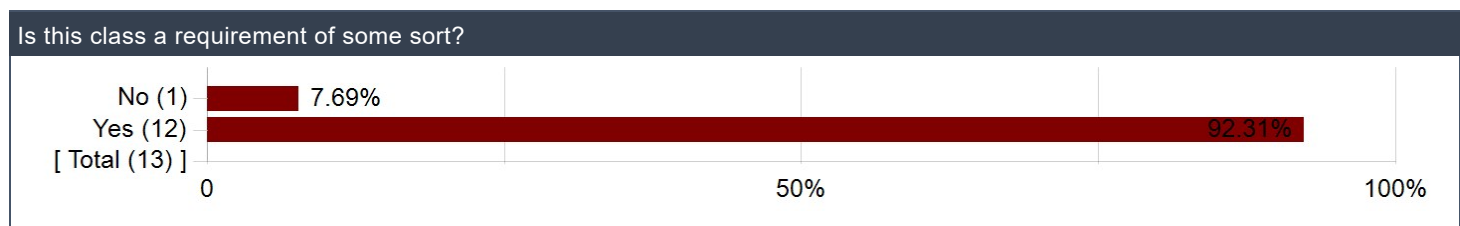
## The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.22	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	50.00%	30.00%	10.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.11	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%	30.00%	10.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.11	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	60.00%	20.00%	10.00%
Challenged you to learn.	3.89	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	40.00%	20.00%	10.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.22	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	30.00%	40.00%	10.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.44	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	30.00%	50.00%	10.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.22	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	30.00%	40.00%	10.00%

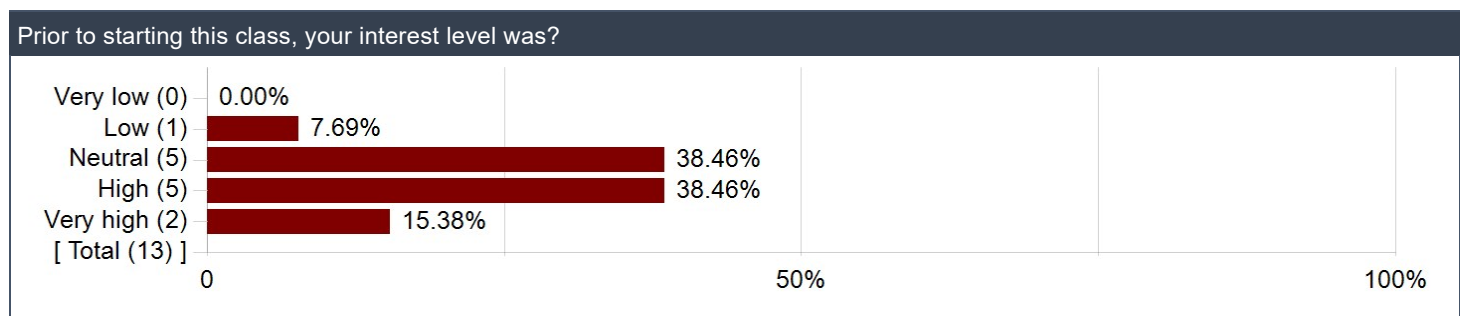
## How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%
Field Trips	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	57.14%	42.86%
Library Sessions	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	71.43%
Review Sessions	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%
Writing Seminars	4.11	5.00	0.00%	22.22%	0.00%	22.22%	55.56%	0.00%

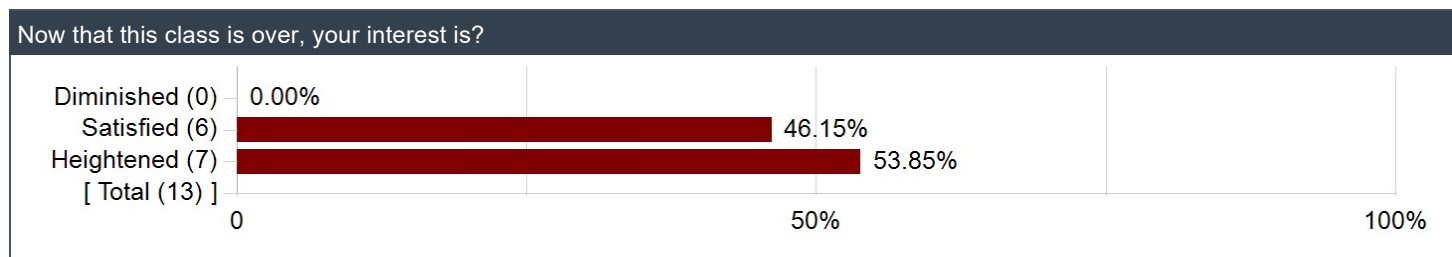
## Is this class a requirement of some sort?



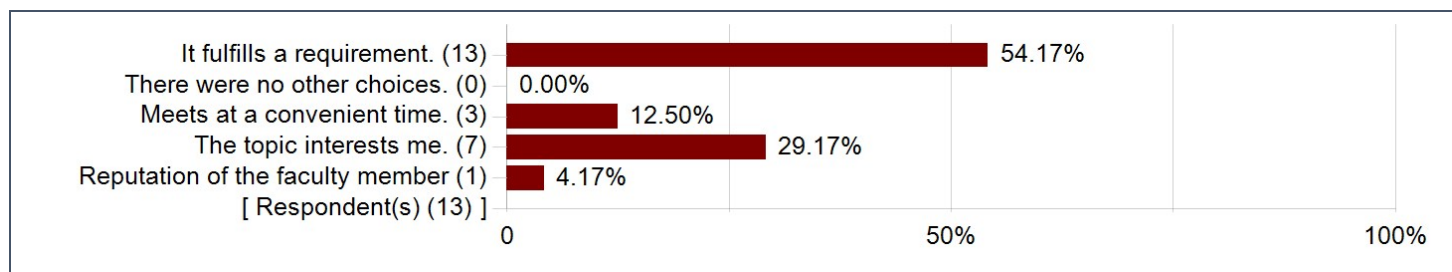
## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



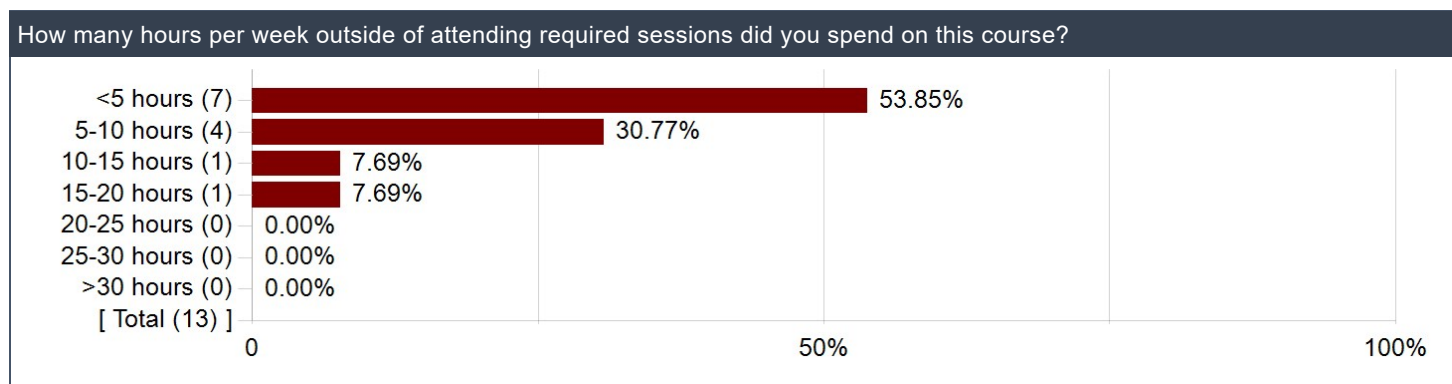
## Now that this class is over, your interest is?



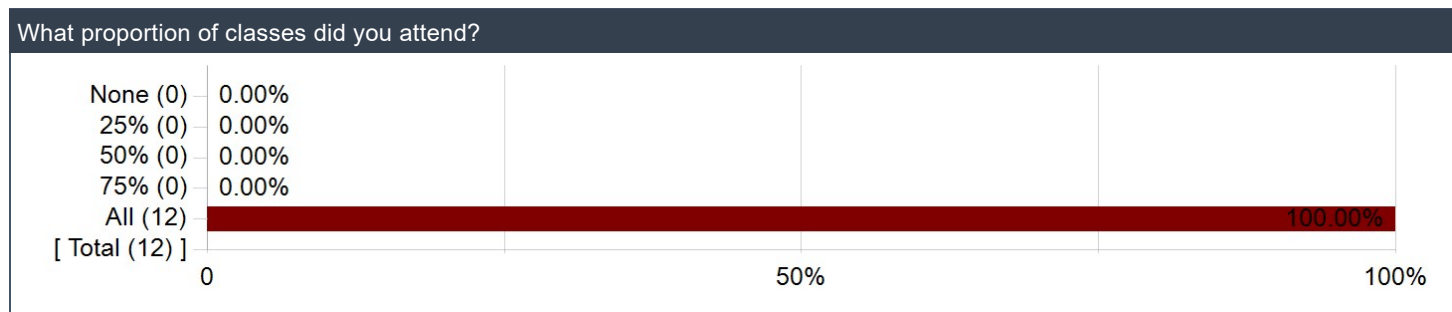
## Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



## 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
not difficult, tho the writings could be a bit challenging
This class was far more in–depth and analytical than a high school English course and very rewarding due to its intensive reading nature.
Not difficult if you are willing to engage in the class and complete the readings. The readings are not long, but require some work to make sense of.
This course matched my level of experience, neither too easy nor too difficult.