



HUMA 17000 5 - Language and the Human I - Instructor(s): Jason Riggle

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **10**

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 language affects society and power structures.
i'm not quite sure. possibly how to do a close reading of a text.
How to write interesting essays. How language affects power relations and shows social status.
Learned how language affects power structures
I learned how to write a college-level essay.
Expectations of college writing/ liberal arts course
I think that I really learned how to connect our readings back to the main themes of the course and that while you can have interesting analysis about the readings, it is not necessarily important if it cannot relate back to the focus of the reading.
I learned that language creates systems of hierarchy everyday, whether that is the obvious goal or not. I also learned about the value of coming up with interesting arguments and ways to make sure that my arguments are interesting enough to continue exploring.
How to genuinely analyze language and how individuals communicate with and influence others

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

Comments
Discussions were engaging.
discussions were moderately interesting but it felt like everyone was just trying to earn their participation points. occasionally interesting points were brought up and this was mostly facilitated by the professor. he did a good job of leading discussions in the right direction.
The lectures helped me understand what I was supposed to write in my essays. The seminars helped me with the writing process.
Class time was just discussion on assigned reading. Some articles /assignments were very long but they all did contribute to the core ideas of the course.
The discussions helped expand my perspective on the texts we read/watched.
Classes are generally structured as discussions, which overall helped me understand the texts we were reading more, although sometimes fell flat
I think that the lectures and discussions were very helpful for the essays in order to gage the type of writing that was expected as well as to give an example of the types of close readings expected.
In-class discussions were the most helpful in understanding the readings we did. Some of the academic papers especially were very dense and difficult to understand on my own, but class discussions related them to things I already knew and broke these dense readings into manageable bits. It was also interesting to hear from my classmates about their relationships with language and how their experiences related to what we were covering in class.
Overall the discussions were very intriguing and made me want to learn more

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.40	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	40.00%	50.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	3.90	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	50.00%	20.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	3.60	3.50	10.00%	0.00%	40.00%	20.00%	30.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.10	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	30.00%	40.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	3.90	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	70.00%	10.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.20	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	60.00%	30.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.40	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	40.00%	50.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
The grading system for essays is harsh and not communicated clearly.
The texts were very interesting, and appreciated that we explored different genres and forms of media.
This was an awesome class and I would recommend it to anyone who is genuinely interested in the material

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	10.00%	90.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	20.00%	80.00%

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

Comments
very interesting and knowledgable guy. he would occasionally go off on tangents about things that were related to course content that i found fascinating. however i think those were the only times i felt like i learned anything.
Facilitating class discussions and giving remarks that helped me understand the reading materials.
Class discussion
The instructor did a good job of stimulating the discussion when it died down.
Leading/guiding discussions
I think that the way the professor facilitated discussions was the most helpful for my learning. He gave helpful comments on our points which allowed us to make deeper connections with the reading and the focus of the class.
The professor was great about tailoring the discussions to whatever topic we were most interested in and let us lead each other in discussion so that it felt more authentic and less intimidating to speak up during class.
The professor was very knowledgeable while also being quite comical which overall helped the learning environment; making it a safe space for discussions of all types.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
teach us how to write. the standards of success on the essays were to "say something interesting," which is cool and all with the caveat that 1. the writing intern graded our essays and had her own completely different standards and 2. this is a first year writing class that i felt did nothing to help prepare me for the writing requirements of more advanced classes. the only time we get any kind of instruction on how to write is during the writing seminars and what we learn in the seminars is imo >50% of what we're graded on in the essays. both the professor and writing intern said early on that you should ditch all of the things you learned in hs when writing a college paper, but proceeded to not teach us how to write a college paper.
Give more detailed instructions on what to include in essays.
Be more available for office hours to speak about essays/assignments.
It would have been nice to have a smaller writing assignment graded before our first essay just to ease into college's standards of writing.
More clearly lay out essay requirements/expectations, especially for the first essay
I think that it would be beneficial if we had less readings so that we could focus more on. certain ones as well as having more opportunities to write maybe in shorter forms so that we could receive more feedback.
Be a bit clearer on the grading policies for different assignments
Nothing!!!!

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	3.80	4.00	0.00%	20.00%	10.00%	40.00%	30.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	3.88	3.50	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	10.00%	30.00%	20.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.30	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	50.00%	40.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	3.90	4.00	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	40.00%	30.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.30	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	50.00%	40.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.10	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	50.00%	30.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	3.89	4.00	0.00%	10.00%	10.00%	50.00%	20.00%	10.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.30	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	50.00%	40.00%	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
Excellent feedback on essays.
ms mitchell. writing seminars were way too sparse and short to learn anything despite the fact that they are essentially designed to replace freshman writing classes at other schools. wish some of the content here was during actual class time. wasn't a problem for me, but scheduling for the writing seminars was a huge issue and led to attendance being like 50–60%.
Clara Mitchel
Clara Mitchell. Instructed 3 writing seminar to help us write essays. Was not helpful for our specific essays.
Clara Mitchell – Ms. Mitchell gave very helpful feedback on my first essay. She also promptly responds to emails.
Clara Mitchell I think that there were aspects of the writing seminars that were helpful for my writing, however I wish we focused more on peer reviews or had more opportunities to actually receive feedback on our writing.
Clara Mitchell Her writing seminars were helpful in understanding what she would be looking for in papers, and they served as a good introduction to some of the strategies that can be used to develop interesting arguments. However, she left very little feedback for the first paper, so it was difficult for me to pinpoint specific weak points in my writing to work on for the second paper.
Ms. Mitchell was the writing tutor and she was very helpful with every aspect of the writing process.

The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	50.00%	37.50%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	3.88	4.00	0.00%	12.50%	12.50%	50.00%	25.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	3.63	4.00	12.50%	0.00%	25.00%	37.50%	25.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	3.88	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	37.50%	25.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	3.50	4.00	12.50%	0.00%	25.00%	50.00%	12.50%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	62.50%	25.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	3.88	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	62.50%	12.50%	0.00%

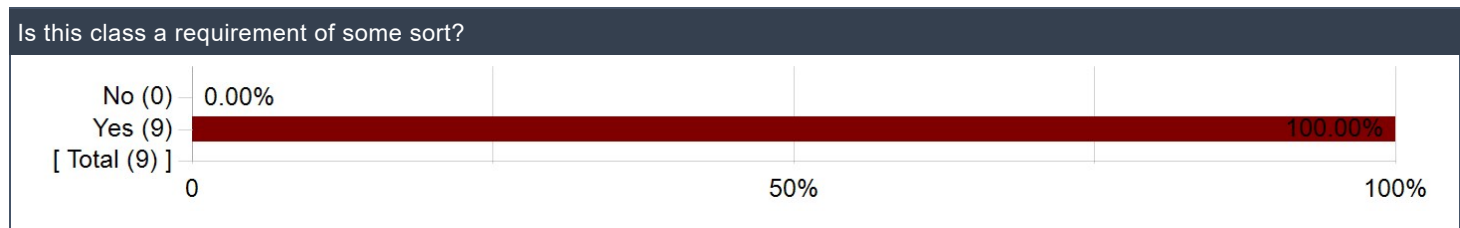
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	3.67	4.00	0.00%	11.11%	33.33%	33.33%	22.22%	0.00%

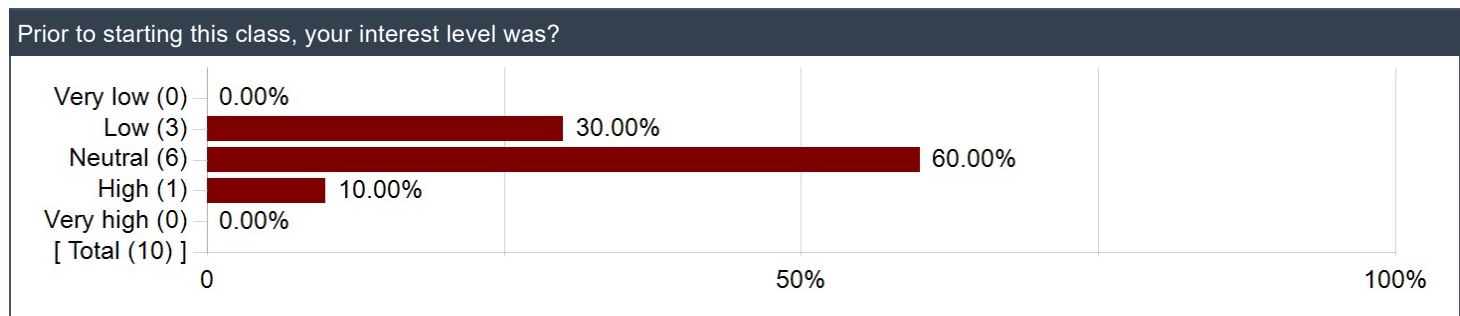
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
Movie screenings which were great

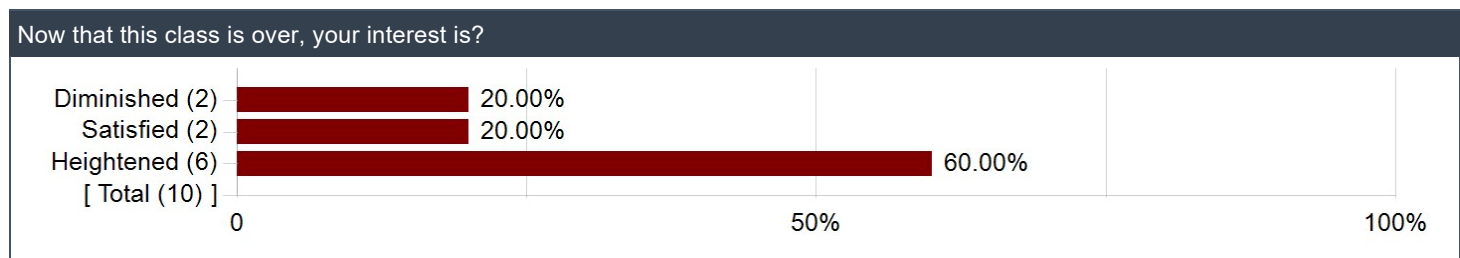
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



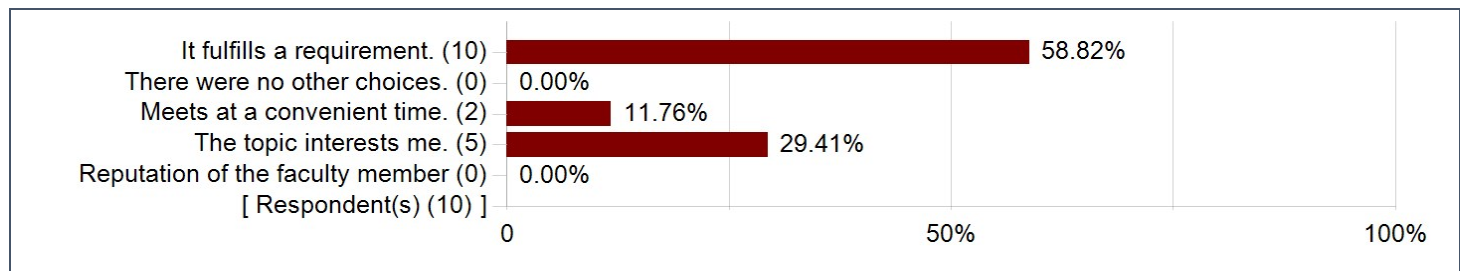
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



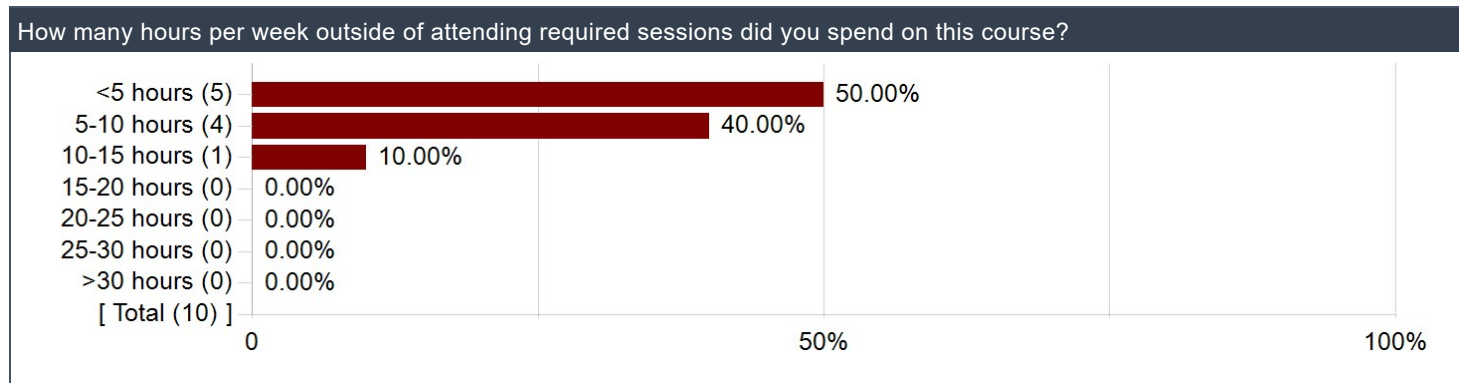
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



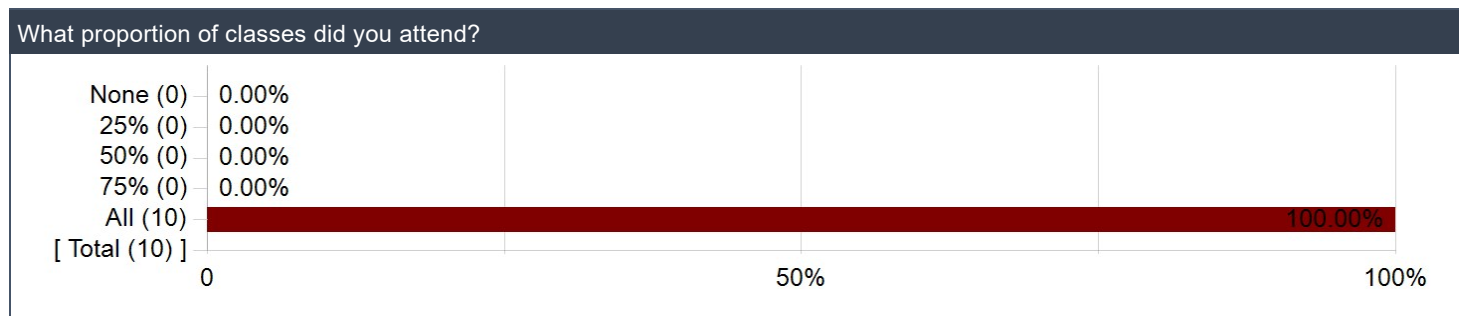
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
the one essay we've gotten back so far was graded pretty harshly. second essay will supposedly be graded on how much we improved. other than that i genuinely can't say because i haven't received feedback on most of the things we've done. reading load is fine and probably pretty average for a hum class. overall, could probably be worse but also not the easiest hum section.
The amount of reading is significant, and the essays that we are required to write are challenging.
The course was not too difficult.
Not very difficult, more reading then expected, background being high school English classes.
I think that the level of difficulty was no too bad for a first year course. I felt adequately prepared by my high school writing experience.
Not very difficult; if any of the readings were difficult to understand, the professor was aware and helped me understand them better during class discussions
Not difficult at all...overall very inviting for those interested!