HUMA 17100 8 - Language and the Human II - Instructor(s): Ömer Eren

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

Number Enrolled: **18**
Number of Responses: **14**

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
– the way language shapes or limit one's identity – how individuals or groups construct identity based on their differences or similarity or based on existing standards – I like the flexibility in the assigned readings
Language's relation to different types of identity
Mostly, the best part is getting exposed to writers who I have either never heard of or have heard of but never read anything from. I am grateful to have had my thinking influence by the selected writers' ideas
I came into this class with an interest in languages and how it affects the way we navigate the world, and this class helped me learn so much more about that in really engaging analytical and emotionally impactful ways.
During this quarter, we focused on identity and the role that language plays for someone's identity.
I learned how to effectively construct arguments in my essays as well as analyze the connection between how language impacts identity.
I learned a lot about the fluidity of identity in regards to the language used by both self and others to describe it. I also learned how to critically interpret texts that I did not necessarily enjoy reading, which I think will be a useful skill.
Thinking critically about the complex relationship between language and identity. Having good in class discussions, building off other students' ideas.
How language interacts with and influences identity
My understanding of argument structure and close reading have increased by a huge amount.

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

Comments
– the discussion posts and the time to talk about them in class were very good. They allowed me to learn from the different perspectives of my peers
Class discussion were informative and also challenged me to think deeper about the material we were studying
The discussion (not just around the posts) was by far the most enriching
The discussions were always very student–focused and were almost always super engaging.
There was a ton of reading outside of the class. We spent the lectures discussion these readings which was very helpful to understand them better.
Our class discussions were very engaging and communicative that allowed me to understand a wide array of different perspectives.
Discussions were incredibly helpful for understanding the different texts and applying them to modern and personal experiences. Students were encouraged to share different perspectives and related experiences, which I also really enjoyed hearing about.
Group discussions were generally pretty good. Many students contributed and there was a lot of sharing of ideas and some good discussions.
Lots of in class discussions that had a wide variety of viewpoints, along with readings that offered the same thing in a different way
The texts of the course are somewhat dense, but with class discussion, you can break them down and understand the little nuances.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	7.69%	0.00%	23.08%	69.23%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	7.69%	0.00%	23.08%	69.23%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.08	4.00	0.00%	7.69%	7.69%	53.85%	30.77%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.23	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	46.15%	38.46%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.38	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	46.15%	46.15%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.31	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	38.46%	46.15%
I felt respected in this class.	4.85	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	84.62%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.69	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	15.38%	76.92%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
The choices of the books were very great but the time was very tight.
I loved this class, I always looked forward to having it.
I wish we covered the readings more extensively because sometimes they felt like a bad usage of my time to read.
The scope of the materials was a little bit narrow., so the majority of the discussions were about race, gender, and sexuality rather than language itself. I also feel like the materials all sort of agree with each other which makes a real discussion somewhat difficult. At times it just felt like we were taking turns talking instead of actually having a dialogue.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	7.69%	92.31%
Anyone interested in the topic	7.69%	92.31%

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

Comments
– the way the discussion were run – the choices of the reading and movies
Class discussions topics were interesting and were organized clearly
The discussions
Professor Eren brought the perfect mixture of analytic Linguistics knowledge and personal experiences/stories to help us connect with the material and make sure we learned something new with each and every class.
He always had a lot of discussion questions ready, and from there I think we had some very interesting discussions. He was always super engaged and involved.
His facilitated discussions fostered a unique dialogue without him talking to us the entire time.
The professor used discussion questions to guide discussions, but he also did not stick to them too strongly if the class seemed to want to discuss something else. He also used the chalkboard to map out the progress of each class, which was a great way to visualize the development of ideas.
Class slide discussions interspresed with the discussions
Omer allowed us to have conversations with each other about what we had read or our own discussion posts, which I found helpful and engaging.
Dialogue based on student discussion posts was much more spirited than anything else and I felt that Omer did a good job facilitating that.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
N/A
More class time discussion on the books that we read, the last book was kind of in a rush
Allowing student discussions to go forward more independently. other than that, great
Sometimes it felt like readings were just getting piled on and I wouldn't have time to read all of them. It would be helpful if we had less readings and more time to actually dive deeper into those texts.
I think there could be more of a focus on the writing aspect.
N/A, this course was really good
Sometimes his questions feel more like reading comprehension checks than avenues to a discussion

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	30.77%	61.54%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46.15%	46.15%	7.69%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.85	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	84.62%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.69	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	15.38%	76.92%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.77	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	7.69%	84.62%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	7.69%	0.00%	23.08%	69.23%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	23.08%	61.54%	7.69%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	7.69%	0.00%	15.38%	76.92%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.85	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	15.38%	84.62%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.85	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	0.00%	92.31%	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
Clara Mitchel (writing seminar person) conducted helpful and transformative writing seminars that genuinely improved the quality of my writing. Dozens have had me do some kind of writing for them, but Ms. Mitchel is among the now four people who gave me some genuinely good advice on tweaking my writing to be better which I have taken to heart and assimilated.
Clara Mitchell She was pretty uninvolved with the class itself but her writing seminars were incredibly helpful to my essays,
Clara Mitchell. She provided more feedback on essays this quarter, which was helpful in identifying writing techniques that I needed to work on. Her writing seminars used peer review to analyze essays and allowed extra time to discuss any specific questions we had about material. Some of the explanations of writing techniques were not immediately clear, but she used pretty good examples to clarify.

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	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.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	25.00%	25.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	0.00%	75.00%	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.	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.	4.50	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	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
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	3.55	4.00	0.00%	27.27%	18.18%	27.27%	27.27%	0.00%

Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
N/A

Is this class a requirement of some sort?

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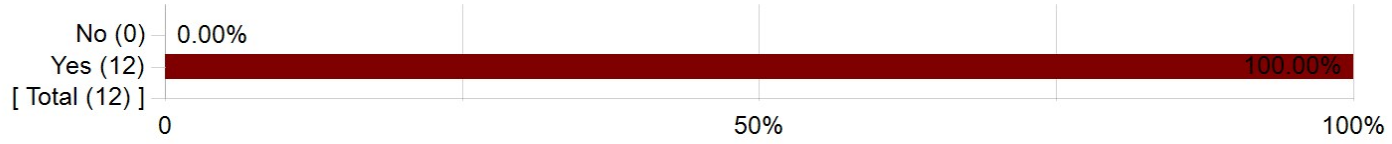

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

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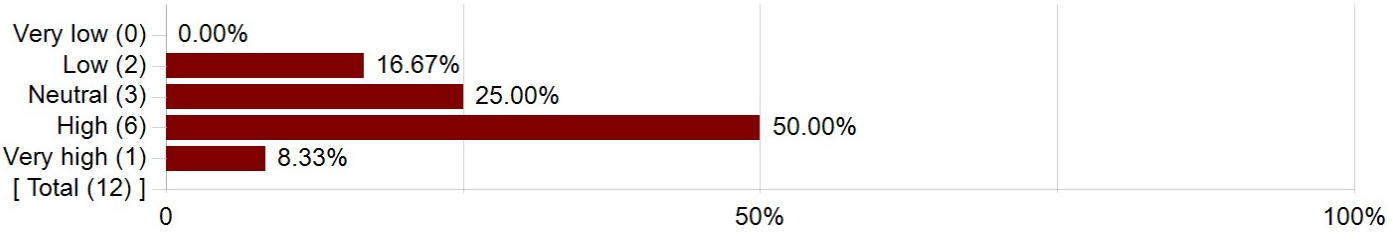
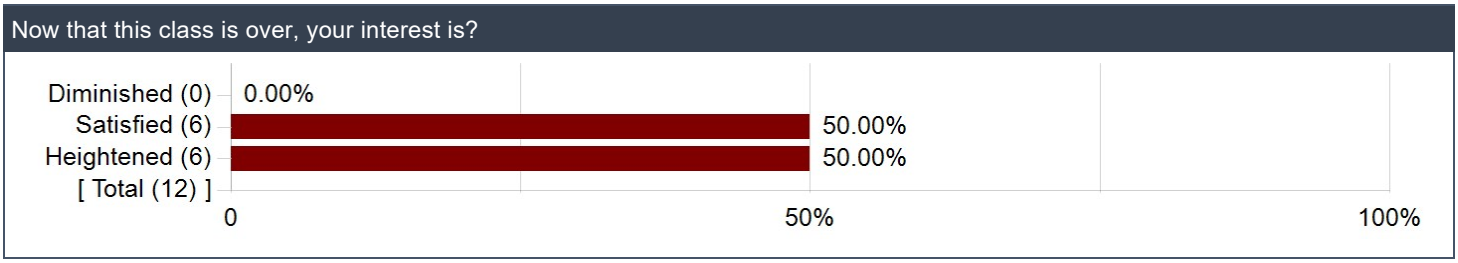
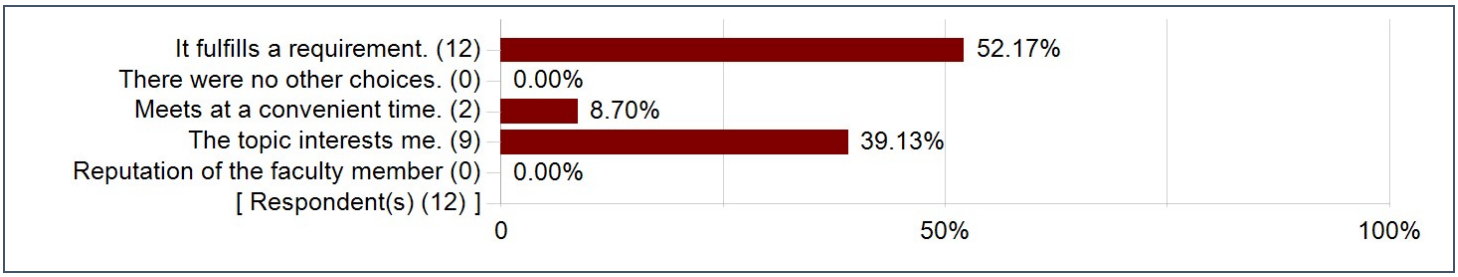


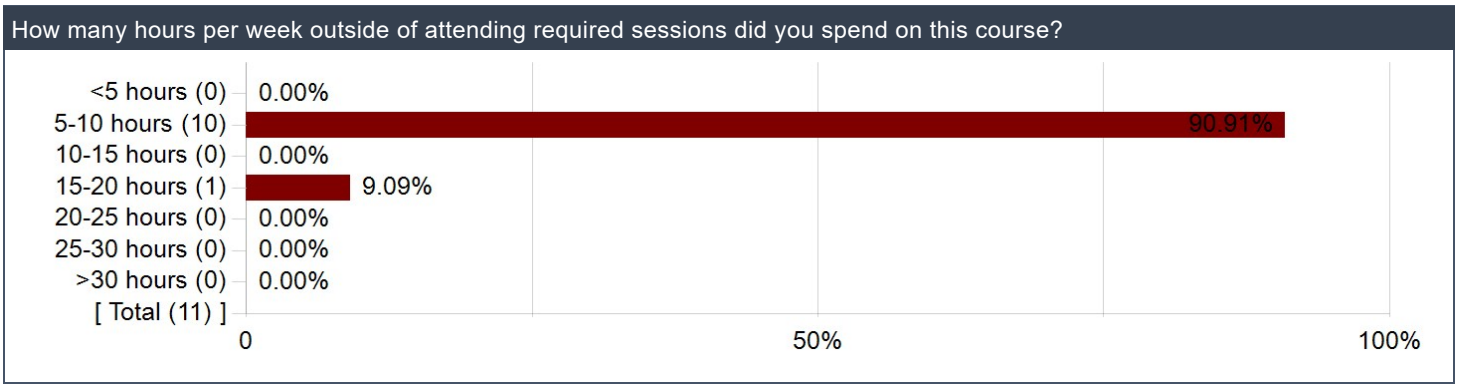
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



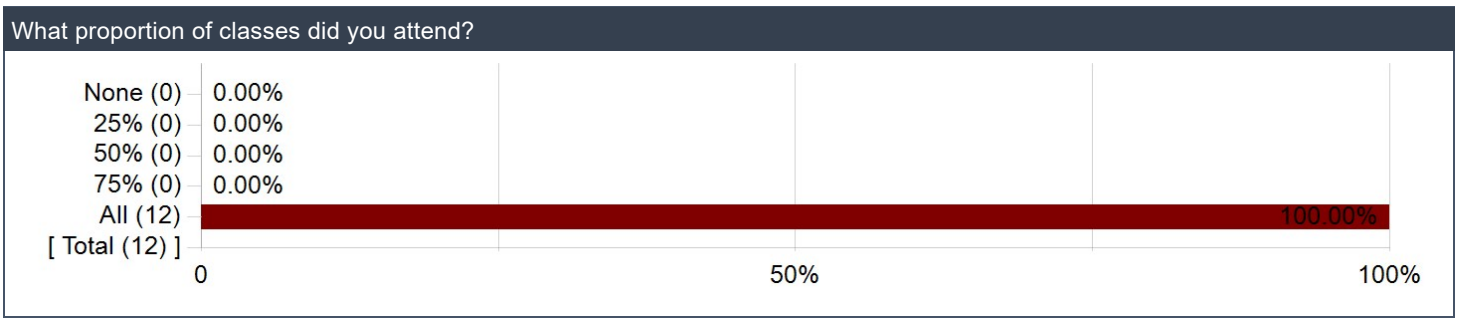
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
For someone with English as the third language, I still manage to enjoy the readings and the discussion
Moderate, but liked the course overall
Sometimes the reading could be overwhelming, but other than that this class was not difficult at all.
You really don't need any background experience to take this class
Very difficult to get an A and truly excel but very easy to maintain a B
No previous experience was necessary, and the ideas presented were all intellectually stimulating
Not very difficult, takes some work to write good essays.
I had very little experience in the field of linguistics before this but this class was incredibly engaging and I learned a lot about language and how it relates to many aspects of our lives. Highly recommend this course for anyone who has even a little interest in linguistics
I felt like the essay grading was a little strange and it seems like the difference between an A– and an A is a huge amount of effort while an A– to a B+ is very little. It just seems like everything you do is really just decided by 2 large essay grades and everything else is just busywork.