HUMA 14000 6 - Reading Cultures: Collection, Travel, Exchange I - Instructor(s): Kevin King

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

Number Enrolled: **19**
Number of Responses: **12**

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 close read, how to form and choose a good claim, how to identify good and relevant evidence for a close reading essay
I learned how to gain insight about a culture through short stories and poems. I improved my discussion and writing skills a lot.
How to close read a text.
Hard to say. The answer is supposed to be "close reading" but judging by my essay grades I did not learn anything
How to write a proper humanities paper!
The discussion and lecture. How to analyze and understand readings
Close reading, writing with purpose and tension, having a open mind when reading texts of an unfamiliar culture.
How to properly write an essay and analyze dense texts.
Learn how to better understand the literature of different cultures. Learn how to do rigorous academic writing and put your ideas into writing.

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

Comments
the in–class seminars were very helpful in understanding the course readings
In–class discussions contributed most to my learning. The discussions helped make sense of the text
Discussions were great and helped me develop ideas for essays.
Class discussions were a good way to broaden your interpretation of the assigned readings.
Lectures/discussion helped me understand the texts from different perspectives
Classes are mostly all discussions. It was fun and also helpful because are basically just dissecting the reading for the entire 70 minutes.
Class discussions have space for us to explore. But Kevin also makes sure we are on the right track.
Going on field trips to the Smart Museum and the ISAC definitely helped shape the course content. Discussion definitely helped to better my understanding of all the texts.
Discussions, assignments, lectures, in that order.
I love everything about this class. I love Professor King's discussion in class so much. He does a great job of sparking interest and responding very positively to students' ideas. He is very willing to discuss with students individually and give guidance on essay ideas. I would also like to give a special thanks to our TA, Dorin. He is fun and humorous and gives direct and effective feedback.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.17	4.50	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	25.00%	50.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.00	4.00	8.33%	0.00%	16.67%	33.33%	41.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	16.67%	66.67%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	8.33%	0.00%	25.00%	66.67%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.08	4.00	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	50.00%	33.33%
I felt respected in this class.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	33.33%	58.33%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.00	4.00	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	41.67%	33.33%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Anyone interested in cultures and stories from around the world will enjoy the books in this class. Class was relatively easy as writing seminars helped with essays and expectations were clear.
n/a
I do not understand what close reading is
Professor King is really organized and he always understand how to lead the class in a good way.
This class rediscovered my love of literature. Meeting Prof. King and Dorin during the first semester of such a hard and busy first year of college was an extreme blessing. I learned a lot and felt respected and cared for during Dorin and Prof. King's office hours. I appreciate all their efforts and the warmth they gave me. My classmates were also very talented. I love this course. Thank you so much!!!!

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	8.33%	91.67%
Anyone interested in the topic	16.67%	83.33%

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

Comments
the in–class seminars
The framing of the text was very useful especially because we were reading texts from across a variety of different cultures that I was not necessarily familiar with. Kevin's explanation of important literary and structural elements of each text was also useful, especially when it came to essay writing.
Discussions topics
I think Kevin did a good job facilitating the discussion and encouraging students to think critically when it came to our assigned readings.
Professor Kevin King was great, he guided discussion very well and helped to understand the text and author's purpose.
Kevin led the discussions with very useful and interesting questions, and he would let the students take the lead but step in with a new question if we were getting side tracked. He also had a few group activities which were both fun and helpful to our understanding of the readings.
Class discussion
Definitely facilitating discussion and being a tool to help students interpret the texts.
He put it on the students to participate, which forced more people to talk and learn.
Every aspect!! What impressed me the most were the topics he discussed in class and the encouragement he gave me during office hour.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
let us know if the reading will be adjusted earlier
Promoting a more free–flowing discussion might be useful because it would let us cover a lot more ground per class. Having only a week or two per text made it really hard to come up with an interpretation of the text, which made essay writing difficult. Being able to cover more ground in class might make this a little less difficult
Better feedback on essays
To me, a small portion of our discussions got so interpretive that they no longer felt relevant to the books and didn't help my learning. My only suggestion would be to have the discussions more grounded in relation to the assigned reading.
I believe that at the beginning of the course instead of getting straight into reading there should be an in–depth explanation of what close reading is and how to write about it.
Honestly I am very happy I got Kevin as my hum professor, he is super nice and helpful, so not too much to say here. He's very understanding that we are all super busy and tries his best to focus only on what's really important.
NA
Having a little more structure.
Be even more open. Don't try to get a student to say a specific thing, just allow the seminar discussion to take place.
Perhaps there could be a little more alignment with the TA in terms of judging criteria for assignments.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	25.00%	66.67%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	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 course.	4.08	4.00	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	33.33%	41.67%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	50.00%	41.67%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	50.00%	41.67%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	50.00%	41.67%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	41.67%	58.33%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.25	4.50	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	33.33%	50.00%	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
Dorin: Dorin was extremely helpful!! He was consistently available to meet outside of regular meeting times to help me brainstorm or give me feedback on drafts. Only modification I would suggest is spending just a tiny bit less time joking around during seminar. Overall the lightheartedness of seminar made it enjoyable but sometimes it felt like we had to rush through content because we spent to much time joking around
Dorin Smith
Dorin Smith
Dorin. He is helpful during seminar and always welcome to reach out to him outside class. He helps me to learn how to writing in a organized and clear way.
Dorin Smith was a very useful writing seminar TA. He helped turn our baseline ideas into goals and outlines and helped me learn how to analyze other peoples' writing in a new way.
Dorin Smith

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	57.14%	14.29%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	14.29%	71.43%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.14	4.00	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	42.86%	42.86%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	71.43%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.57	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	14.29%	71.43%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.43	5.00	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	14.29%	71.43%	0.00%

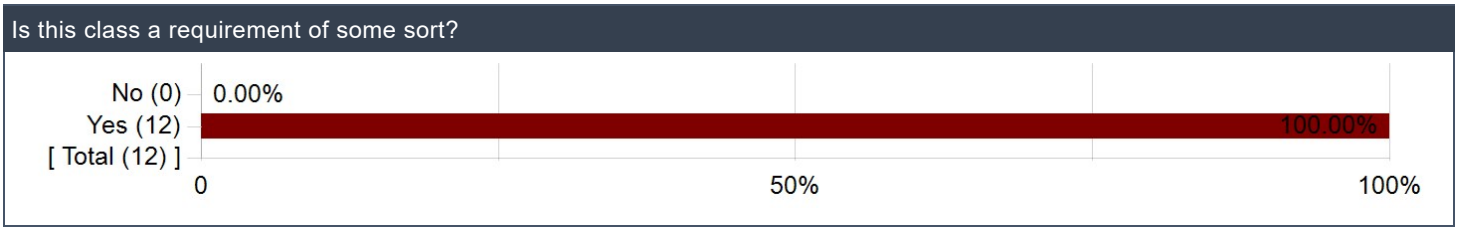
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	3.67	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%	0.00%	40.00%
Library Sessions	4.00	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	90.00%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	4.00	4.00	0.00%	16.67%	8.33%	33.33%	41.67%	0.00%

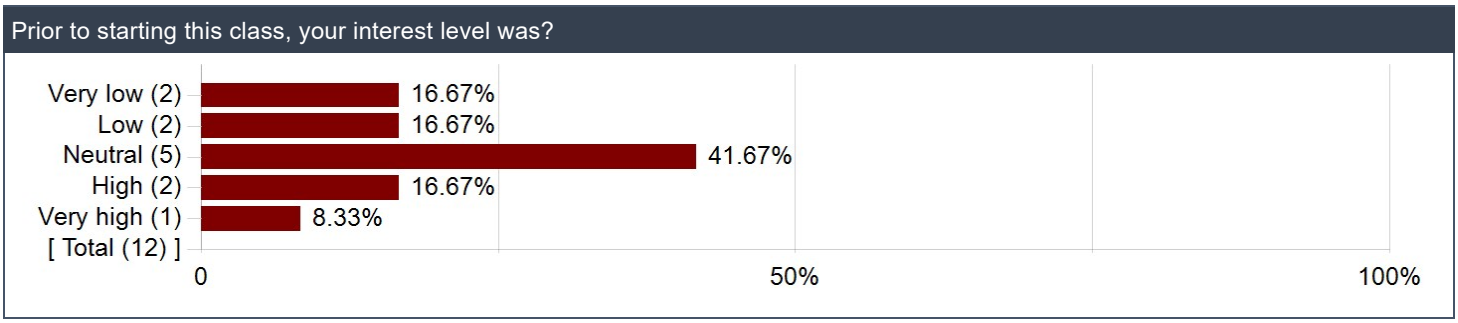
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
n/a
NA
Everyone worked hard at the writing seminar, TA and classmates. But fundamentally this seminar was designed to be so time–crunched that we had to run to Harper Library after class to get to class. Also, there was so much content but so little time that some concepts were hard to be fully understood.

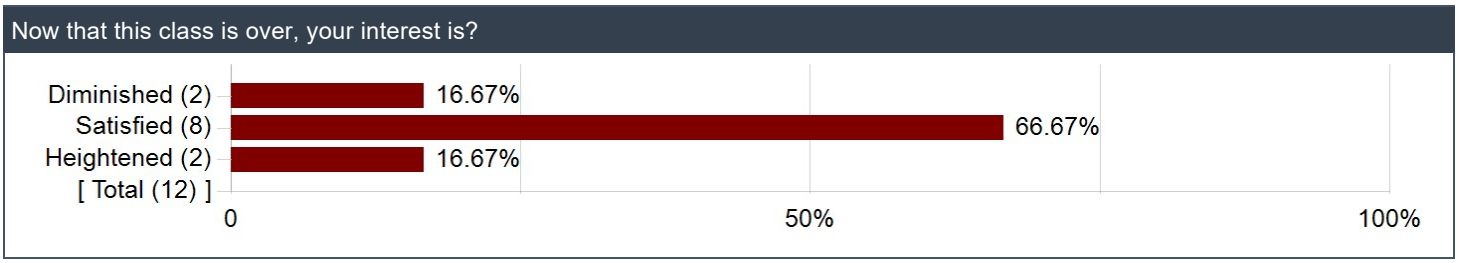
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



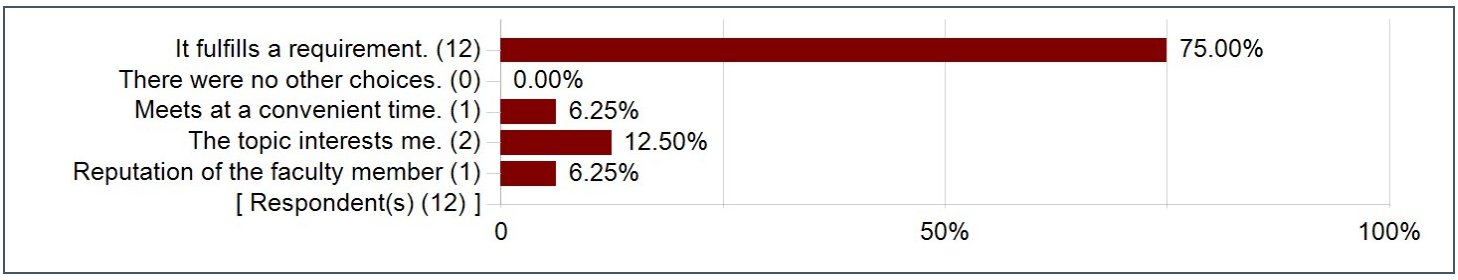
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



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?

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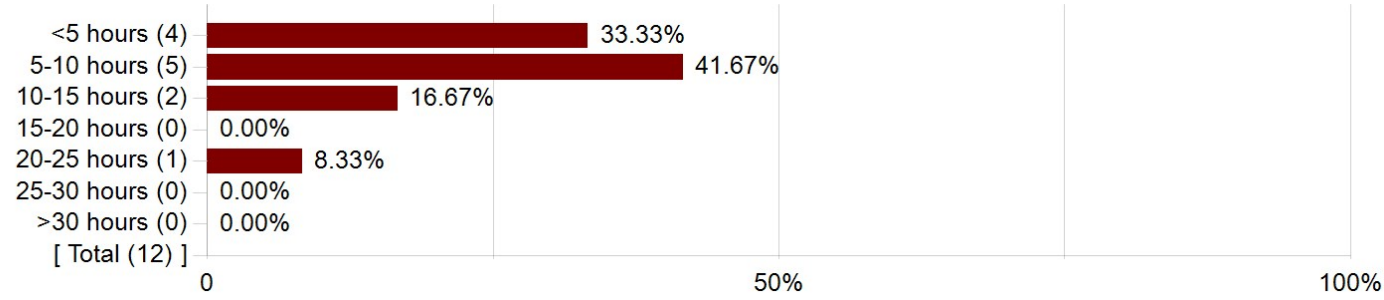

What proportion of classes did you attend?

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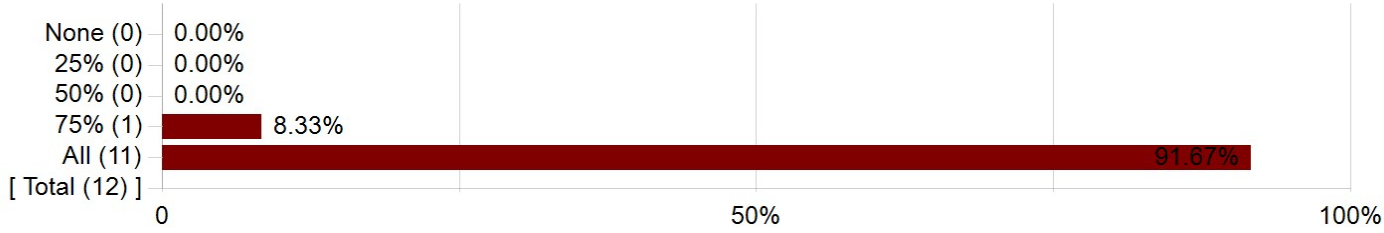

Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
i really struggled in this class because the humanities is not my forte, but i definitely learned being in this class. apparently kevin is the least harsh reading cultures instructor, but i did still feel very challenged.
This class was pretty comparable to high school literature classes except we moved through texts so much faster in this class that a lot more independent thinking was required since we spent so much less time discussing each text in class.
relatively easy for hum, but harsh essay grading
The reading load and writing expectations are what you would expect from any English/humanities class. For people who struggle with literary analysis, it will be a bit more difficult.
Very difficult, I did well in any other class in which essays were the main assignments, but pretty bad in this one.
This is probably obvious, but the writings are graded harder than what I experienced in high school. I went to office hours/met with the instructors, but still had a harder time.
It is a good class and not very hard to understand the readings.
It was a medium difficulty class, it definitely forced you to think and contribute ideas but it was not the hardest course.
It does require a certain amount of time to read and think about writing, so it's demanding on time. But it's not very hard to comprehend the text and ideas.