



HUMA 18100 12 - Poetry and the Human II - Instructor(s): Simon Friedland

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

Number Enrolled: **16**

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: **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 gained many skills when understanding the different realms of poetry, and analyzing it as well
I learned how to effectively write an introduction to my paper that includes a destabilizing conditions, its impact, and a thesis. Writing a good introduction can be helpful to understanding the direction of your paper and what you will be arguing.
One of the skills I gained was close readings of poetry, and how to form a claim over a tension that you notice. Furthermore, I learned how to read poetry from the poet's perspective as well as from the perspective of the reader.
Since the first quarter gave me a strong basis for analyzing poetry by its form, this quarter helped me build on that and learn to analyze poetry more for meaning and especially in the context of when it was written.
I think the most important thing I learned was how to dive deeply into poetic texts.
I think we did a a lot of good analysis in this class, my writing improved a lot but so did my analysis of poetry due to rich discussions
How to analyze poetry
I definitely learned how to analyze things more deeply, and to take historical context into consideration when I'm reading an emotionally charged work. I also think that it improved my language and vocabulary in general, and helped me communicate my thoughts more accurately and affectively.
I think the most important things I learned were an appreciation and love for poetry. To be more specific though, I learned techniques and strategies to analyze poetry. I now feel like I know how to ask the right questions that allow me to unlock a poem's meaning.
In this course, I didn't just become familiar with understanding and reading poetry, but I learned much more about the historical and social movements that motivated a lot of the poems we read in class. We also interacted with many important poets and it was nice to be able to read their works, and also interact with other forms of poetry and art like poem recitations, performances, songs, and visual media
Poetry analysis, particularly through the lens of society, history, and other literature.

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

Comments
The class was discussion based, which was very appropriate for the course as it helped me understand the content and brought me closer to appreciating the poetry
It taught me new concepts regarding writing papers and analyzing poetry. Towards the end of the quarter, I felt I had a better understanding of poetry analysis and symbolism.
Discussions helped dive even deeper into the poetry we read for homework, and there were a lot of interpretations that helped spark interesting and useful conversations.
The discussions particularly contributed to my learning. I really enjoyed spending a lengthened amount of time on a single poem and picking it apart as a class. Hearing my peers' ideas of the meaning and its relationship to the structure really taught me to think of poems in a new way when I read them and find the intricacies aside from what is obviously presented.
I consistently looked forward to the discussions. They were always engaging and fun.
Honestly the discussions were phenomenal with understanding the poems and I don't think there was any essay I wrote that I was completely lost on because of how rich discussions were
Class discussions helped me understand the poems better
Hearing other people's perspective in group discussions really contributed to my understanding of literary analysis. My classmates pointed out a lot of things I wouldn't have normally considered, and their thought process informed how I conducted analysis in the future.
I found discussing the poems in small groups with other students to be very engaging. This activity would keep me focused more so than big group discussions, although I also think those can be very fruitful and productive when analyzing more immediately accessible poems. I also really loved hearing from Professor Friesland when we were talking about the Wasteland. It is always fun when the professor clearly has a passion for a certain piece of writing!
This class is mainly based on discussions and that helped create a very comfortable environment where I was able to learn a lot just from hearing my other classmates share their thoughts and experiences. I also feel like we had the creative liberty to be able to connect the poems to real-life scenarios which often made our discussions a lot more fun and engaging.
I genuinely loved the discussions we had in class. The first few classes were a bit dull as we spent a most of the time analyzing just one poem, but it picked up later on and really became one of my favorite courses. The discussions often went far beyond just poetry analysis, and Professor Friedland challenged us to think about poetry and its form and place in society in a way I didn't know was possible.
The assignments, particularly paired with the writing seminar lectures, were helpful in building up my ability to close read and write an essay, though they were a bit difficult to grasp at first.
We lived the life of the mind fr.

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%	8.33%	0.00%	16.67%	75.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.25	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	41.67%	41.67%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.58	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	41.67%	58.33%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	75.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	8.33%	0.00%	8.33%	83.33%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Prof. Friedland is an excellent teacher of poetry.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	8.33%	91.67%
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
He was a very interactive and laid back professor that made the class environment very open and encouraging to participate in.
The open-mindedness and attentiveness to the material
When Mr Friedland gave a summary of his thoughts of the interpretation of the poem at the end of the class.
The instructor helped hone in on references that we may not have gotten and whenever there was a recording of the poet reading their poem, he would play it. I think that helped the most because then he would facilitate a discussion based on how the author reads the poem vs. how we read the poem and how it changes our interpretation.
My instructor's patient and inviting teaching contributed a lot to my learning. He did a good job of balancing portions of the class when he lectured and relayed information and his thoughts to us about the poems, as well as instances in the class when he let the students drive the conversation.
Prof. Friedland's insights were always illuminating and stimulated further discussion. As well, his relaxed demeanor created a supportive class environment.
Professor Friedland's ability to engage everyone in class was phenomenal and I think the discussions contributed the most to my learning for sure
I liked when the professor made connections to outside media.
He helped the discussion along by elaborating on established point or presenting new perspectives similar to the ones previously stated.
I think my instructor's ability to ask thought-provoking questions greatly aided in facilitating really good group discussions.
I enjoyed how the professor gave us the freedom to be able to direct the discussion to the topics that interested us the most but still helped guide the discussion when we didn't know where to begin.
Professor Friedland has one of the greatest vocabularies, and he's so insightful in every class, bringing ideas that help us see the text in new ways. He's also incredibly understanding about the other courses we have and flexible with deadlines.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
More time to discuss each poem
Sometimes we might stay on a poem or topic for too long and it would be better to move on especially when we have multiple poems to cover.
One thing is that we focused on each poem for too long, I feel as though if we focused on more than one poem per class that would have worked better.
Sometimes we spent just a little too long on one poem or the routine of doing the same class style over and over could at time get monotonous.
Nothing, he was great!
The
I think if he implemented discussion questions into class the discussion would be more productive and run more smoothly.
I think he could incorporate more time for students to talk with one another.
Maybe give more context to understand some of the poems

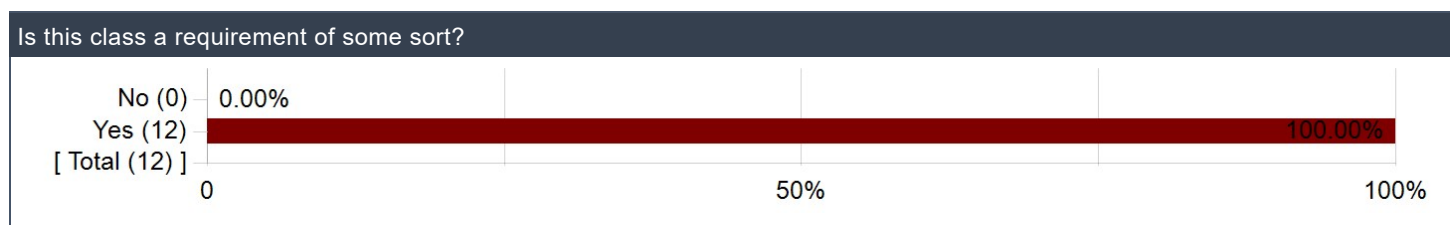
The Instructor . . .

	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.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	83.33%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.83	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	83.33%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	75.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	16.67%	75.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.82	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.67%	75.00%	8.33%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	83.33%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	8.33%	8.33%	83.33%	0.00%

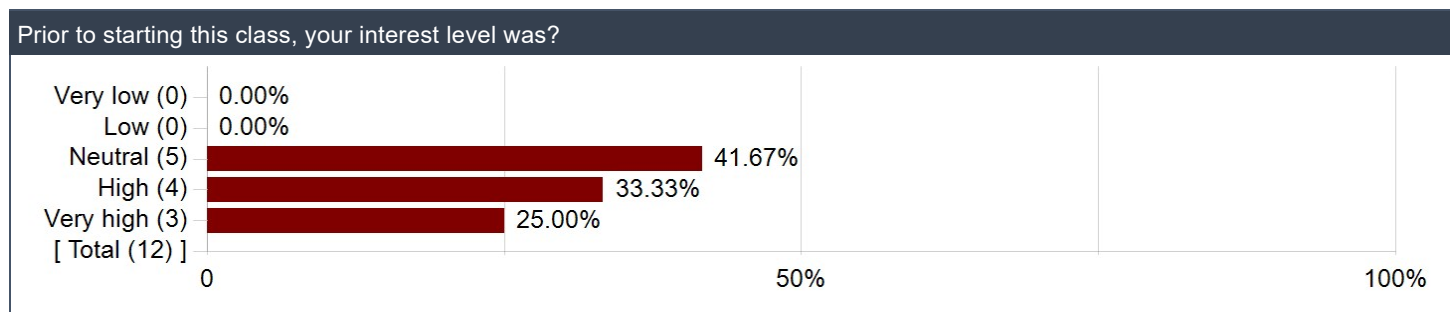
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	11.11%	77.78%
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	4.10	4.00	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	60.00%	30.00%	0.00%

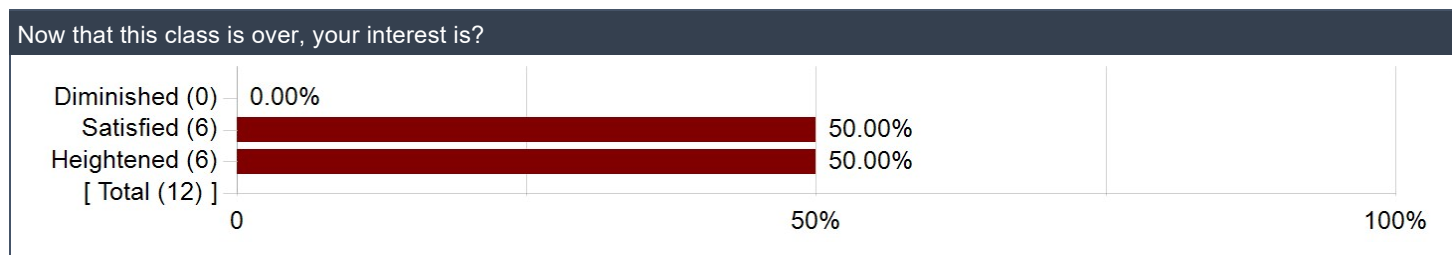
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



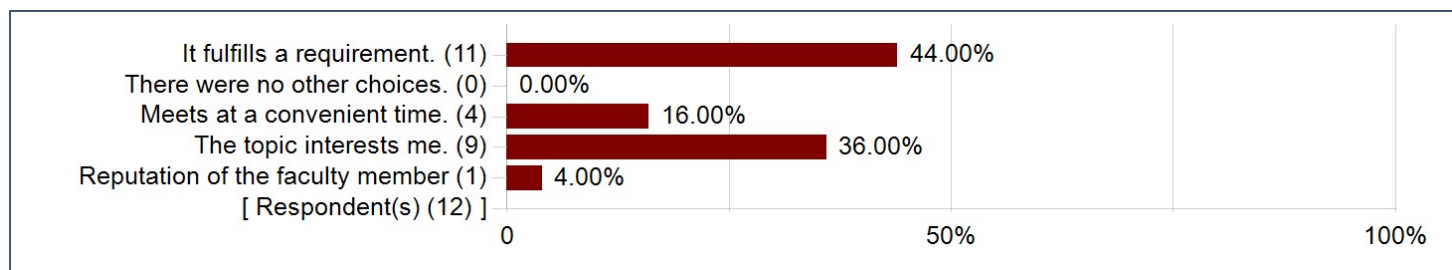
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



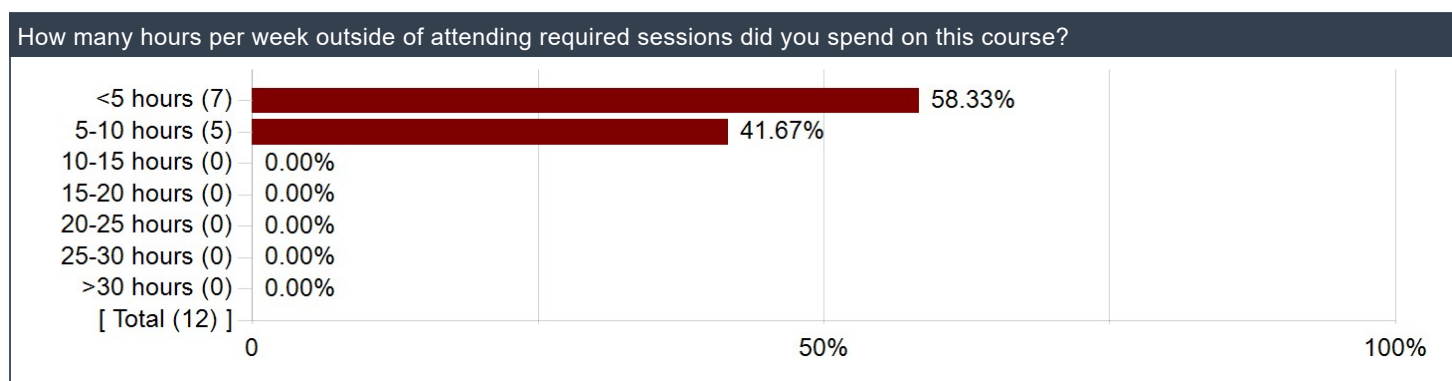
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



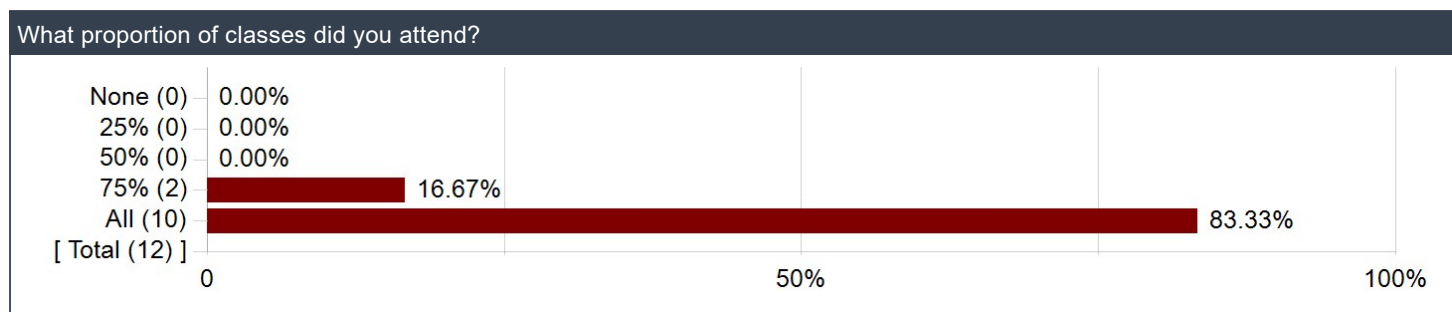
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
The course was alright although I felt we could have had more time to write our essays. This could be done by giving us the essay prompt earlier. In addition, I also felt that it would be good if Mr Friedland could provide us with some optional questions that we could look to answer for our essays.
Pretty easy compared to english classes in high school
This class is not difficult at all, I love writing poetry so maybe I'm biased but a lot of my other peers also had quite an easy to okay time in this course
I think this course was pretty difficult in terms of the level of content we analyzed.
I didn't know much about poetry before and I still felt that I was able to keep up with the discussions while also being able to gain significant understanding of the material