

Section 1 Course Evaluation Executive Summary

Course Name: Issues Phil of Mind PHL340H1-LEC0101

Instructor: Robert Howton

Course Code: PHL340H1

Section: LEC0101

A&S Winter 2014 UG

Raters	Students
Responded	16
Invited	31

Part A. Core Institutional Items

Scale: 1 - Not At All 2 - Somewhat 3 - Moderately 4 - Mostly 5 - A Great Deal

Question	Summary	
	Mean	Standard Deviation
1. I found the course intellectually stimulating.	3.8	1.0
2. The course provided me with a deeper understanding of the subject matter.	3.9	1.0
3. The instructor (Robert Howton) created a course atmosphere that was conducive to my learning.	3.8	1.2
4. Course projects, assignments, tests and/or exams improved my understanding of the course material.	3.7	1.1
5. Course projects, assignments, tests and/or exams provided opportunity for me to demonstrate an understanding of the course material.	3.4	1.0
Institutional Composite Mean	3.7	1.1

Scale: 1 - Poor 2 - Fair 3 - Good 4 - Very Good 5 - Excellent

Question	Summary	
	Mean	Standard Deviation
6. Overall, the quality of my learning experience in this course was....	3.6	1.3

7. Please comment on the overall quality of the instruction in this course.

See Section 2

8. Please comment on any assistance that was available to support your learning in this course.

See Section 2

Part B. Divisional Items

Scale: 1 - Not At All 2 - Somewhat 3 - Moderately 4 - Mostly 5 - A Great Deal

Question	Summary	
	Mean	Standard Deviation
The instructor (Robert Howton) generated enthusiasm for learning in the course.	4.1	0.9

Scale: 1 - Very Light 2 - Light 3 - Average 4 - Heavy 5 - Very Heavy

Question	Summary	
	Mean	Standard Deviation
Compared to other courses, the workload for this course was...	3.8	0.7

Scale: 1 - Not At All 2 - Somewhat 3 - Moderately 4 - Mostly 5 - Strongly

Question	Summary	
	Mean	Standard Deviation
I would recommend this course to other students.	3.6	1.3

Part C: Departmental Items

Scale: 1 - Not At All 2 - Somewhat 3 - Moderately 4 - Mostly 5 - A Great Deal

Question	Summary	
	Mean	Standard Deviation
The course instructor (Robert Howton) was enthusiastic about the course material.	4.7	0.5

Scale: 1 - Not At All 2 - Somewhat 3 - Moderately 4 - Mostly 5 - A Great Deal

Question	Summary	
	Mean	Standard Deviation
The course instructor (Robert Howton) explained concepts clearly.	3.9	1.2

Scale: 1 - Not At All 2 - Somewhat 3 - Moderately 4 - Mostly 5 - A Great Deal

Question	Summary	
	Mean	Standard Deviation
The course material inspired me to learn more about the subject matter.	3.7	1.4

Scale: 1 - Poor 2 - Fair 3 - Good 4 - Very Good 5 - Excellent

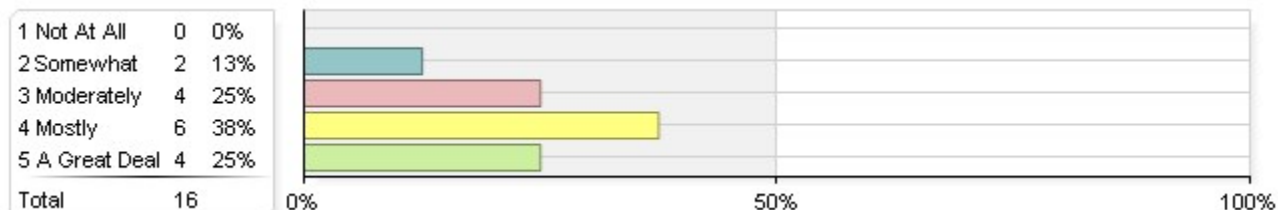
Question	Summary	
	Mean	Standard Deviation
UNIT(OQI) Overall, the quality of instruction provided by (Robert Howton) in this course was:	3.7	1.2

Section 2 Course Evaluation Details and Summaries

Response Distributions and Associated Statistics

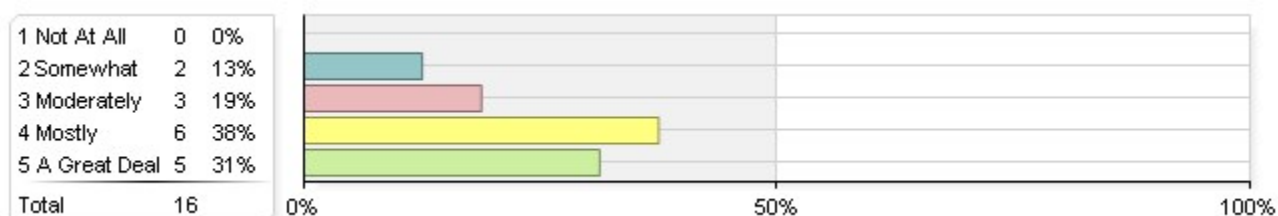
Part A. Institutional Items

1. I found the course intellectually stimulating.



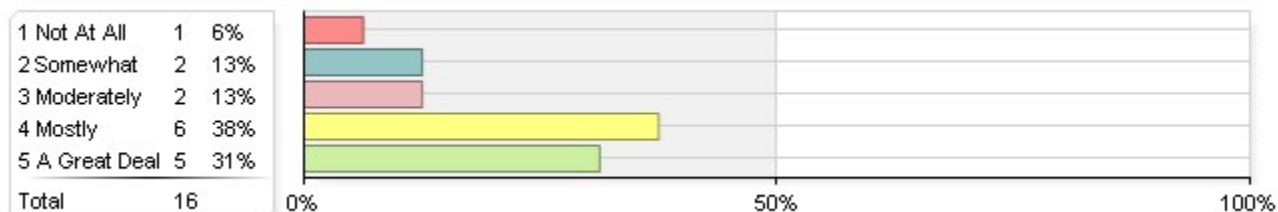
Statistics	Value
Mean	3.8
Median	4.0
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	+/-1.0

2. The course provided me with a deeper understanding of the subject matter.



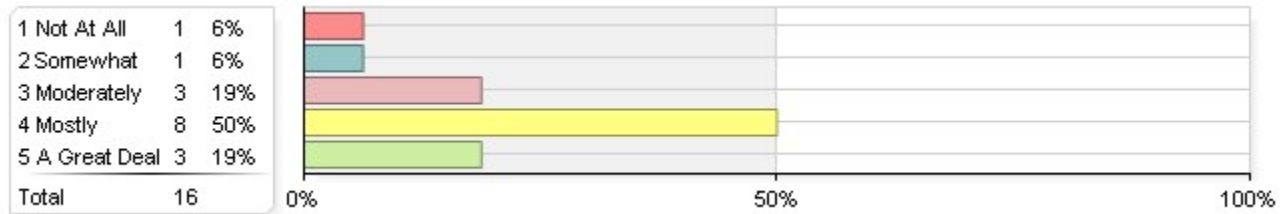
Statistics	Value
Mean	3.9
Median	4.0
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	+/-1.0

3. The instructor (**Robert Howton**) created a course atmosphere that was conducive to my learning.



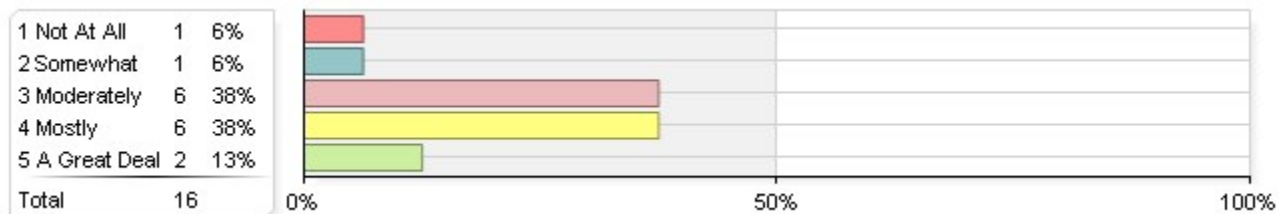
Statistics	Value
Mean	3.8
Median	4.0
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	+/-1.2

4. Course projects, assignments, tests and/or exams improved my understanding of the course material.



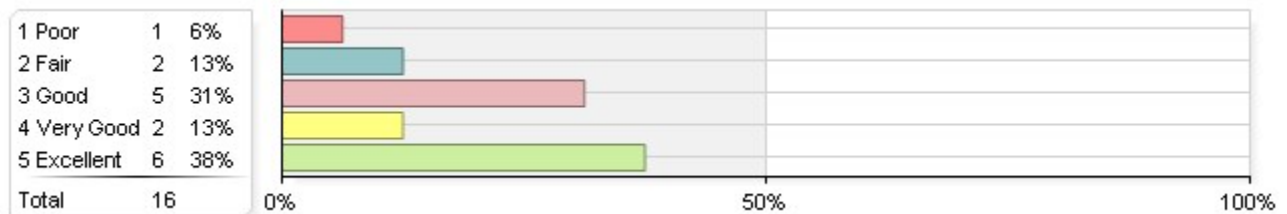
Statistics	Value
Mean	3.7
Median	4.0
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	+/-1.1

5. Course projects, assignments, tests and/or exams provided opportunity for me to demonstrate an understanding of the course material.



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.4
Median	3.5
Mode	3, 4
Standard Deviation	+/-1.0

6. Overall, the quality of my learning experience in this course was....



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.6
Median	3.5
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-1.3

7. Please comment on the overall quality of the instruction in this course.

Comment
Robert Howton is a fantastic instructor. The subject matter was very interesting and very intellectually stimulating.
Robbie always provided a lot of support and tried to go slowly when concepts were unclear.
There was an overload of information in each class. Made going into each lecture seem like going into battle (just to keep up). While it was interesting at times, I think I would have enjoyed the material more if detail or quality was emphasized over quantity.
The term tests faced a similar problem, where a lot is jam-packed into 1.5 hours.
Also, the term tests did to an extent feel like a regurgitation of the material and not an expansion of it. The questions in the tests seemed to only ask to recite what was said in class. This prevented the test from being a valuable learning opportunity (it only gave us the chance to review what we already learnt).
Robbie is an enthusiastic instructor though, and he knows his philosophy. Maybe with a bit of tweaking and experimentation with his organization of lectures and tests, he will be a high-quality instructor.
Prof. Howton had to teach this course on his own because Prof. Whiting was taking leave. In doing so however he was excellent. He provided us with extremely helpful outlines of his lectures, allowing me to keep attention on him while also adding things down on the handout. While he did sometimes go a bit fast, the minute anyone asked him to repeat a concept he would do so and make it ever the more clear. Though he's a graduate student, I thoroughly enjoyed learning with him as my professor. He definitely demonstrated how interested and enthusiastic he was about the course material, and I would definitely take another course with him in the future. Great job.
Howton was a very kind TA who showed obvious care for the students and their understanding of the material
The handouts were very clear, helpful study guides but try not to follow them so closely in lecture
While the instruction of the course was overall very good, I found the pace of the class a bit fast, which when combined with the sheer amount and difficulty of the content, made it very difficult to keep up.
Robert Howton, a PhD student in the department of Philosophy instructed the entire course. This was the first course he has ever taught. That being said, he did not exhibit any anxiety while instructing the course. He was well-versed in each of the covered topics, as was made evident in his explanation of the difficult subject matter. He provided clear and concise lecture handouts, which essentially covered all of the material in the class. Overall, I can confidently say that Robert Howton was, by far, my favorite instructor at the University of Toronto (PhD candidate, or otherwise).
There are many difficult concepts. If you take this course make sure you have extra time to spend on it.
Really well explained, and loved that the lecture notes were handed out weekly, so we could follow along without the need to worry about writing down notes.
The handouts were helpful, but I would have preferred less reading from the handout during lecture. The dialectic was presented nicely, but I would have liked more about the bigger picture.
Great, explained clearly the topics. Everything was done slowly so everyone understands. There was a use of many examples. Small class so all questions were answered. Instructor helped out with any problem.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">-the material in this course was far too advanced-Howton expected too much from a third year class-Howton needed to provide more examples in class to understand difficult and new concepts-the handouts were overly detailed and long-Howton would rarely check in to see if students truly understood the material-the fill in the blank for the tests did not test understanding of the course concepts but rather tested how well one can rote review the handouts. Even if a student did all the readings for the course, the fill in the blanks on the tests would not test for understanding of those things.-Since, one is expected to memorize the handouts, this doubled the amount of readings a student would have to do for this course-short essay assignments did not help me learn concepts
Very good instructor but material very dry
He was awesome! I really enjoyed the course and his style. The worksheets really allowed you to pay attention to what he was saying without having to focus too much on taking notes. The language in the worksheets was sometimes a little confusing (philosophical prose normally is, haha). I do feel like the exams were a little long, perhaps instead of 4 short answers he should have 3. He was very enthusiastic and yearned for more class participation because he was open to questions and clarification.

8. Please comment on any assistance that was available to support your learning in this course.

Comment

Robbie makes himself available for office hours and offers plenty of extra help, so in terms of assistance, he's great.

Prof. Howton's office hours and scheduled appointments we could make with him.

Office hours, handouts, supplementary readings

The comments on tests and assignments were helpful. I went to office hour one time and it was good.

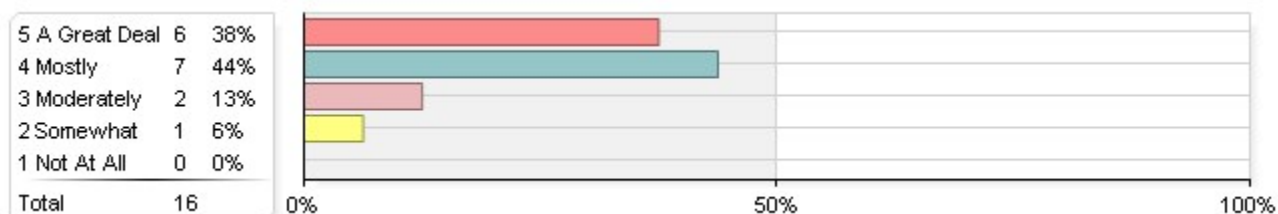
Both in class questions answered and office hours. Office hours had been very helpful and the instructor had went slowly with every question I had and helped me out even in other courses.

-assistance was available during office hours--fair

The Prof was very welcoming to visit him during office hours, booking an appointment or emailing him.

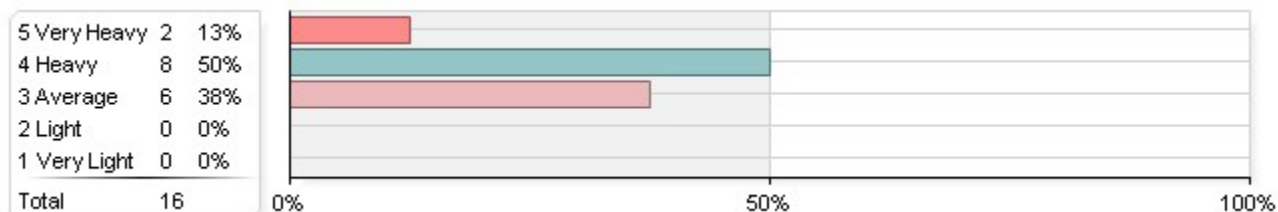
Part B. Divisional Items

The instructor (**Robert Howton**) generated enthusiasm for learning in the course.



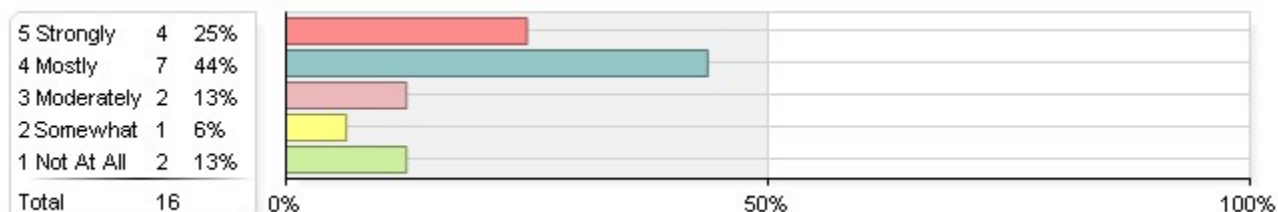
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.1
Median	4.0
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	+/-0.9

Compared to other courses, the workload for this course was...



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.8
Median	4.0
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	+/-0.7

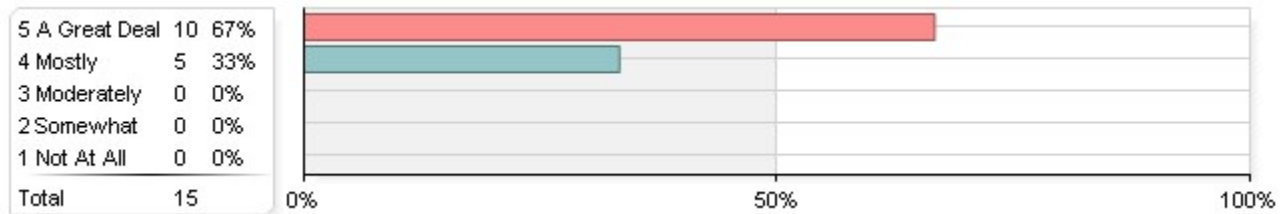
I would recommend this course to other students.



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.6
Median	4.0
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	+/-1.3

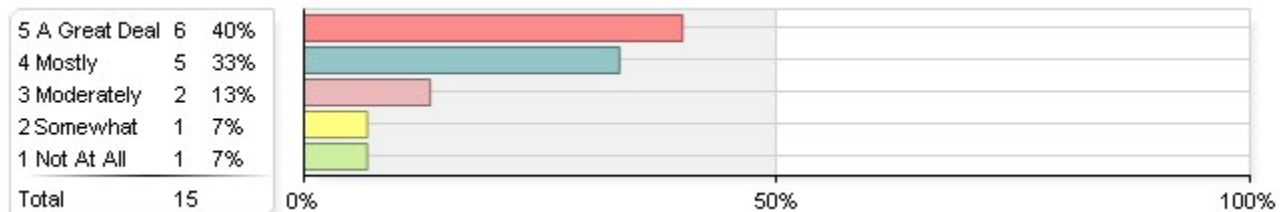
Part C. Departmental Items

The course instructor (**Robert Howton**) was enthusiastic about the course material.



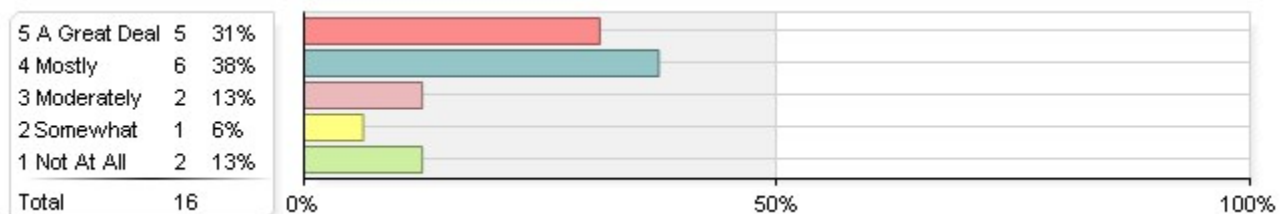
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.7
Median	5.0
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.5

The course instructor (**Robert Howton**) explained concepts clearly.



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.9
Median	4.0
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-1.2

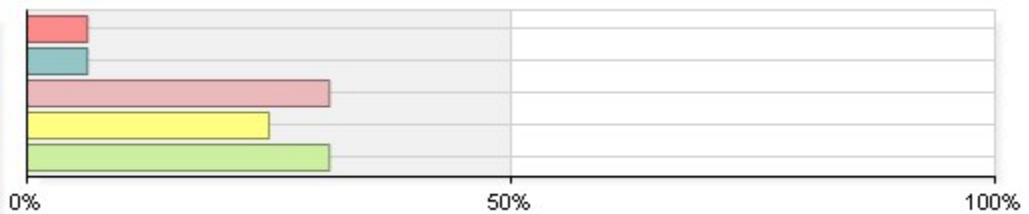
The course material inspired me to learn more about the subject matter.



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.7
Median	4.0
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	+/-1.4

UNIT(OQI) Overall, the quality of instruction provided by (Robert Howton**) in this course was:**

1 Poor	1	6%
2 Fair	1	6%
3 Good	5	31%
4 Very Good	4	25%
5 Excellent	5	31%
Total	16	



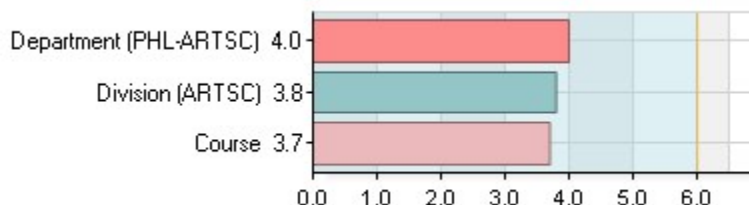
Statistics		Value
Response Count		16
Mean		3.7
Median		4.0
Mode		3, 5
Standard Deviation		+/-1.2

Section 3. Comparative Data

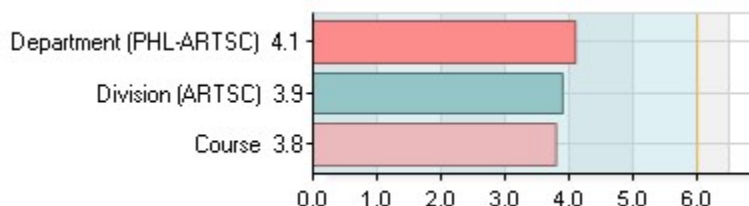
Part A. Core Institutional Items

Scale: 1 - Not At All 2 - Somewhat 3 - Moderately 4 - Mostly 5 - A Great Deal

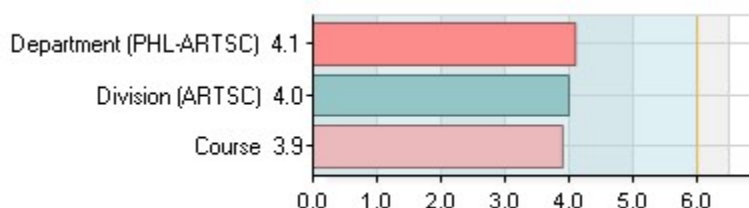
Institutional Composite



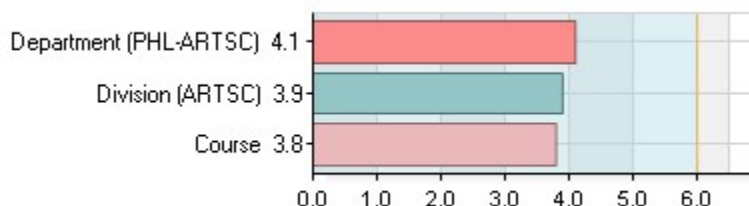
1. I found the course intellectually stimulating.



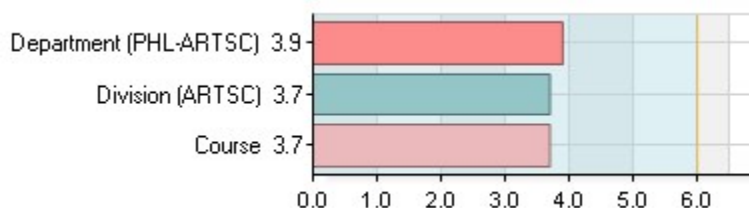
2. The course provided me with a deeper understanding of the subject matter.



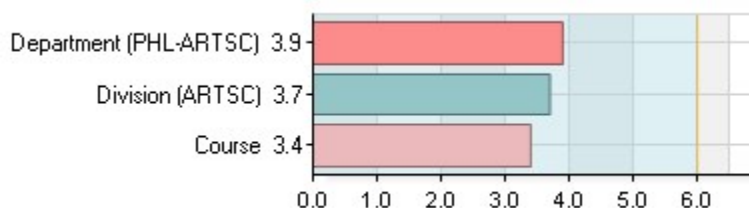
3. The instructor ([Robert Howton](#)) created an atmosphere that was conducive to my learning.



4. Course projects, assignments, tests, and/or exams improved my understanding of the course material.



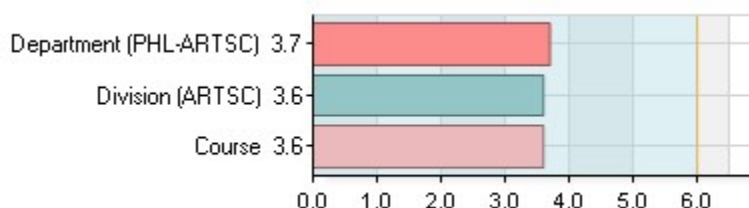
5. Course projects, assignments, tests and/or exams provided opportunity for me to demonstrate an understanding of the course material.



Section 3. Comparative Data (continued)

Scale: 1 - Poor 2 - Fair 3 - Good 4 - Very Good 5 - Excellent

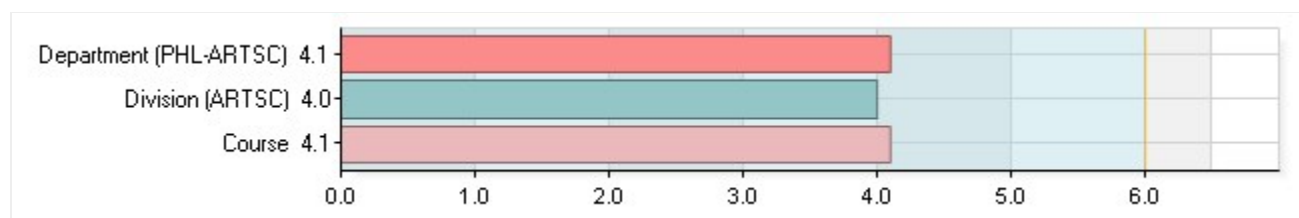
6. Overall, the quality of my learning experience in this course was:



Part B. Divisional Items

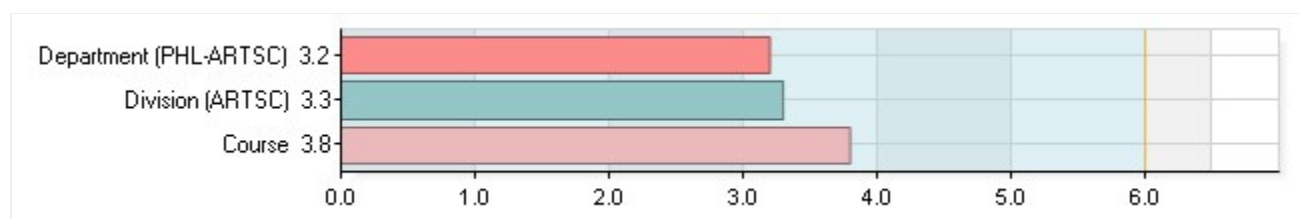
The instructor (**Robert Howton**) generated enthusiasm for learning in the course.

Scale: 1 - Not At All 2 - Somewhat 3 - Moderately 4 - Mostly 5 - A Great Deal



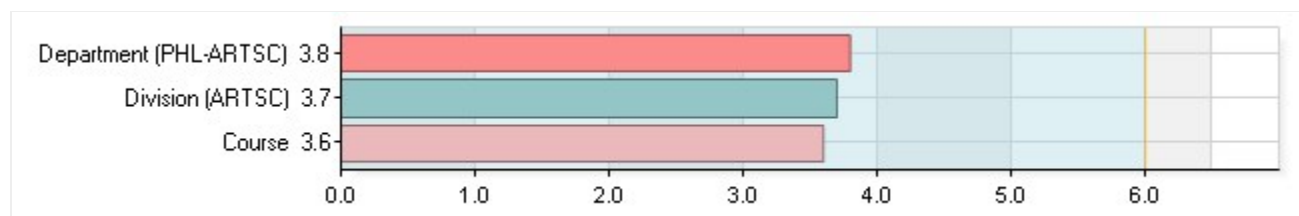
Compared to other courses, the workload for this course was...

Scale: 1 - Very Light 2 - Light 3 - Average 4 - Heavy 5 - Very Heavy



I would recommend this course to other students.

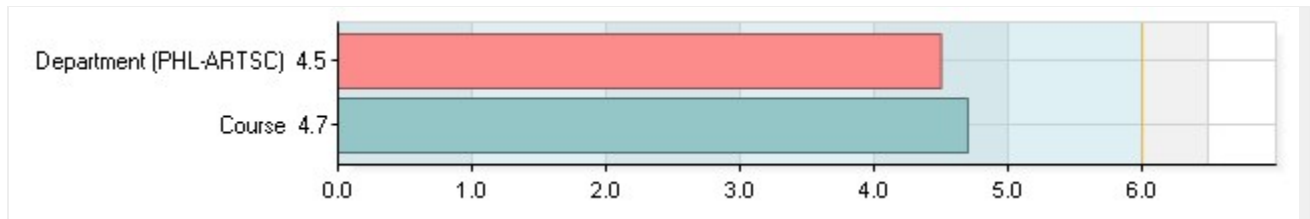
Scale: 1 - Not At All 2 - Somewhat 3 - Moderately 4 - Mostly 5 - Strongly



Part C: Departmental Items

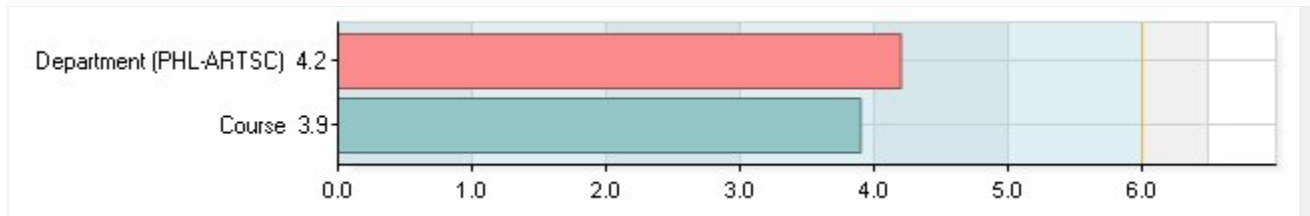
The course instructor (**Robert Howton**) was enthusiastic about the course material.

Scale: 1 - Not At All 2 - Somewhat 3 - Moderately 4 - Mostly 5 - A Great Deal



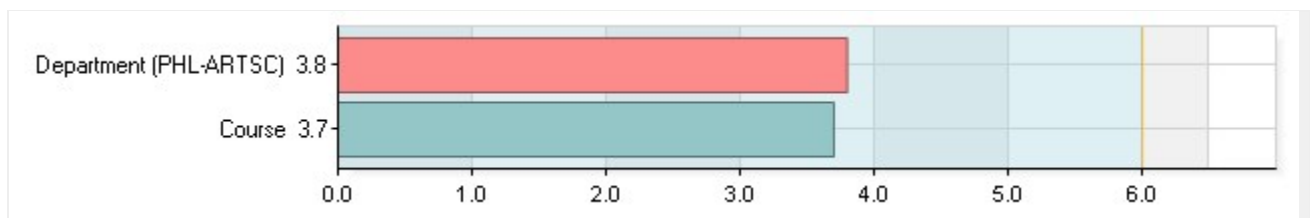
The course instructor (**Robert Howton**) explained concepts clearly.

Scale: 1 - Not At All 2 - Somewhat 3 - Moderately 4 - Mostly 5 - A Great Deal

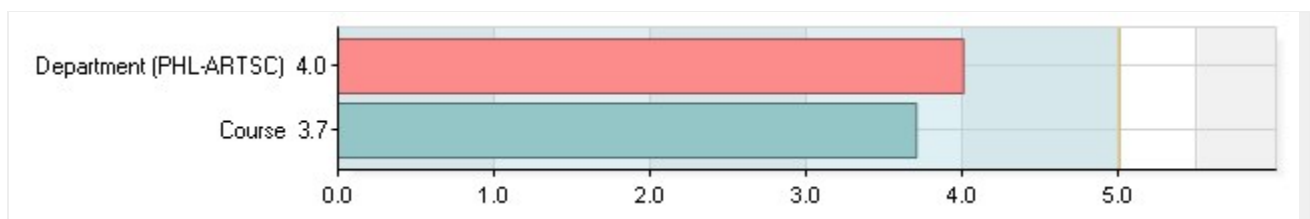


The course material inspired me to learn more about the subject matter.

Scale: 1 - Not At All 2 - Somewhat 3 - Moderately 4 - Mostly 5 - A Great Deal

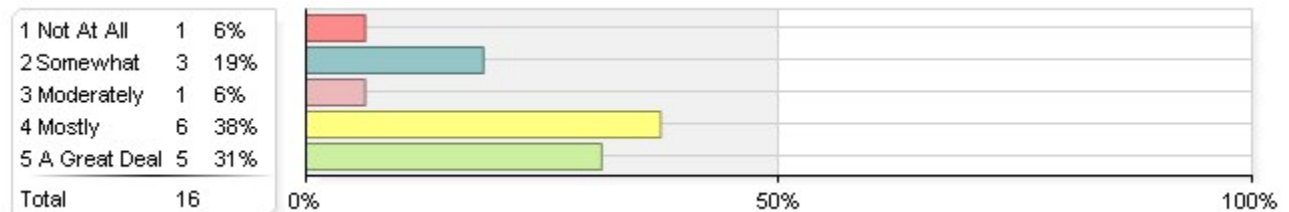


UNIT(OQI) Overall, the quality of instruction provided by (**Robert Howton**) in this course was:



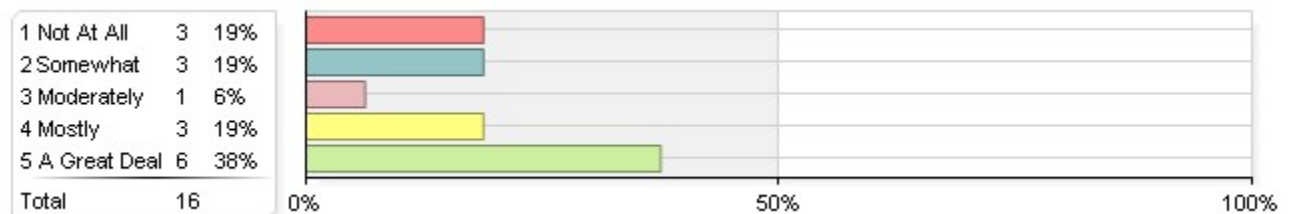
Section 4. Formative Data

TBI006 The course instructor explained concepts clearly.



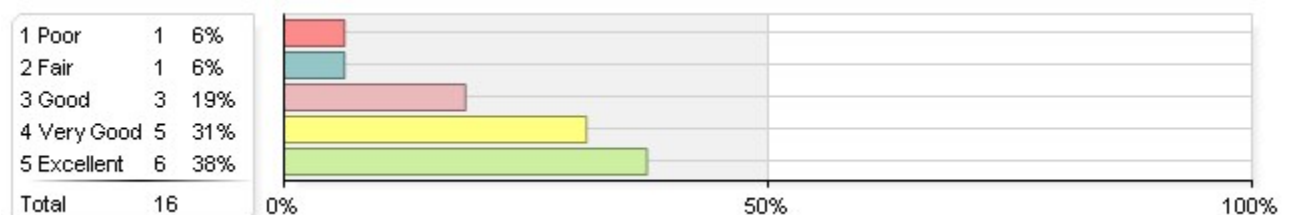
Statistics	Value
Mean	3.7
Median	4.0
Mode	4
Standard Deviation	+/-1.3

TBI008 The course instructor moved through course concepts at a comfortable pace.



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.4
Median	4.0
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-1.6

TBI995 Overall, the quality of instruction provided by (RobertHowton)in this course was:



Statistics	Value
Mean	3.9
Median	4.0
Mode	5

