

Project Title: **Fall 2022 Evaluations**

Courses Audience: **26**  
Responses Received: **19**  
Response Ratio: **73.08%**

## Subject Details

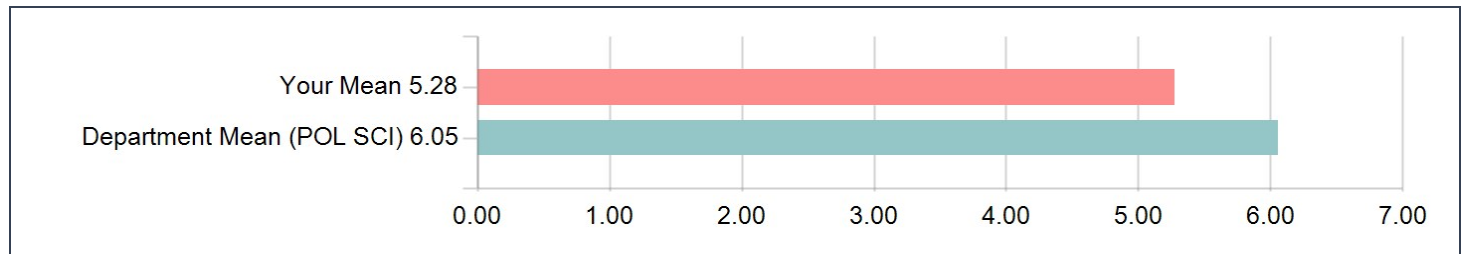
Name	POLSCI 5 DIS 106 Introduction to International Relations (EVAL FOR GSI)
DEPT_NAME	POLSCI
DEPT_FORM	POL SCI
EVALUATION_TYPE	G
First Name	Yue
Last Name	Lin

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Please note that "Department Mean" for each rating question is calculated using all sections in your department. This may include both Faculty and GSIs depending on whether the department has selected a question item to be used for both.

## UNIVERSITY WIDE QUESTIONS (QUANTITATIVE/RATING):

*The items in this section are asked across all courses at Berkeley.*

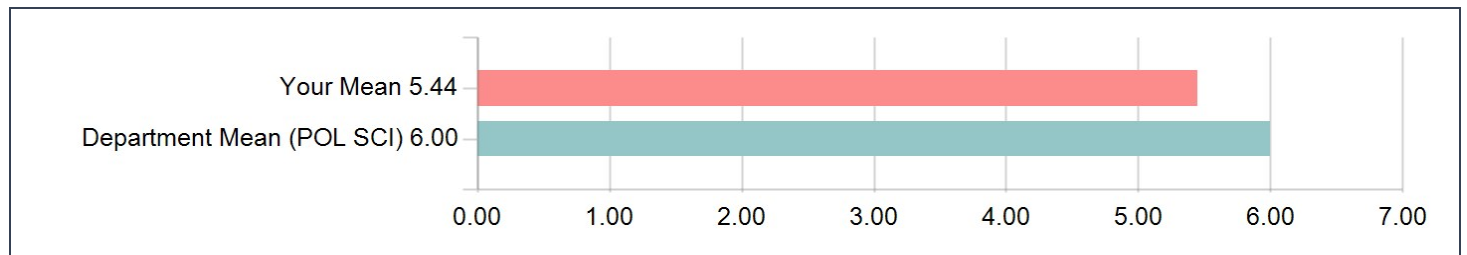
The instructor’s lectures, facilitation of classes, and/or office hours and help sessions enhanced my learning. (“Learning” may include gaining mastery of course content and new skills, exposure to new methodologies and modes of critical thinking, and extending the ability to express oneself on the topics treated in the course).



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Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	1	5.56%
3-Disagree Somewhat	2	11.11%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	2	11.11%
5-Agree Somewhat	5	27.78%
6-Agree	2	11.11%
7-Strongly agree	6	33.33%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	18	
Mean	5.28	
Median	5.00	
Standard Deviation	1.60	

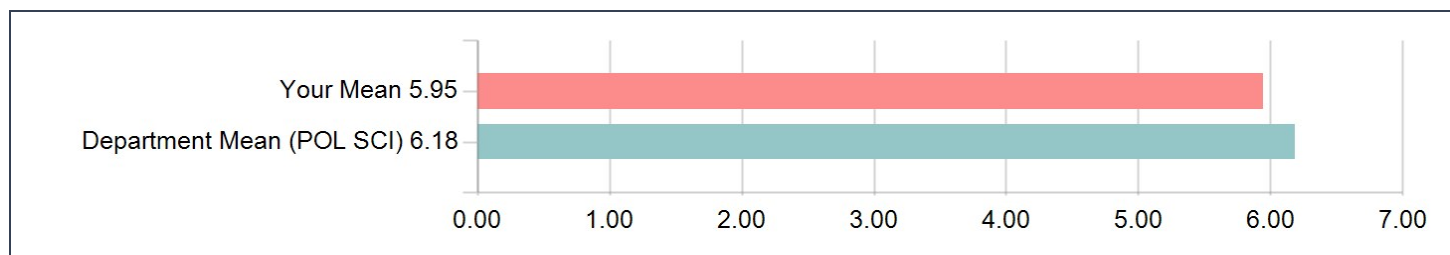
The assignments were well designed to help me understand the course material and gain a deeper perspective on the subject.



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Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	1	5.56%
2-Disagree	1	5.56%
3-Disagree Somewhat	2	11.11%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	1	5.56%
5-Agree Somewhat	1	5.56%
6-Agree	4	22.22%
7-Strongly agree	8	44.44%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		18
Mean		5.44
Median		6.00
Standard Deviation		1.98

The instructor created an environment in which I could feel included (for example, encouraged multiple voices/perspectives, welcomed questions and critiques, responded to student feedback).



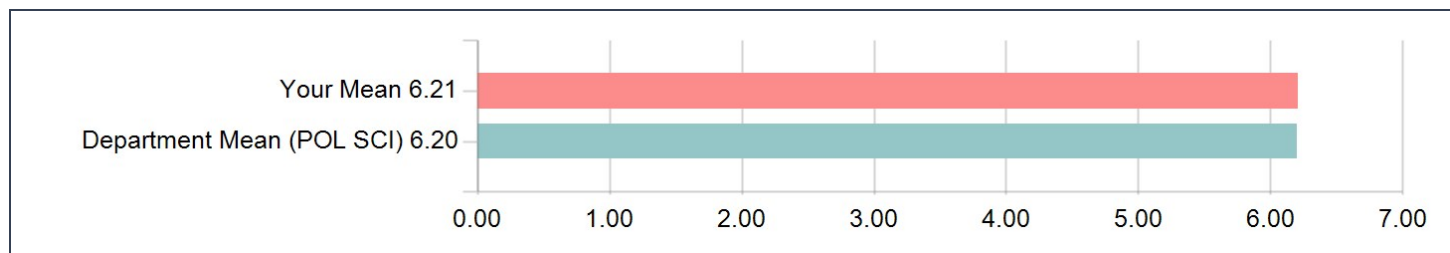
The instructor created an environment in which I could feel included (for example, encouraged multiple voices/perspectives, welcomed questions and critiques, responded to student feedback).

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Strongly disagree	0	0.00%
2-Disagree	1	5.26%
3-Disagree Somewhat	1	5.26%
4-Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)	1	5.26%
5-Agree Somewhat	1	5.26%
6-Agree	6	31.58%
7-Strongly agree	9	47.37%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		5.95
Median		6.00
Standard Deviation		1.47

## DEPARTMENT PROVIDED INSTRUCTOR QUESTIONS:

*Items in this section were selected by POL SCI for inclusion on this evaluation.*

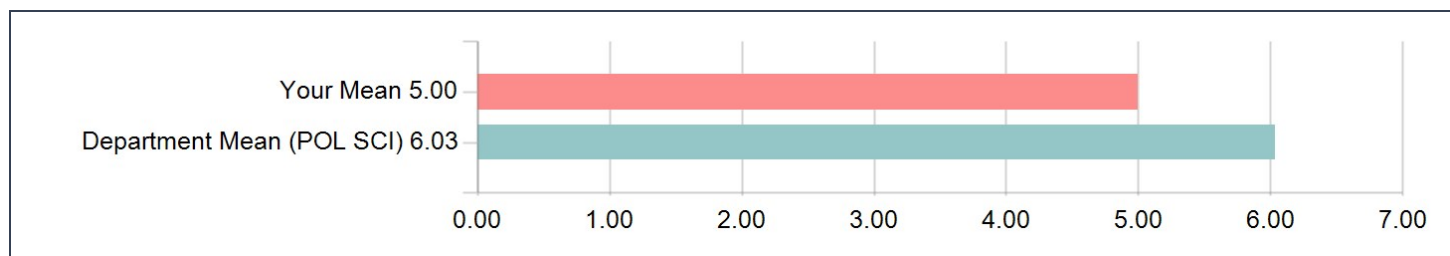
The instructor presented content in an organized manner.



The instructor presented content in an organized manner.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	1	5.26%
5	2	10.53%
6	8	42.11%
7-Very	8	42.11%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	19	
Mean	6.21	
Median	6.00	
Standard Deviation	0.85	

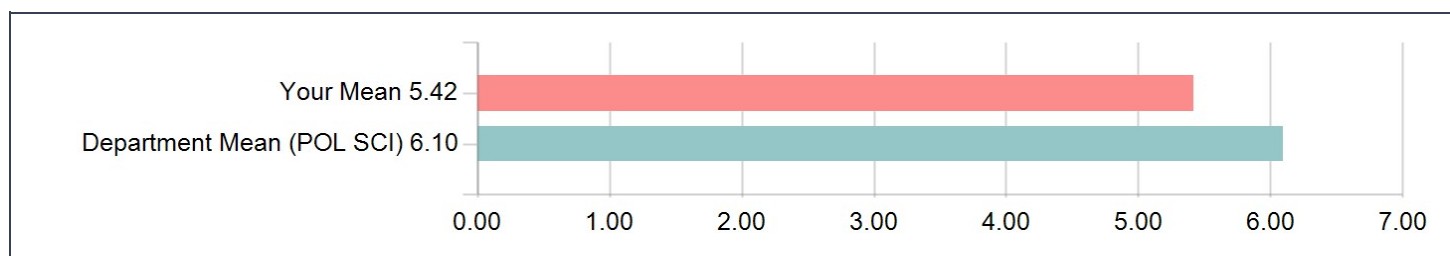
The instructor explained concepts clearly.



#### The instructor explained concepts clearly.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	1	5.26%
2	0	0.00%
3	1	5.26%
4-Somewhat	5	26.32%
5	4	21.05%
6	5	26.32%
7-Very	3	15.79%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		5.00
Median		5.00
Standard Deviation		1.53

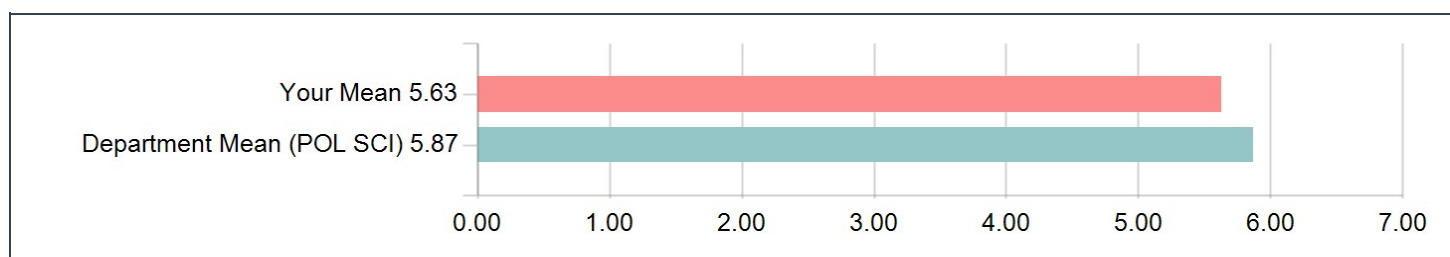
#### The instructor was helpful when I had difficulties or questions.



#### The instructor was helpful when I had difficulties or questions.

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	2	10.53%
3	1	5.26%
4-Somewhat	2	10.53%
5	3	15.79%
6	4	21.05%
7-Very	7	36.84%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		5.42
Median		6.00
Standard Deviation		1.71

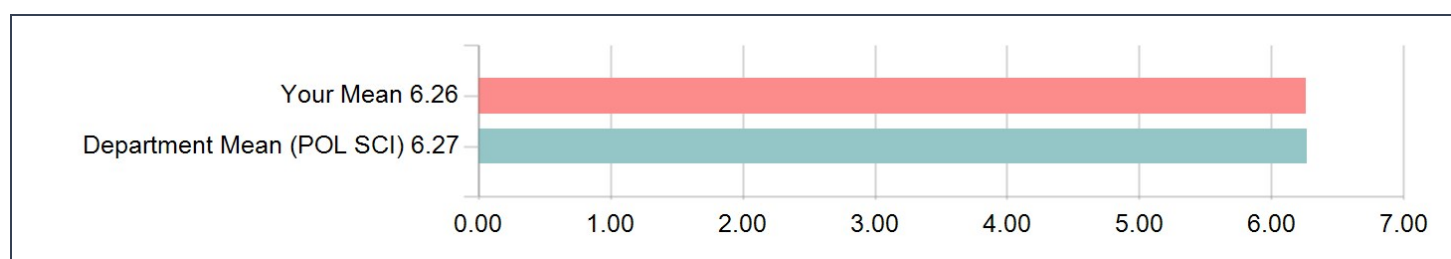
#### The instructor provided clear constructive feedback.



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Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	1	5.26%
2	0	0.00%
3	2	10.53%
4-Somewhat	1	5.26%
5	1	5.26%
6	7	36.84%
7-Very	7	36.84%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	19	
Mean	5.63	
Median	6.00	
Standard Deviation	1.71	

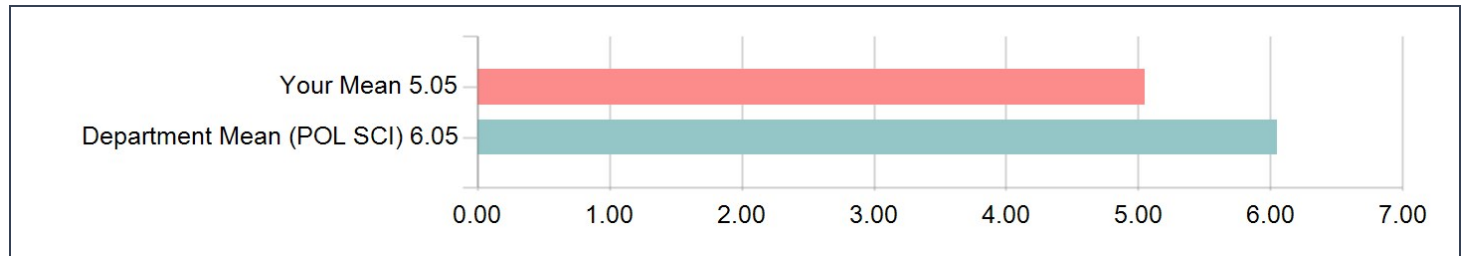
#### The instructor encouraged student questions and participation.



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Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	0	0.00%
5	4	21.05%
6	6	31.58%
7-Very	9	47.37%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	19	
Mean	6.26	
Median	6.00	
Standard Deviation	0.81	

Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this graduate student instructor?



Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this graduate student instructor?		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all Effective	1	5.26%
2	1	5.26%
3	1	5.26%
4-Moderately Effective	2	10.53%
5	6	31.58%
6	4	21.05%
7-Extremely Effective	4	21.05%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		5.05
Median		5.00
Standard Deviation		1.68

## INSTRUCTOR PROVIDED CUSTOM QUESTIONS:

*If any items appear in this section, they were created by you. These are visible only to you and not accessible by other report viewers in your department.*

**What are the most impressive things you appreciated through the whole semester about your GSI and sections?**

Comments
Yue is evidently very knowledgeable and versed in the field of IR. The sections were well-structured, going through questions related to the readings one by one. Yue was able to challenge the students when they got something 'wrong' or encourage them to elaborate if they were lacking in detail. Her feedback for the essays, while concise, was helpful.
Yue was always looking to get students involved. During section, she would often ignore hands from actively participating students and seek out others who had not yet spoken; this encouraged participation and allowed everyone a say at the debate.
The structure of the class.
My GSI helped an effective class discussion which was really helpful for me
She tried to make discussion topics clear to all students
Her candidness and eagerness to help when I was seeking advice for how to prepare for midterms.
My GSI was very organized and had a plan for every section.
I think what I most appreciated was the effort my GSI put into her questions and answers – though I think that this method of teaching was ineffective for me, there was sufficient information provided in discussion.
Thank you for constructive feedback, enjoyed seminar style of small group talk, thank you for grading work quickly & efficiently, and taking all questions/answers, generally open to questions about your own academic career.
I liked that the notes were posted on bCourses, as well as the way that participation and discussion were encouraged.
You were very organized and thorough with your questions in class.
I really appreciated how through the whole semester our GSI held discussions with the students and was able to clarify issues that we had with the various topics.



## What suggestions would you make for improving the section?

Comments
Sometimes Yue's answers to questions regarding the course itself tended to be inconsistent (I.e. regarding our grades) or she often said that she couldn't answer our questions (because she said was not supposed to). It would have been easier for the students if we had more concrete answers to our questions.
N/A. She did wonderfully.
N/A
Maybe making the outline for the discussion a little bit more clearer.
N/A
Maybe switching us around to allow us to talk to more people. Having GSI notes from section was a really good feature that I found helpful and think should be expanded though.
The google doc with the questions that are in the back of the book are not an effective way for students to learn the material, it was felt like a waste of time going over questions that students can find without the GSI. It would be great if the GSI found new and interesting ways to have us engage with the course content to help us learn rather than just scrolling through a google doc every class.
Most of the time we spent answering the questions were on waiting for volunteers to speak up – this took up a lot of time as there wasn't as much time. I also think that most of the times, the questions were way too complex – we never received a summary or connection to previous lectures which made me feel that this was a separate course from Poli Sci 5.
It could help to actually go over summaries of the reading more to make sure we fully understand the concepts. Sometimes even by end of section due to struggling to keep up with the readings a bit, I would not be 100% sure or walk out as confident as I could have regarding my understanding of multiple main points of an article. Maybe I'd get the main point, but that was all.
Sometimes there would be less participation because the questions asked were very specific about each reading, so maybe more general questions about the content would encourage more participation and discussion about the subject.
I would make the section more discussion based and interactive instead of just questions after questions. Also it would be helpful to provide some material before midterms and such to help guide us.
The GSI could focus on various reading strategies on how to parse through the International Politics papers and find the important nuggets of information.

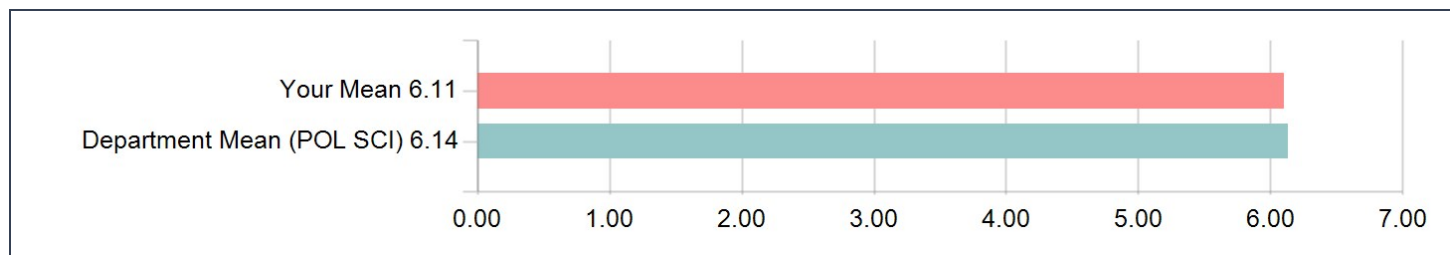
## Did you find this course useful? If you want to recommend this course to other students, what reasons you can think of?

Comments
Yes, for the most part. I would recommend this course to other people for those who want to get a foundation in IR, as it heavily relies on the theory aspect.
Yes– it is a great introduction to the theories of International Relations. If you're looking for a jumping-off point, this class is it.
Do the readings since they help you with the exams.
Yes. The content of the course is very interesting and reading and discussing about different publications in the realm of IR was really fascinating.
Yes, because you learn many perspectives towards international politics
This course is helpful in giving you the skills to think about current political events.
I did not find this section useful.
Not really – I feel like it helped me understand the external readings, it did not allow me to connect the dots to our previous lecture. In addition, I feel like our answers to the discussion prompts weren't wrong or right because the GSI did not go over the solutions in-depth. Most of the questions were quite complex which left a lot of us confused.
Yes but you really mostly have to depend on yourself to understand the reading because at section, it's mostly applying concepts to mock-test like questions. Which is great if you understand the reading but if you're struggling it will be a bit challenging. However, it helps you feel prepared for the final. Yue is also really good at helping us prepare/keeping us updated on what areas to prep for the midterm.
Yes, it was useful.
I found it useful. The section would support what we learned in lecture.
I believe I find this course to be useful. I would recommend it, and I would recommend it based off of how the GSI was someone who listened to students' issues and made it a comfortable space for everyone to discuss about class topics.

## DEPARTMENT PROVIDED COURSE QUESTIONS:

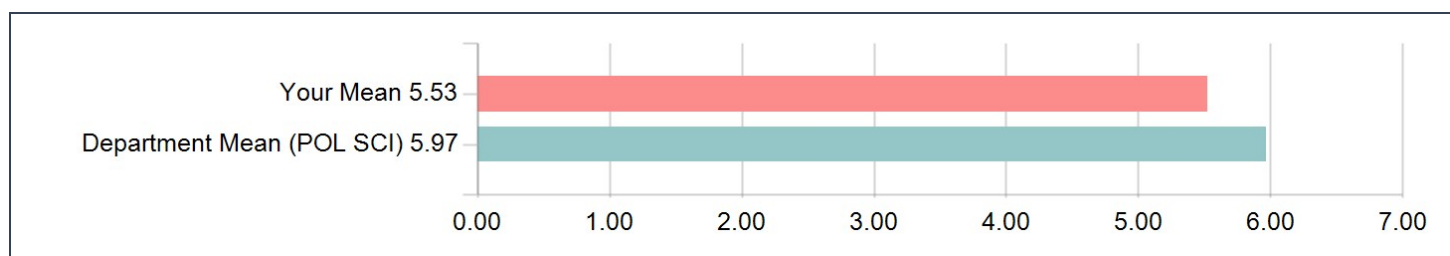
*Items in this section were selected by POL SCI for inclusion on this evaluation.*

**The course was effectively organized.**



The course was effectively organized.		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	0	0.00%
3	0	0.00%
4-Somewhat	2	10.53%
5	2	10.53%
6	7	36.84%
7-Very	8	42.11%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		6.11
Median		6.00
Standard Deviation		0.99

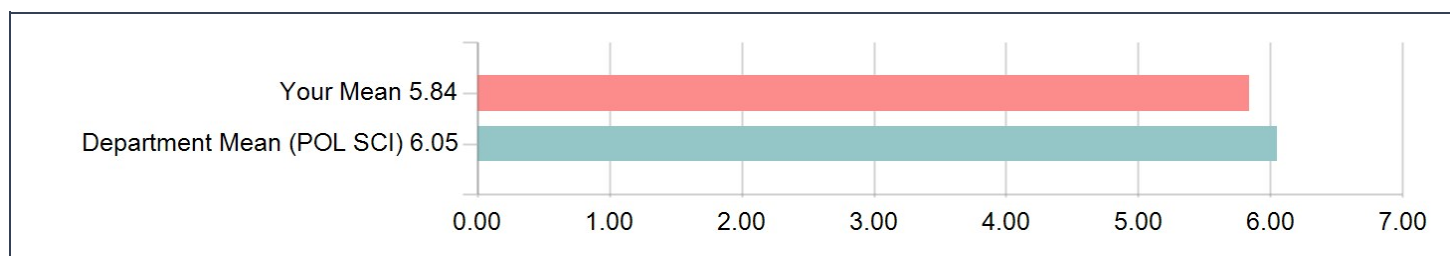
**The course developed my abilities and skills for the subject.**



**The course developed my abilities and skills for the subject.**

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	1	5.26%
2	0	0.00%
3	2	10.53%
4-Somewhat	2	10.53%
5	3	15.79%
6	2	10.53%
7-Very	9	47.37%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		5.53
Median		6.00
Standard Deviation		1.81

**The course developed my ability to think critically about the subject.**



**The course developed my ability to think critically about the subject.**

Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all	0	0.00%
2	1	5.26%
3	1	5.26%
4-Somewhat	2	10.53%
5	2	10.53%
6	3	15.79%
7-Very	10	52.63%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		5.84
Median		7.00
Standard Deviation		1.57

**Please identify what you consider to be the strengths of the course (or section).**

Comments
Well organized and productive, felt like I had a thorough understanding of the readings after section despite never doing them.
Yue's organization of material was helpful. The questions she asked were concise, and generally helped foster good discussion about whatever topic was at hand.
discussions with classmates
The consistent lecture–discussion format.
A lot of discussion
It gives you the skills to read political texts and think critically in regards to politics and international relations.
Welcoming and friendly instructor.
Some strengths include coverage on outside readings and further explanation on topics we needed to study for.
Encouraged questions, asked for different methods of learning we liked at first section, didn't waste time, cared and efficient at making sure we were on task. Taught interesting topics although the idea of theory threw me off a little at the start (not used to this from high school), I see why it was important to learn.
It was organized and helped me understand the readings
The strengths was getting to discuss what we learned in lecture.
The strengths of this course are that the GSI is able to help facilitate discussion with her well–written questions about the necessary topics to succeed in the course.

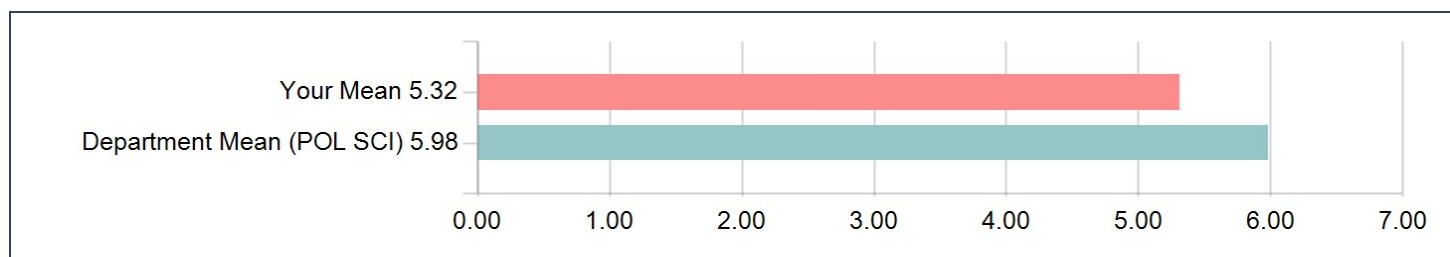
**Please identify area(s) where you think the course could be improved.**

Comments
Nothing particularly comes to mind.
n/a
n/a
Maybe having more of a historical timeline to follow through with IR so the theories can be more rigorously applied.
N/A
The section time of 2 hours is rather long, it can be grueling and inefficiently tiresome to work through dense texts and conversations for the entire duration of that time even when adjusting for berkeleytime and things starting late.
The course could be improved if the GSI changed up each class rather than it being the same format every time.
Definitely listening to what the students have to say in terms of structuring the course material and the content for discussion. I feel like the time could've been spent more effectively if the discussion was modified to use the time more wisely.
I feel like I was constantly lost in the reading, hard to keep on top of it.
We could go over lecture and textbook readings instead of just the article readings
I think this course could be improved by becoming more interactive.
We can definitely improve on making sure that the majority of the class understands the major international political concepts.

## What advice would you give to another student who is considering taking this course?

Comments
You should probably do the readings up till Midterm 1, as they are useful in your paper. After that, you can get away with not doing the readings. Engage in your class discussion, it helps with participation points.
Be ready to read. These classes are all about your engagement with critical texts and theories, and to get the most out of section, you need to have at least skimmed the week's assigned material.
Do the readings since they help you with the exams.
To complete all the readings!!
Take it
Do the reading but split it up with a study group. Best way to test yourself is to ask yourself if you can identify concepts and larger themes of the course then know those concepts and themes well enough to restate them in your own words and teach them.
Be prepared to do the majority of concept understanding outside of class and section.
Just come prepared to the discussion and do the prior readings for the module – also make sure that you take sufficient notes because the conversations are definitely interpreted into the exams as the GSI works closely with the professor.
Do the readings and summarize the main arguments!
Always do your readings because all section focuses on is what you've gathered from them.
I would tell them to go to their GSI and Professor's office hours and to get help with the readings if needed.

## Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this course?



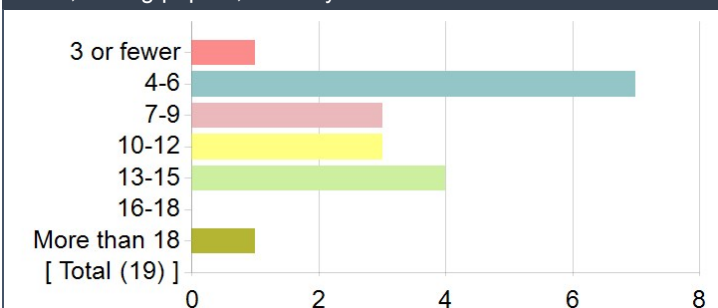
Considering both the limitations and possibilities of the subject matter and the course, how would you rate the overall effectiveness of this course?		
Options	Count	Percentage
1-Not at all Effective	0	0.00%
2	2	10.53%
3	2	10.53%
4-Moderately Effective	2	10.53%
5	2	10.53%
6	4	21.05%
7-Extremely Effective	7	36.84%
Statistics		Value
Response Count		19
Mean		5.32
Median		6.00
Standard Deviation		1.80

## DEPARTMENT PROVIDED STUDENT INFORMATION QUESTIONS

*Items in this section were selected by POL SCI for inclusion on this evaluation.*

**On average, how many hours per week have you spent on this course, including attending classes, doing readings, reviewing notes, writing papers, and any other course-related work?**

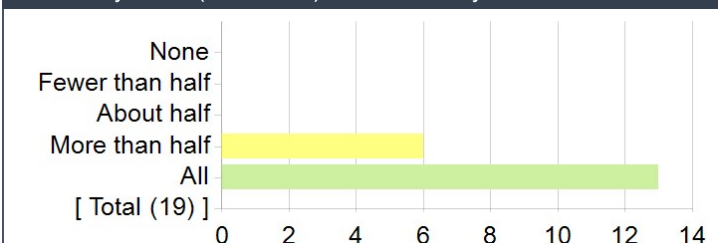
On average, how many hours per week have you spent on this course, including attending classes, doing readings, reviewing notes, writing papers, and any other course-related work?



Options	Count	Percentage
3 or fewer	1	5.26%
4-6	7	36.84%
7-9	3	15.79%
10-12	3	15.79%
13-15	4	21.05%
16-18	0	0.00%
More than 18	1	5.26%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	19	

**How many class (or section) sessions did you attend?**

How many class (or section) sessions did you attend?



Options	Count	Percentage
None	0	0.00%
Fewer than half	0	0.00%
About half	0	0.00%
More than half	6	31.58%
All	13	68.42%
Statistics	Value	
Response Count	19	

## How satisfied were you with your effort in this course (or section)?

