



HUMA 12050 9 - Greece and Rome: Texts, Traditions, Transformations I - Instructor(s): Simon Friedland

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

Number Enrolled: **11**

Number of Responses: **9**

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
The most important thing I gained from this class, was practicing creating comparisons between different works and growing as a creative thinker (especially in my essays' conclusions).
The Iliad, The Aeneid, Omeros – I now know about them and how to analyse them
I haven't particularly learned anything new, other than various interpretations of the various books we have read. However, my literary analysis, reading, writing, and discussion skills have been significantly honed.
I learnt how to analyse the nuance of texts and embrace different readings. I also improved my ability to close-read passages and similes, in particular in Homer's the Iliad, and to develop complex ideas in a more analytical way. In regards to writing essays, I learnt how to argue my ideas more poignantly through close passages of the text and to form a stronger thesis.
It reinforced analysis of poetic texts, and narrative as a whole.
A greater knowledge of and appreciation for typical Greek and Roman epic and poetic forms (proems, ekphrasis, aristeia).
Through the feedback I received on my essay assignments, I learned to be more interpretive and conduct deep analysis on a piece of evidence, as opposed to simply citing multiple pieces of evidence.
How to connect Greco-Roman history to present day by utilizing analytical thinking, comparison and contrast, and the importance of all different perspectives. Writing skills were also improved through new writing techniques and constructive feedback.

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

Comments
The discussions are very helpful for gaining insights in the material. Certain discussions/ lectures can seem a little unhelpful and long, however, the class predominantly moves at a fine speed. The readings for homework and are necessary to understand the material and contribute to in-class discussions.
Lectures were very helpful, the prof was very knowledgeable on the subject and facilitated interesting discussions.
The readings and discussions
In class discussions helped me make connections and analyze text, both seeing other peoples interpretations and making my own.
In-class discussions were certainly the highlight of my learning with this class, aided by the thought-provoking discussion posts. I also learnt lots from my essay feedback and the professor was fantastic at pushing us to develop our ideas to the next level.
It had challenging texts that kinda forced me to think.
The discussions helped me clarify my owns ideas, and my classmates' ideas were often interesting and illuminating.
Discussions helped me understand parts of the book we were reading that I was confused about. However, certain discussions felt very exciting and lively, while other discussions felt slow-paced.
Writing essays and discussions really helped contribute to my learning.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	44.44%	44.44%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.44	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	33.33%	55.56%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.22	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	55.56%	33.33%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	44.44%	44.44%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.89	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	88.89%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%
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.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	44.44%	44.44%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I highly recommend reading summaries of the readings' chapters as well as the assigned readings in order to best prepare for class. Taking notes or annotating your book during in-class discussions is also quite helpful.
NA
Big stuff, keep it Mr. Friedland
I wish Professor Friedland had lectured a little bit more; sometimes, especially with Omeros, it felt like the class didn't have any useful ideas and I would have appreciated some guidance.
This course discussion typically utilized many different analysis through outside readings. However, you do not necessarily have to be the most well versed in mythology to take this class. The readings might require a bit of decoding and looking up answers but it is due—able to pass this class with a good grade and very limited prior knowledge. However, the best way to succeed is probably to do at least most of the readings at least in order to contribute to discussions.

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
Prof. Friedland challenged everyone to think outside the box, whether in class, during office hours, or through his feedback.
In class discussions, the prof chose discussion topics and passages that deepened the reading and introduced many new interpretations. All of the prompts and questions were engaging.
His openness to new ideas
His ability to ask meaningful questions and let us come up with the answers
His essay feedback and his questions in class to guide us through a conversation.
He allowed conversation to flow freely and naturally, while still keeping it directed towards the text at hand. One of the my favorite things that he did was his incorporation of personal stories and narratives into the conversation of texts towards the end of the course, allowing us to more strongly draw greater connections beyond just the course texts.
I found occasional lectures on the context of the epics and how others have received them interesting—also, the ideas of the German philosophers.
The assignments and the topics covered in discussion felt disconnected at times.
His involvement in the discussion along with the students.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Try to give the students more free-reign with the discussions in order to personalize the class more to the students.
n/a
NA
Not sure
N/A
Perhaps supplying important passages of the required readings to focus on before class.
I did wish there had actually been a little more lecturing.
If the instructor could go through a sample essay at the beginning of the quarter to explain and show what they were looking for, that would have been very helpful.
Offering a bit more explanations when it comes to essay prompts.

The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.56	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	44.44%	55.56%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.11	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	44.44%	33.33%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.38	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.67%	33.33%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.33	5.00	0.00%	11.11%	0.00%	33.33%	55.56%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.33	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	11.11%	44.44%	44.44%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.67	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.78	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	22.22%	77.78%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.44	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	55.56%	44.44%	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
Tommy Pfannkoch

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.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%

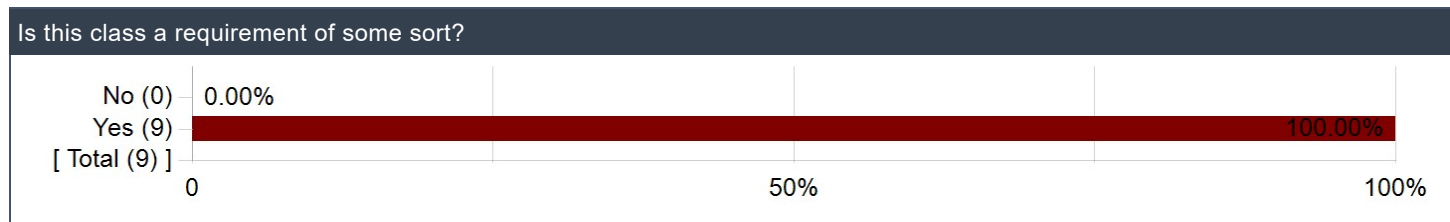
How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	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	3.75	4.00	12.50%	0.00%	25.00%	25.00%	37.50%	0.00%

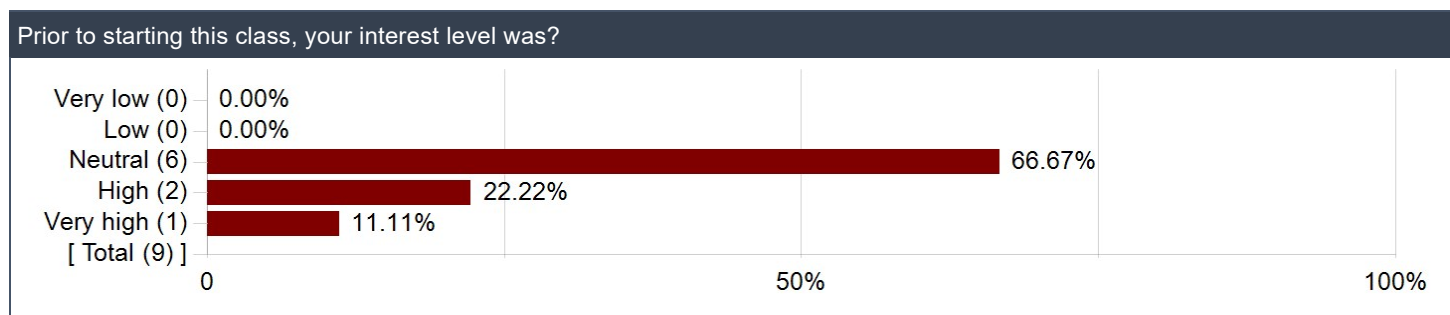
Other course elements not mentioned above:

Comments
NA
Dr. Tommy Pfannkoch was an excellent writing seminar instructor, and very friendly as well

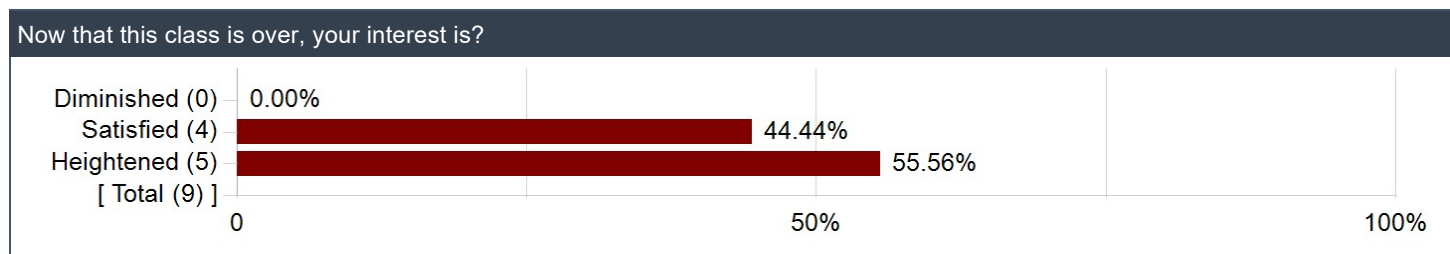
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



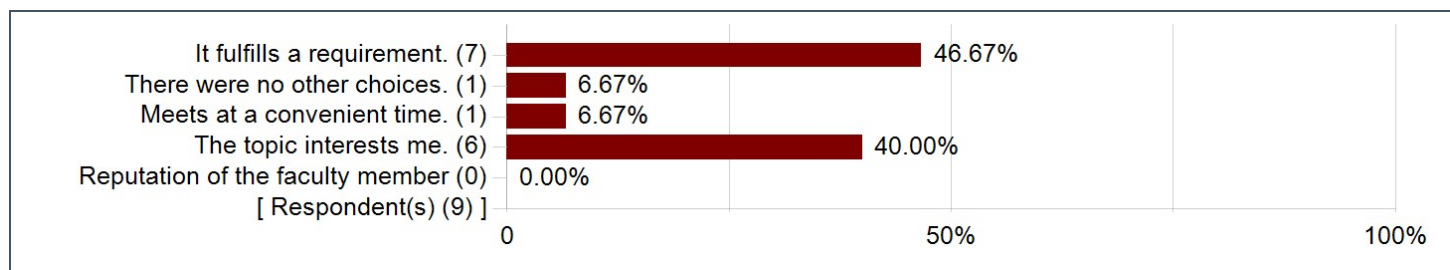
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



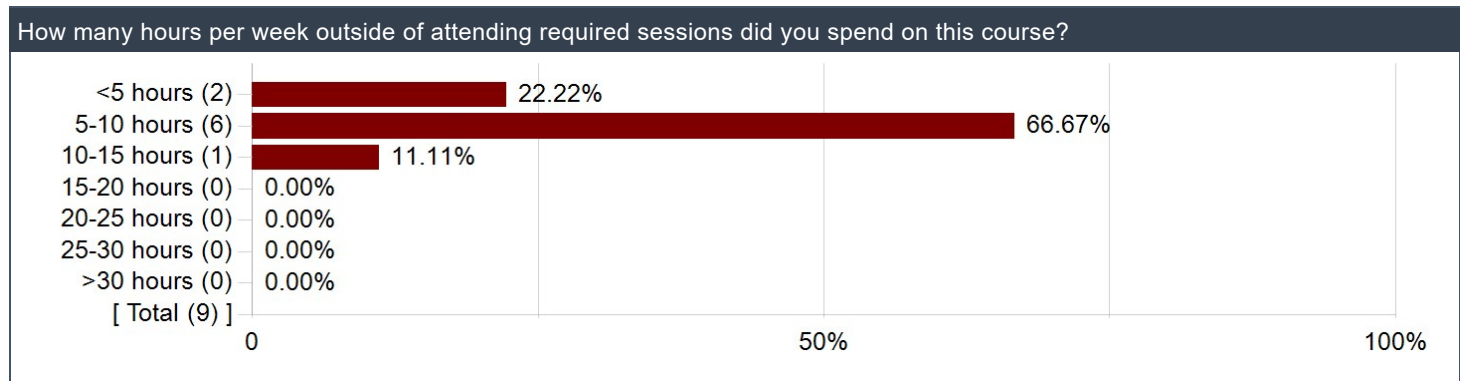
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



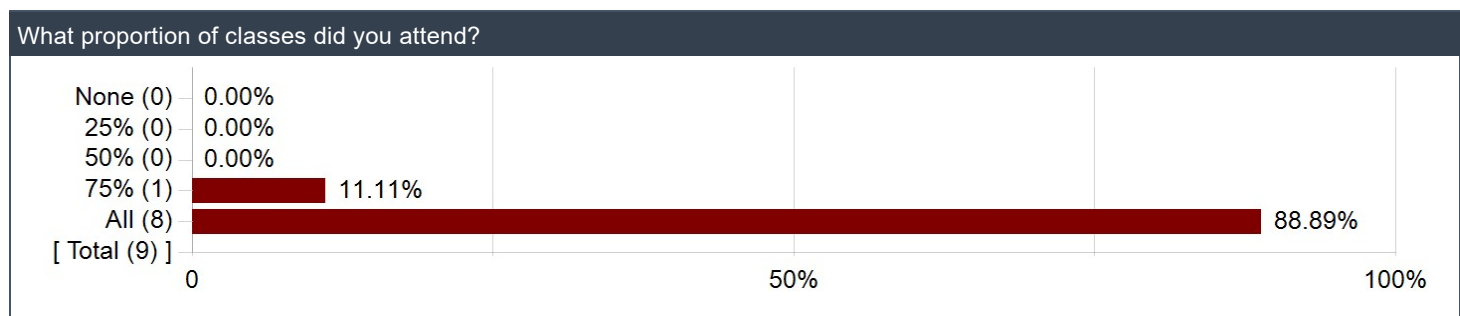
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
My previous experience with classics made this class easier ad more enjoyable, however it is definitely not required.
Medium
Wasn't that hard
7/10 difficulty
Its not that bad
Very easy for me. I had read the Odyssey before, but had no other background in Greek/Roman epics (although I had very extensive English background experience).
Just right
Relatively difficult as I had very limited background experience and usually ended up looking up and decoding many different texts.