## Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

## What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

| Comments |
| --- |
| I learned how to read philosophical books and analyze them |
| How to write a philosophical paper |
| I learned about writing about philosophical texts and how to reconstruct arguments and use them to prove my own points. I learned about crafting contestable claims and how to structure an essay that combines ideas across texts or writers. |
| My analytical writing skills improved. |
| How to read and write about philosophical texts; an overview of some of Plato's and Aristotle's works/philosophies. |
| How to read/interpret philosophical dialogues/texts |
| How to ask questions and philosophize. |

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

| Comments |
| --- |
| I thought discussions were helpful with understanding parts of the text I did not get fully |
| Discussions and slides |
| The assignments tested our understanding of the material and also how to come to certain conclusions given what we read in the text. Starting with shorter analyses and progressing to longer papers helped prepare us for the style of writing we needed for more success. |
| The discussions were very interesting and helped me understand plus contextualize classic philosophy. |
| Discussions, assignments, professor/writing instructor's feedback |
| Class discussions were really active, interesting, and thought–provoking. Occasional lectures were informative. Writing seminars helped develop relevant writing skills in the context of various assignments. |
| Writing seminars helped understand how to organize my papers |
| Discussions helped understand the texts, especially the more dense ones. |

## Please respond to the following:

| | Mean | Median | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| This course challenged me intellectually. | 4.27 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 9.09% | 54.55% | 36.36% |
| I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it. | 4.45 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 54.55% | 45.45% |
| I understood the standards for success on assignments. | 3.73 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 9.09% | 36.36% | 27.27% | 27.27% |
| Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments. | 4.18 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 18.18% | 45.45% | 36.36% |
| I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work. | 4.09 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 9.09% | 72.73% | 18.18% |
| My work was evaluated fairly. | 4.18 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 18.18% | 45.45% | 36.36% |
| I felt respected in this class. | 4.64 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 36.36% | 63.64% |
| Overall, this was an excellent course. | 4.27 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 9.09% | 0.00% | 45.45% | 45.45% |

## Additional comments about the course:

| Comments |
| --- |
| Professor Ferguson was excellent! He was very good at leading interesting class discussions, and I really looked forward to making sense of Plato and Aristotle (and Sophocles and Boethius) each week. |
| Instructions and expectations for essays could be more clearly stated. |

## I would recommend this course to:

| | No | Yes |
|---|---|---|
| Highly-motivated and well-prepared students | 9.09% | 90.91% |
| Anyone interested in the topic | 9.09% | 90.91% |

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

| Comments |
|---|
| He clearly explained the context of the texts |
| Giving background information on figures |
| The class discussions helped broaden my understanding of the texts and see them in a different perspective as suggested by other students. |
| His slow analysis of the texts helped me understand them |
| Office hours were great, Prof was very available |
| His facilitation of class discussions was very good — he struck a great balance between full student participation and offering his own thoughts on the various works we read. |
| Conversations in office hours and group discussions in class |
| Leading discussions and focusing on the text helped my understanding |

## What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

| Comments |
|---|
| Giving us clearer expectations for the papers would help. |
| A very minor one, but is it possible to post all the assignments/reading questions in Canvas? I always had a hard time finding Prof. Ferguson's emails in my outlook. |
| n/a |
| Nothing |

## The Instructor . . .

| | Mean | Median | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | N/A |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Organized the course clearly. | 4.20 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 10.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 40.00% | 0.00% |
| Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding. | 4.56 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 40.00% | 50.00% | 10.00% |
| Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful. | 4.70 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 30.00% | 70.00% | 0.00% |
| Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course. | 4.40 | 4.50 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 10.00% | 40.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% |
| Challenged you to learn. | 4.70 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 30.00% | 70.00% | 0.00% |
| Helped you gain significant learning from the course content. | 4.50 | 4.50 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% |
| Was available and helpful outside of class. | 4.89 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 10.00% | 80.00% | 10.00% |
| Motivated you to think independently. | 4.50 | 4.50 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 50.00% | 50.00% | 0.00% |
| Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment. | 4.60 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 40.00% | 60.00% | 0.00% |
| Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning. | 4.60 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 40.00% | 60.00% | 0.00% |

## The TA/CA or Intern. . .

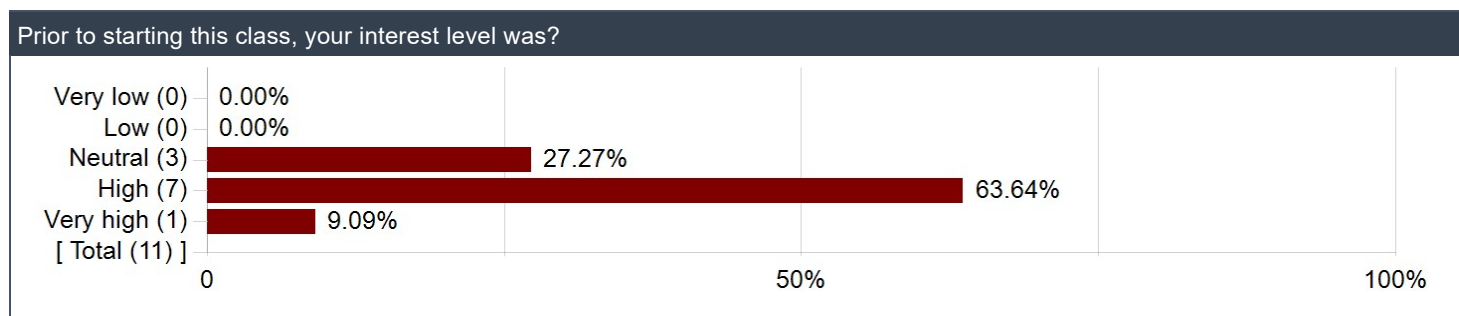|  | Mean | Median | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | N/A |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Facilitated discussions that supported your learning. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 100.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| Gave you useful feedback on your work. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 100.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 100.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| Challenged you to learn. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 100.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| Helped you succeed in the class. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 100.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| Was available and helpful outside of class. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 100.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning. | 4.00 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 100.00% | 0.00% | 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 | 3.11 | 3.00 | 0.00% | 22.22% | 44.44% | 33.33% | 0.00% | 0.00% |

## Is this class a requirement of some sort?
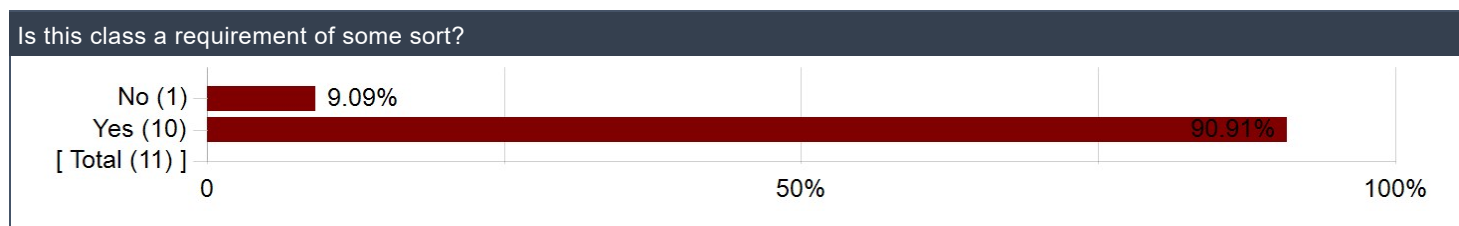
| Is this class a requirement of some sort? |
|---|

No (1) — 9.09%
Yes (10) — 90.91%
[ Total (11) ]

## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

| Prior to starting this class, your interest level was? |
|---|

Very low (0) — 0.00%
Low (0) — 0.00%
Neutral (3) — 27.27%
High (7) — 63.64%
Very high (1) — 9.09%
[ Total (11) ]

## Now that this class is over, your interest is?

| Now that this class is over, your interest is? |
| --- |

- Diminished (1) — 9.09%
- Satisfied (8) — 72.73%
- Heightened (2) — 18.18%
- [ Total (11) ]
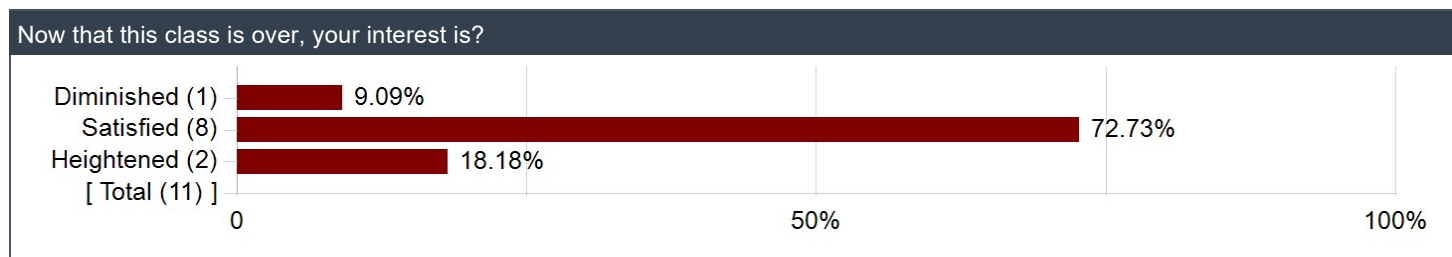
## Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)
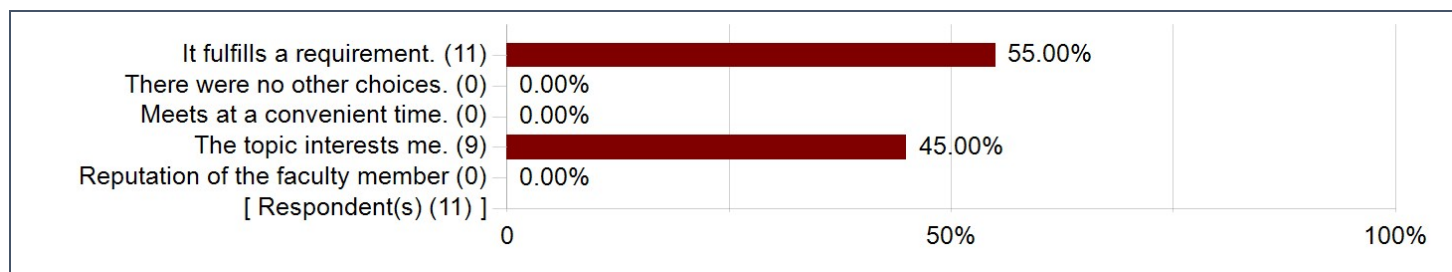
- It fulfills a requirement. (11) — 55.00%
- There were no other choices. (0) — 0.00%
- Meets at a convenient time. (0) — 0.00%
- The topic interests me. (9) — 45.00%
- Reputation of the faculty member (0) — 0.00%
- [ Respondent(s) (11) ]

## How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?

| How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course? |
| --- |

- <5 hours (5) — 45.45%
- 5-10 hours (3) — 27.27%
- 10-15 hours (3) — 27.27%
- 15-20 hours (0) — 0.00%
- 20-25 hours (0) — 0.00%
- 25-30 hours (0) — 0.00%
- >30 hours (0) — 0.00%
- [ Total (11) ]

## What proportion of classes did you attend?

| What proportion of classes did you attend? |
| --- |

- None (0) — 0.00%
- 25% (0) — 0.00%
- 50% (0) — 0.00%
- 75% (0) — 0.00%
- All (10) — 100.00%
- [ Total (10) ]
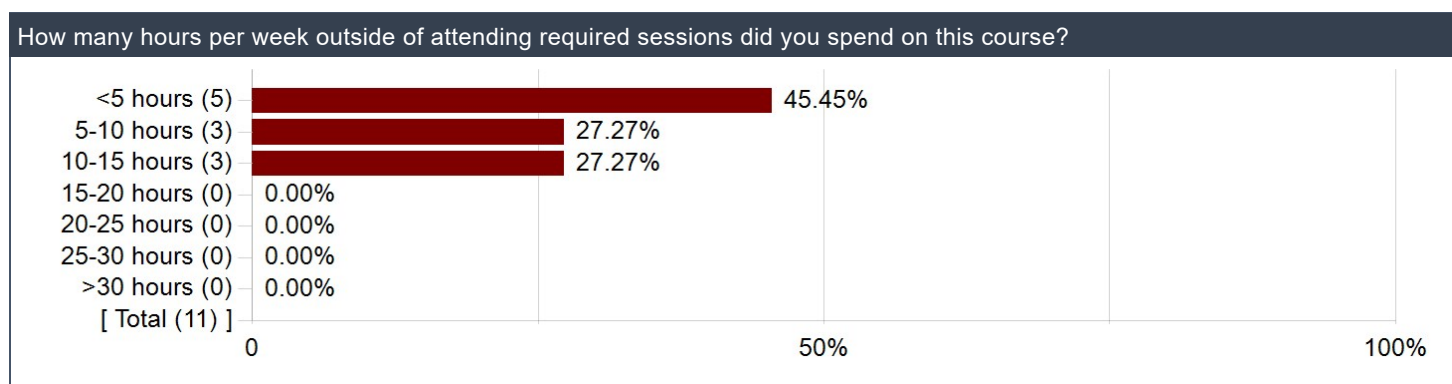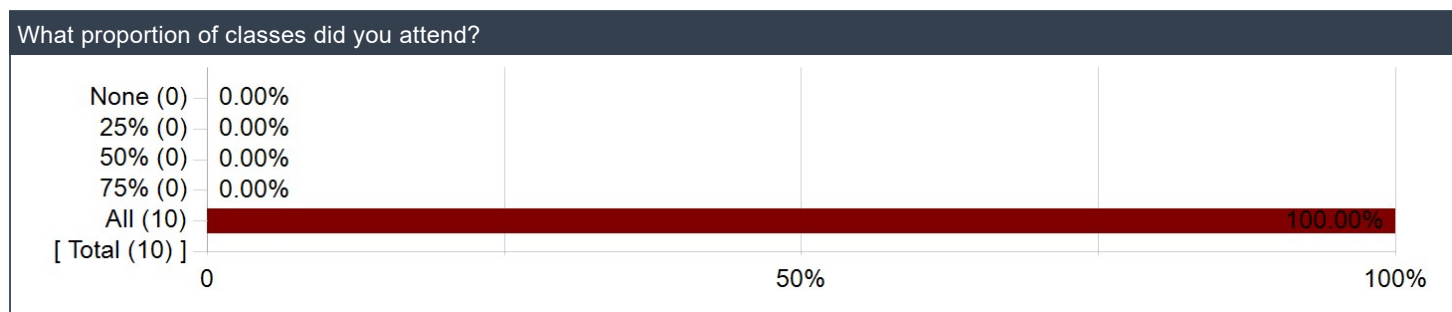
# Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

| Comments |
|---|
| Good |
| As long as you listen and participate, all should be good |
| Had some difficulty learning the writing style required for this class, but overall quite good. |
| Not so difficult. Doing the readings definitely helps you get a lot more out of it, and there are fairly extensive/regular writing assignments, but in terms of actual difficulty level it's very manageable. |
| no experience with philosophy, difficult to adjust at first but got the swing of things as the quarter went on |
| Difficult to understand the standards of writing expected |