

Project Title: University of Florida GatorEvals – Spring 2024 Main Project

Courses Audience: 13
Responses Received: 7
Response Ratio: 53.8%Instructors Audience: 13
Responses Received: 7
Response Ratio: 53.8%

Report Comments

INTRODUCTION

Teaching is a fundamental purpose of the University of Florida and the dissemination of new knowledge in our classrooms, studios, and clinics enables our students and trainees to fully explore their intellectual boundaries. Assessment and evaluation of our courses are designed to enhance instruction and maximize learning to meet the mission of the university. This report contains the results gathered through the new GatorEvals system. Students were invited to share their feedback on the teaching and course material. We invite every faculty member to examine the analysis in the report and utilize the resources provided in the report. Thank you for your continued great work!

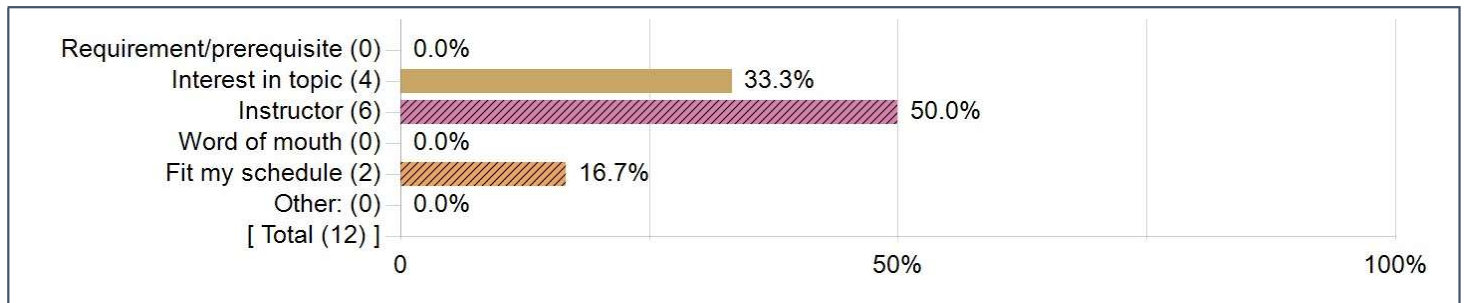
Chris Hass, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs

Resources to help you with this report:

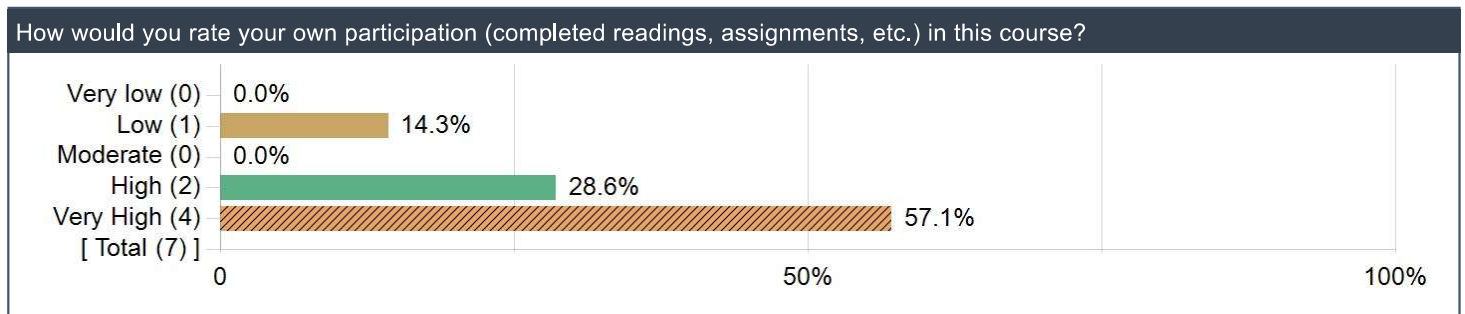
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Student Self-Evaluation Questions

Why did you take this course?



How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?



Comparative Evaluation Results

How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?

Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
53.8%	4.29	4.63	4.00	4.05	4.09	4.16

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	53.8%	4.86	4.92	4.74	4.86	4.50	4.75
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	53.8%	4.86	4.92	4.44	4.72	4.24	4.59
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	53.8%	4.86	4.92	4.57	4.77	4.40	4.68
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	53.8%	4.86	4.92	4.51	4.76	4.36	4.67
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	53.8%	4.57	4.92	4.26	4.65	4.18	4.56
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	53.8%	4.57	4.80	4.39	4.72	4.13	4.57
Overall	53.8%	4.76	-	4.49	-	4.30	-

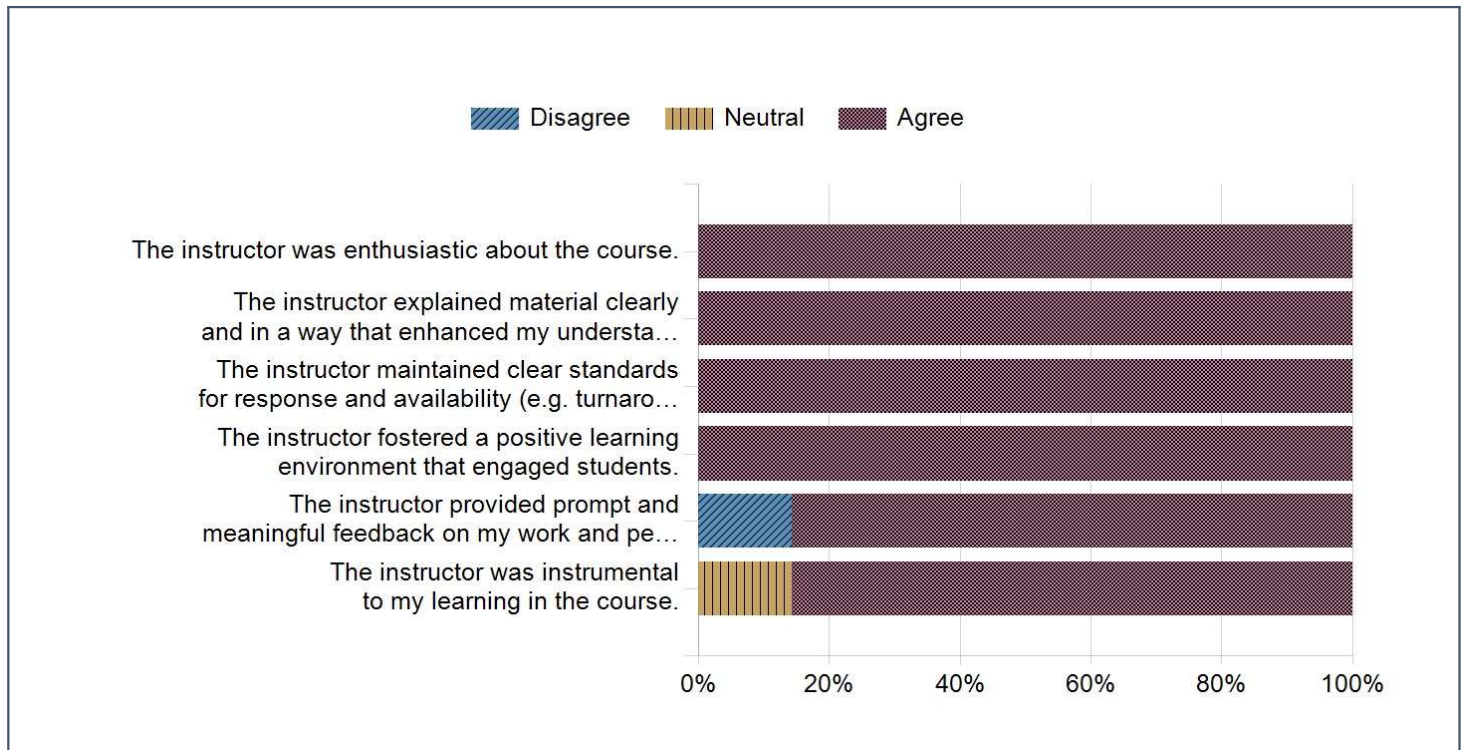
University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	53.8%	4.71	4.92	4.39	4.51	4.20	4.31
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	53.8%	4.57	4.92	4.19	4.47	4.00	4.21
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	53.8%	4.86	4.92	4.26	4.45	4.16	4.31
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	53.8%	4.86	4.92	4.37	4.57	4.19	4.37
Overall	53.8%	4.75	-	4.31	-	4.14	-

Aggregate Evaluation Results

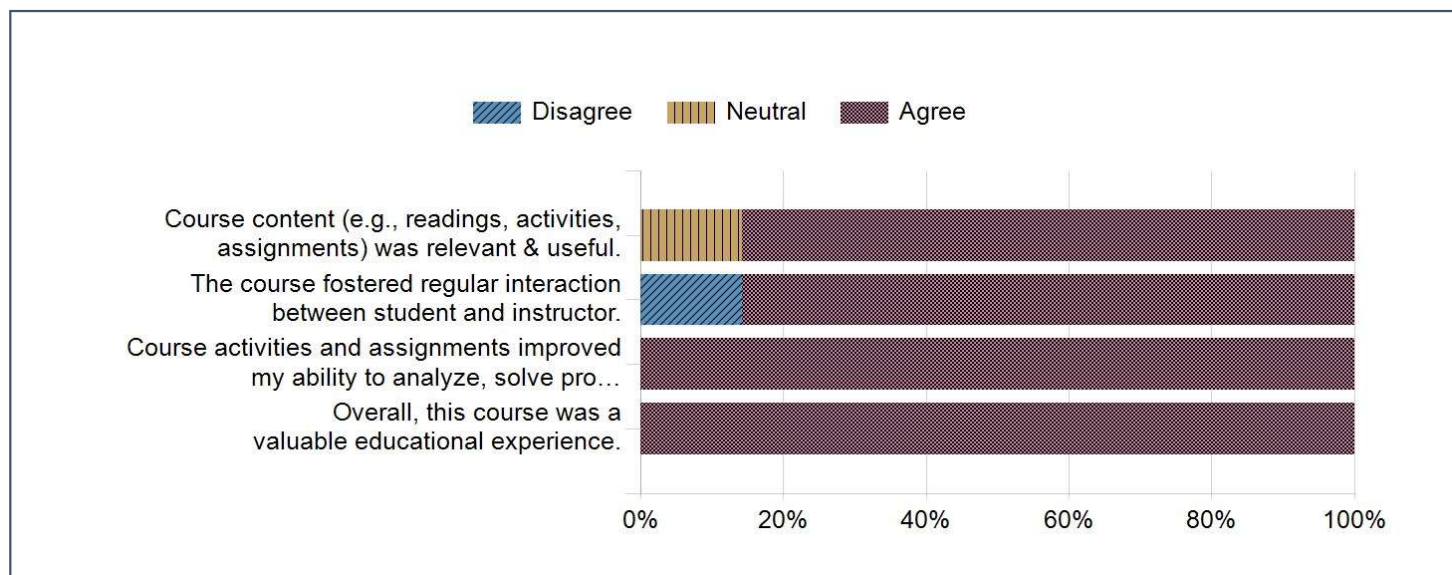
University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



University Core Course Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



Percentages Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	85.7%	7	4.86	5.00	0.38
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	85.7%	7	4.86	5.00	0.38
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	85.7%	7	4.86	5.00	0.38
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	85.7%	7	4.86	5.00	0.38
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	85.7%	7	4.57	5.00	1.13
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	14.3%	71.4%	7	4.57	5.00	0.79

University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	85.7%	7	4.71	5.00	0.76
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	85.7%	7	4.57	5.00	1.13
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	85.7%	7	4.86	5.00	0.38
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	85.7%	7	4.86	5.00	0.38

For additional information and resources in each of these question areas, please visit the GatorEvals Website at <https://gatorevals.a.a.ufl.edu/resources--policies/question-set/>

Free Response Section

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Comments
provided good material
Professor Billesbach has been one of my favorite professors throughout my time at UF. He was extremely passionate about the course material and cultivated an exciting classroom environment, no easy feat for an 8:30 AM class
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Extremely knowledgeable -Clear expectations -Enthusiastic
His passion for the topic made everything so engaging, especially since if you brought ideas to the table he would present similar ones or expand on yours. Additionally, his openmindedness made everyones point be seen which is needed when teaching many students.
This professor was incredibly enthusiastic about the coursework. He also was very helpful with going through content, both in class and in office house.
Prof. Billesbach is something that is willing to sit and explain a complex idea at length. He is willing to put time aside to help his students understand course material.
Instructor delved into each module thoughtfully and efficiently. The material was posted at the end of each week which helped maintain students' attention during class lectures and discussions. Instructor held many office hours and was flexible with meeting to best accommodate students and their schedules.

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Comments
to not be so stringent with participation
Simply exceptional
-The amount of readings sometimes feel a little too much for an undergraduate course
I think doing a rough draft of the op-ed and book review/policy brief before the final assignment submission would have been helpful. Nonetheless, the course was structured in a really great way so no further constructive feedback.
I think if this course were taught again, I would focus on less texts. I would focus on 4 main texts as opposed to the variety that we did.
While the content covered in each lecture and its accompanied powerpoint is indeed valuable, I believe shortening the slides would be beneficial. Perhaps adding a discussion question and/or broad discussion slide at the end of each lecture would be beneficial to help engage students even more. Students would have discussions during the lectures which would sometimes lead to class extending beyond its end time, therefore, the lecture material felt sped up. Hence the suggested allotted discussion time at the end pf each class to ensure the lecture would be completed.

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Comments
give better feedback on assignments, i would usually get one comment
None, amazing course
Sometimes the worksheets take forever to complete but I understand that it is set that way for the final so honestly nothing. All of the reading aligned with all of the EU models which was great!
Everything completed in the class was well thought out and fit together perfectly. I wouldn't change a thing.
I would rename the course to: "The Politics of AI and Privacy" or "The Politics of the Digital Age". These names would better reflect what the course entailed and became through class discussion. I think the course foundation (EU Declaration) was just not the place to start after getting so far into the course. I understand that all courses need something foundational, however most of the course could have been taught without the amount of time spent on the EU Declaration, but this is just my opinion.
Refer to the previous question.

Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

Comments
i learned how to read quick
I learned the political implications of the growing use of AI and how it impacts each one of our lives.
ALL OF IT. Learning about technology so in depth really widened my perspective of how it has integrated itself into our everyday lives. Honestly, I am just so aware of everything like the biases, algorithms, black boxes that will follow me forever.
Writing a policy paper and an op-ed were both very helpful. I was encouraged to deeply think about the issues at hand.
This course was fantastic in giving Political Science students more insight into the world of AI and political problems plaguing privacy and technology.
There were a lot of readings for this course which were accompanied by reading worksheets. These weekly worksheets allowed me to hone in on my reading analysis skills and be able to think more critically and reflexively as I read large texts.

Project Title: University of Florida GatorEvals – Spring 2024 Main Project

Courses Audience: 6
Responses Received: 3
Response Ratio: 50.0%Instructors Audience: 6
Responses Received: 3
Response Ratio: 50.0%

Report Comments

INTRODUCTION

Teaching is a fundamental purpose of the University of Florida and the dissemination of new knowledge in our classrooms, studios, and clinics enables our students and trainees to fully explore their intellectual boundaries. Assessment and evaluation of our courses are designed to enhance instruction and maximize learning to meet the mission of the university. This report contains the results gathered through the new GatorEvals system. Students were invited to share their feedback on the teaching and course material. We invite every faculty member to examine the analysis in the report and utilize the resources provided in the report. Thank you for your continued great work!

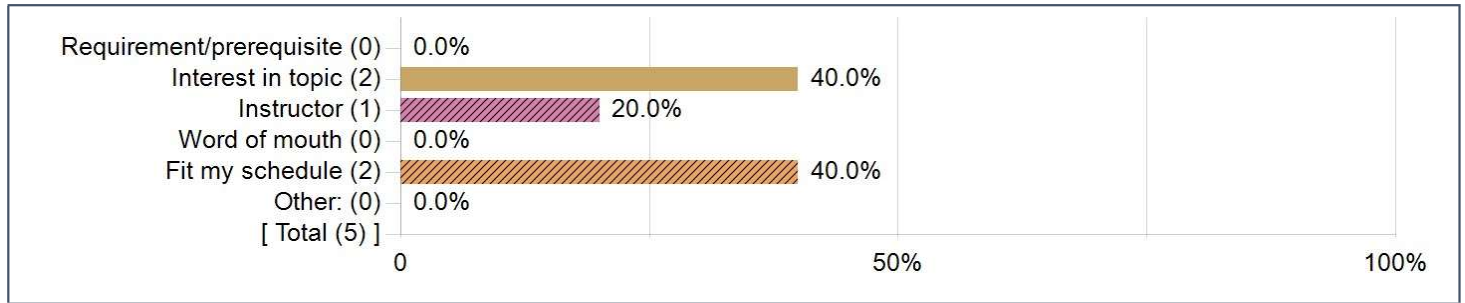
Chris Hass, Ph.D.
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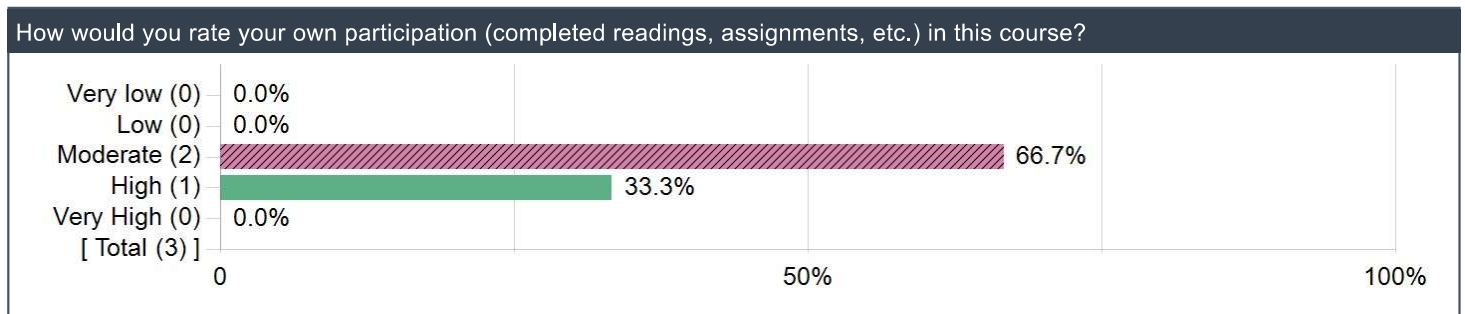
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Student Self-Evaluation Questions

Why did you take this course?



How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?



Comparative Evaluation Results

How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?

Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
50.0%	3.33	3.25	4.04	4.08	4.09	4.16

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	50.0%	5.00	5.00	4.94	4.97	4.50	4.75
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	50.0%	5.00	5.00	4.74	4.87	4.24	4.59
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	50.0%	5.00	5.00	4.69	4.86	4.40	4.68
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	50.0%	5.00	5.00	4.78	4.88	4.36	4.67
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	50.0%	5.00	5.00	4.62	4.83	4.18	4.56
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	50.0%	5.00	5.00	4.75	4.89	4.13	4.57
Overall	50.0%	5.00	-	4.75	-	4.30	-

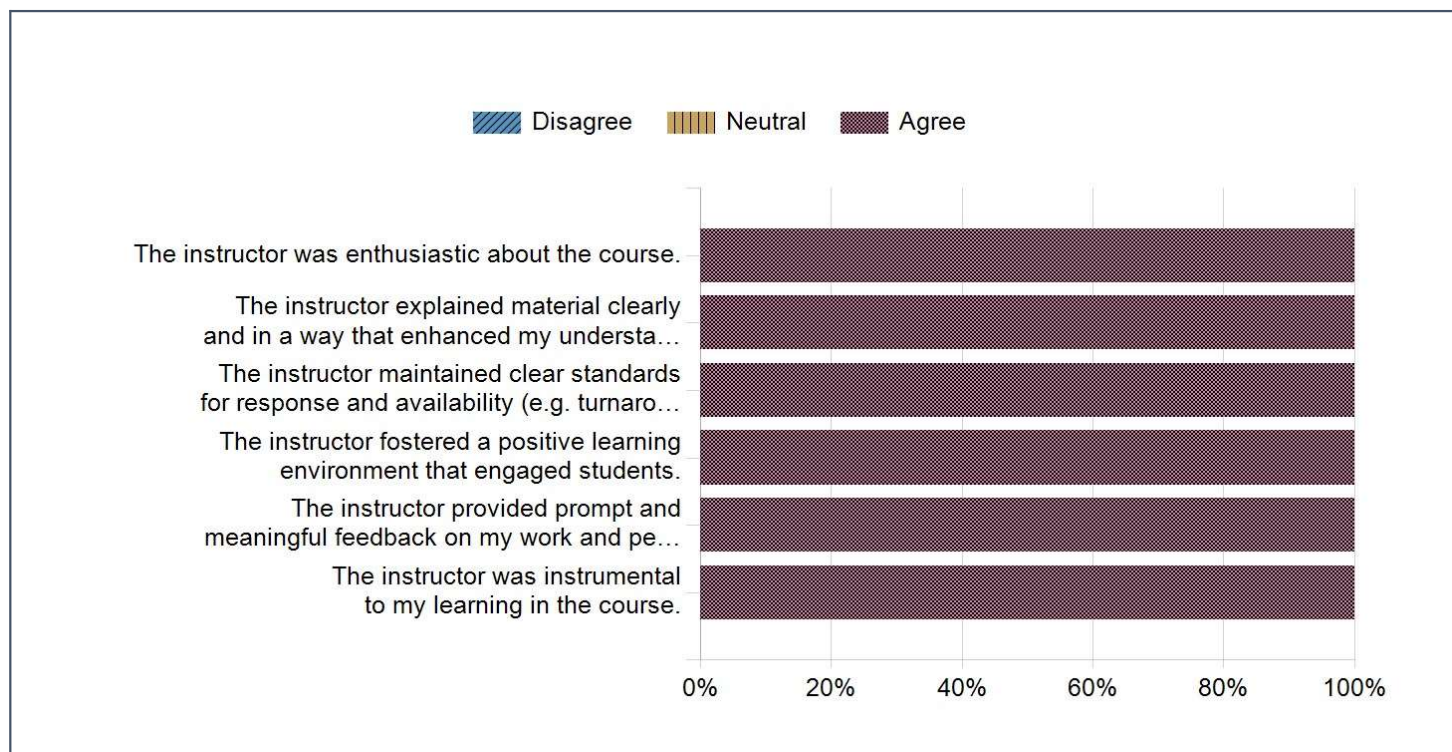
University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	50.0%	4.67	4.75	4.63	4.74	4.20	4.31
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	50.0%	4.67	4.75	4.62	4.76	4.00	4.21
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	50.0%	4.67	4.75	4.54	4.69	4.16	4.31
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	50.0%	4.67	4.75	4.65	4.79	4.19	4.37
Overall	50.0%	4.67	-	4.61	-	4.14	-

Aggregate Evaluation Results

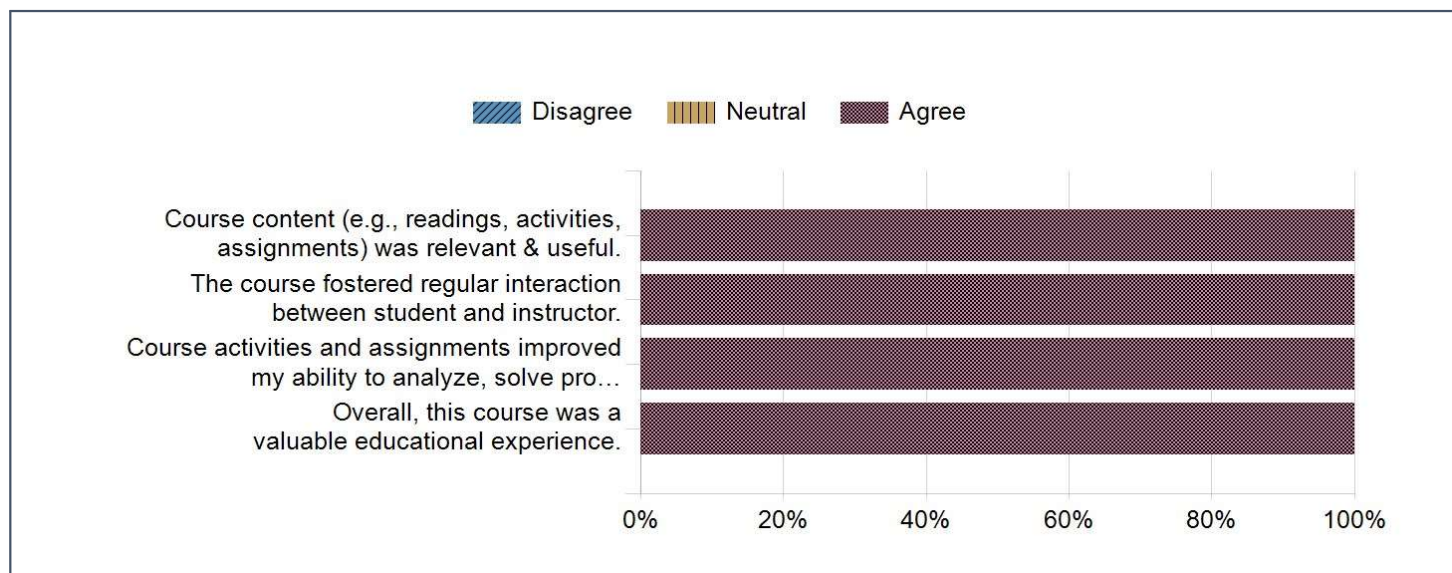
University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

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University Core Course Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

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Percentages Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	3	5.00	5.00	0.00
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	3	5.00	5.00	0.00
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	3	5.00	5.00	0.00
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	3	5.00	5.00	0.00
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	3	5.00	5.00	0.00
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	3	5.00	5.00	0.00

University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%	3	4.67	5.00	0.58
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%	3	4.67	5.00	0.58
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%	3	4.67	5.00	0.58
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%	3	4.67	5.00	0.58

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Free Response Section

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Comments
Very knowledgeable. The course was clear and thorough. Great communication and allowed for many different viewpoints in the classroom. Very accommodating for a student who has struggled with documented health issues this semester. Provided thorough helpful feedback on all assignments.
This is my favorite class I've ever taken, and this professor the the only reason why I enjoyed this class so much. Professor Billesbach is the best Professor I;ve ever had.

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Comments
None... seriously a great course
Nothing. This professor is the best.

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Comments
Nothing, the structure of the course was amazing. Very helpful for someone who struggled with health issues thus missed a lot of class, very easy to gather information outside the classroom.
none.

Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

Comments
For a future in law or political science this course is a great deep dive into an important topic in our lives today while basing ideas on concrete documents and allowing for personal analysis through the presentation of other perspectives. The readings for this class are very interesting and have opened up new authors for me.
Learning about Zuboff and surveillance capitalism

Project Title: University of Florida GatorEvals – Fall 2023 Main Project

Courses Audience: 24	Instructors Audience: 24
Responses Received: 16	Responses Received: 16
Response Ratio: 66.7%	Response Ratio: 66.7%

Report Comments

INTRODUCTION

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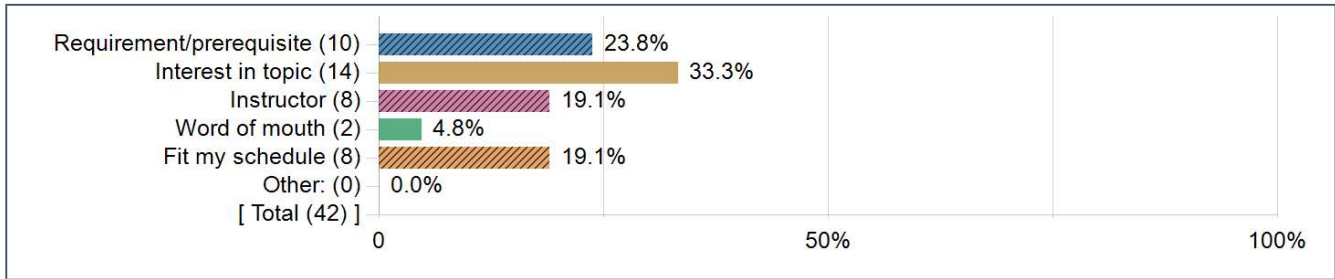
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Creation Date: **Tuesday, June 4, 2024**

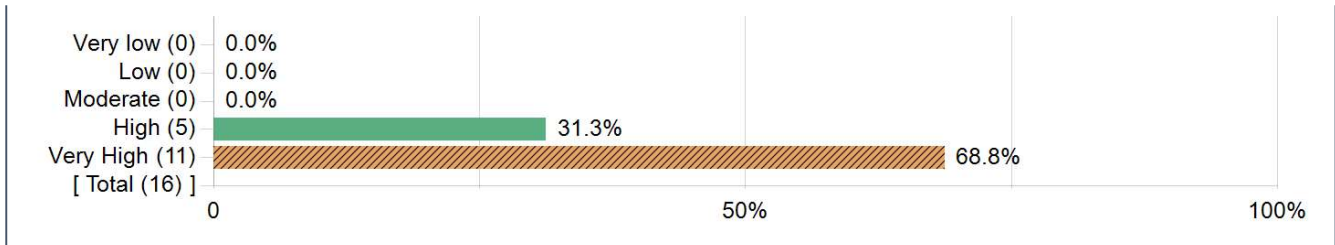
Student Self-Evaluation Questions

Why did you take this course?



How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?

How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?



Comparative Evaluation Results

How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?

Response Count	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
16	66.7%	4.69	4.77	3.98	4.03	4.08	4.15

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	66.7%	4.63	4.88	4.66	4.83	4.45	4.70
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	66.7%	4.69	4.93	4.28	4.63	4.17	4.52
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	66.7%	4.69	4.93	4.50	4.75	4.39	4.65
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	66.7%	4.63	4.88	4.45	4.72	4.32	4.63
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	66.7%	4.69	4.93	4.12	4.57	4.10	4.47
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	66.7%	4.63	4.88	4.19	4.62	4.05	4.47
Overall	66.7%	4.66	-	4.37	-	4.25	-

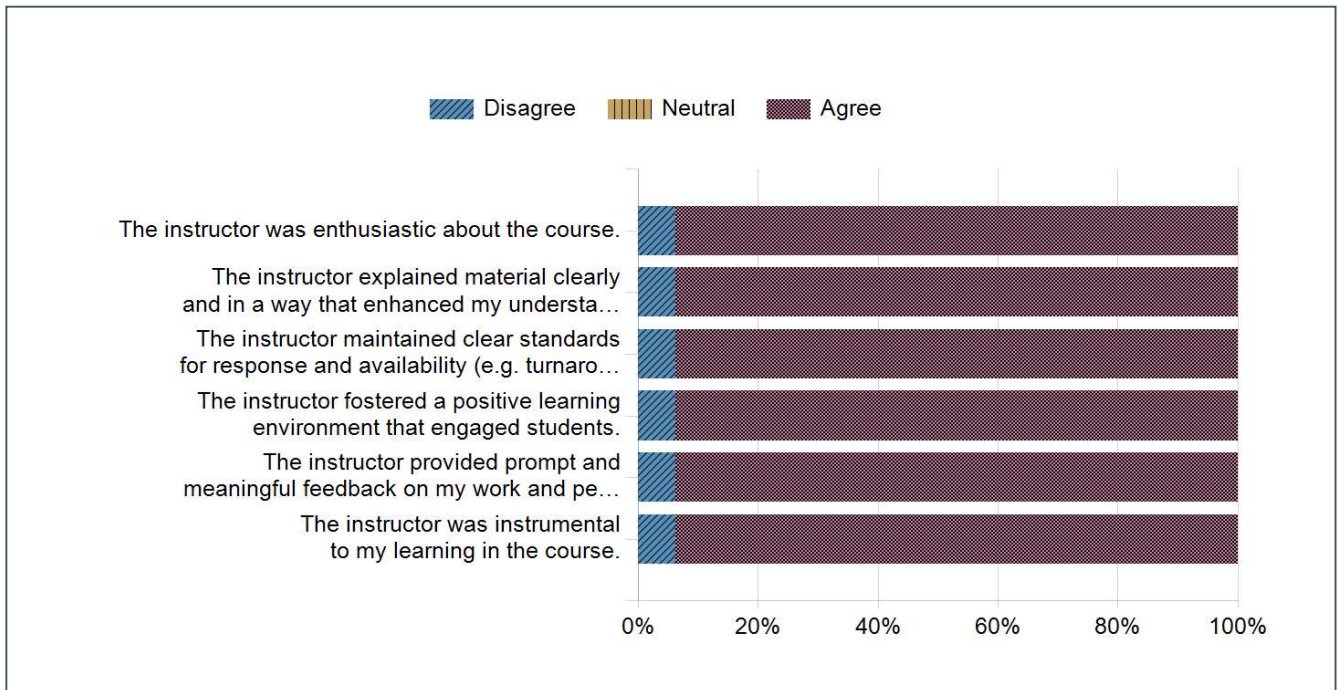
University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	66.7%	4.69	4.77	4.29	4.41	4.15	4.25
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	66.7%	4.81	4.88	4.02	4.23	3.88	4.08
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	66.7%	4.75	4.83	4.13	4.33	4.10	4.23
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	66.7%	4.75	4.83	4.26	4.48	4.13	4.29
Overall	66.7%	4.75	-	4.18	-	4.07	-

Aggregate Evaluation Results

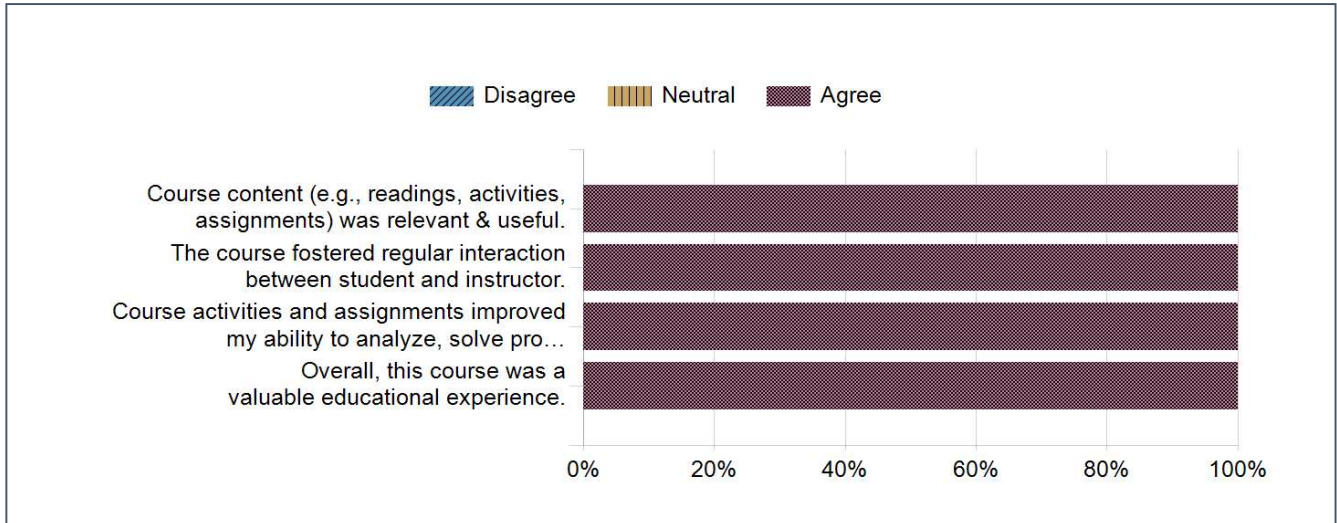
University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

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University Core Course Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



Percentages Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	6.3%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%	81.3%	16	4.63	5.00	1.02
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	6.3%	0.0%	0.0%	6.3%	87.5%	16	4.69	5.00	1.01
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	6.3%	0.0%	0.0%	6.3%	87.5%	16	4.69	5.00	1.01
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	6.3%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%	81.3%	16	4.63	5.00	1.02
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	6.3%	0.0%	0.0%	6.3%	87.5%	16	4.69	5.00	1.01
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	6.3%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%	81.3%	16	4.63	5.00	1.02

University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	31.3%	68.8%	16	4.69	5.00	0.48
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	18.8%	81.3%	16	4.81	5.00	0.40
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%	16	4.75	5.00	0.45
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%	16	4.75	5.00	0.45

For additional information and resources in each of these question areas, please visit the GatorEvals Website at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/resources--policies/question-set/>

Free Response Section

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Comments
he had great content, overall. He systematically gave us a great overview of American political thinkers from late 1700s to 1980. He is very good at selecting particular pieces for his classmates to read.
Very engaging, kind professor! Truly shows interests in ensuring that his students succeed and when a student can tell that, it makes learning a lot easier and fun.
Prof. Billesbach truly cares about his students and it shows every single day. He is super engaging and leads extremely fruitful class discussions. He is aware that life happens and will work with students if they give proper notice. His lectures are amazing as well.
Hi Prof! Caitlin here! I just wanted to say that this has been my favorite political science class I have taken in my 2 years at UF. I don't say any of this to be a teacher's pet or anything and I don't believe in saying nice things if I don't absolutely mean it. Anyways, I just wanted to commend you on the classroom environment you created. In the beginning of the semester I was a little nervous because I knew we had to talk a decent amount in this class and I was a little intimidated, it's a level 4000 class and everyone seemed so articulate and I felt like a little baby who just wrapped up my intro classes. But as time went on, I became really comfortable speaking, not just from my own convictions, but because the questions you posed were not one-dimensional. These questions always made me think, and I found it to be challenging at times, but I find nothing more riveting than when I must dive into the nuance of a situation. Also, you are one of the only professors (so far) that found my humor/modern twist on history actually funny. I understand situations, problems, and history best when I can translate it into "caitlin-terms" and these Caitlin terms mean being able to call a theorist a weirdo or an egocentric man (there were many of those, am I right). Point is, you never put me down or looked at me sideways when I would incorporate humor into my analysis and I can't thank you enough for that. I think one of the best parts of life itself is holding joy and spreading it when you can, and whenever I would analyze out loud in class or add a question with a bit of humor, I wasn't just doing that to get a "haha", but because I genuinely understand concepts better when I can find the joy in it. And I find tremendous joy in laughing. So thank you for allowing me to share that with you and with the class. Also, I wish I had a gateval for my classmates, because this group of kids has pushed me intellectually in ways that I couldn't predict. There were days where I would leave the class with a slight headache but I loved it. I love nothing more than to see things from the endless angles they could be viewed as. That is the beauty of education to me. And you know what? I think if Bloom were to step into our classroom he would be the hoity-toity dweeb sulking in the corner because he thinks he's holier-than-thou. And you know what? I would call him wrong if he had anything bad to say about the way this class is conducted because in our own way, we are wise, just not in the conventional way! Anyways, you got really lucky with this bunch of kids and I know I got lucky to have them as classmates. Academically, I remember getting that first worksheet and being a little frustrated, I was like how am I supposed to find the contradiction with our founding fathers? Like lil ol' me finding a hole with Jefferson's argument? Who do I think I am? But as I started removing myself and my ego from my historical analysis, I was able to become a better writer and I think my way of critical thinking has improved greatly because of this class. So thank you. Not one thing in this class was easy, but no one learns when things are easy. Great job Glen! Also, I've been dying to say this, but I found out from Yanet that you went to college in the UK and that made me realize that that is where you get your wit from! Because if there's one thing the Brits will do is be as sarcastic as possible. And I appreciate that! Bob's ya uncle! HAHAHAHAHAAAAHA okay, that's all! Hopefully, I will be able to take another one of your classes in the future but not the one next semester because there would have to be a gun to my head to make me get to a class at 7:30 in the morning. Sorry but not really! Maybe I might see you as a TA... (wouldn't I be such a great and funny TA? Don't even play with me I literally think I would become a mother to all my students) Okay bye!!!
Mr. Billesbach was very passionate about the course which further allowed me to understand the content. When some of the concepts seemed hard to adjust to or understand, he simplified it in a way that not only allowed me to grasp it, but to further ask myself about its implications.
Prof. Billesbach is incredible at taking a complicated and abstract idea or thought and explaining it in a way that students will truly understand. I have had very few professors during my time here at UF that can explain things with such proficiency. He is undoubtedly a professor that puts the learning of his students at the forefront. I cannot stress how instrumental Prof. Billesbach has been in my learning experience. Furthermore, Prof. Billesbach has a talent for getting students to critically think and grapple with complex topics at a moment's notice. He always values and cares about the different perspectives and interpretations of course content among students and his leading of class discussions highlights this. This course would not have been as profound to me without Prof. Billesbach's teaching.
Answering bad questions from students in a thoughtful and genuine manner while providing a careful response. Facilitating deep debate and discussion among students. Provoking student's interest and passion on course topics. Deep knowledge of the material. Very very helpful and kind. Overall, Professor Billesbach is an outstanding instructor.
In my years at University, Glen was my favorite professor I have had thus far. He ran the course excellently and was funny, understandable, and relatable. He constructed a solid foundational premise with the allotted information well.
good lecturer – in person segments provided strong overview and fostered discussion of topics covered in readings/homework
The instructor was very provided very clear and insightful analysis on each unit. The professor also had a level of enthusiasm about the course that was infectious for his students.
Professor Billesbach was truly exceptional, creating a classroom environment that promoted interactive learning. His approachability and teaching methods encouraged students to actively participate, fostering an engaging educational experience.
I have had the opportunity to take Professor Billesbach twice for classes, and he has been the BEST professor I've had in the Political Science Dept.! He is an interactive educator, where students consistently participate in discussions or ask questions. Professor Billesbach will also answer any questions and get back to you almost immediately when emailed. My favorite strength of his that has contributed to my learning in the course is his ability to give grace when needed but also ensure his students are doing their part in the course. Consequently, it has pushed me to meet the deadlines and put in my best efforts in the class.

Comments
Professor Billesbach was passionate about the subject he taught, and he offered several valuable insights to the readings during class. Lectures were productive, and he ensured that everyone had an opportunity to contribute, engage in debate and discussion, and share ideas. He did an excellent job of making the classroom more than just a learning environment, but also a critical thinking environment, where I was able to engage with the course content at a deeper level. He made connections to other political thinkers, such as those explored in Intro to Political Theory, and historical/current event. Overall, his approach was effective and his lectures were engaging.
Glen is one of the best professors I've had at UF, and I'm finishing my second to last semester here. He is extremely engaging, and his enthusiasm toward the material in itself makes digesting complex information easier. Further, when information becomes hard to follow, he can explain it in a way without spoon-feeding it to you, where he follows with a question that leaves you still having to exercise your brain in order to analyze what you've been told and in turn, learn more. He's great at communicating with his students, facilitating engaging and thought-provoking discussion, and often our class ran 5 minutes over because we had so much to say and Glen did not want to interrupt the flow of thoughts amongst students. There are countless traits about Glen's performance leading our classroom which have left me with content I will actually remember after this class and will better prepare me for law school.
Prof. Billesbach is one of the best Political Science professors at UF. He is firm on guidelines and makes us aware, yet he is understanding and approachable. The content was interesting and discussions were engaging.

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Comments
practice his lecture style. of course it takes time, but his value oversees that by far.
N/A
keep it at 3 briefs! very managable!
N/A
upper limit to page count for weekly assignments – somewhere between 40 and 60 perhaps?
The only piece of information that might improve the course is having better time management as we seemed to run out of time to cover some things at the end of class but it was mainly because the class got hyper focused on one particular idea or philosopher.
Was an awesome semester!
I cannot think of anything off the top of my head! However, maybe providing the essay prompts instead of the students getting to decide their essay topic! It can be challenging to form a strong analytical question from authors.
Sometimes the class would spend a little too much time on one issue/question/topic, and the instructor needs to work on moving the lectures along in order to cover all the points/authors/issues from the week.
N/A
I like the class structure as is!

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Comments
nothing, great organization.
N/A
The course design is fabulous. Each reading is carefully picked and contributes to the discussions that are held in the following class period.
Perhaps providing an example of a satisfactory worksheet in the course files. At times I felt I was overwriting for some of the worksheets.
No criticism. He did a great job.
see previous
There was a lot of reading and I times I thought it was too much but I understand why they were all important for the scope of the class.
I would have liked to meet 3 days a week instead of 2, but still was a great experience
Providing a study guide that is more concrete for blue book exams. Besides that, everything is perfect and well-organized (class and assignments)!
The variety of authors and time periods that were selected provided students with a comprehensive view of American Political Thought, and I do not recommend any additions or subtractions. With regard to organization, course structure, assignment formats, and the workload, these were well-designed and appropriate for an upper-level college course. No corrections should be made.
Maybe space out reading more, present a flow of how the readings are better connected week to week
I think the course is great as is.

Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

Comments
reading large amounts of content within a week. selecting important quotes, getting a clear idea what the author is trying to convey.
Critical thinking
My writing skills have improved tremendously in his class.
Every topic we have learned not only applies to real-world thinking but also helped me further grow in understanding the foundations of politics.
Constructive debate and discussion. Analyzing and comprehending complex texts. A rethinking of how I view political thought and political theory. Deeper overall understanding of political thought.
I learned so much about all of these various thinkers. I would argue I might have learned more in this course than I have in any other I have taken.
critical thinking/reading, synthesizing information, analyzing academic texts, making critical statements evaluating the writing style/argument
I believe this course has helped me immensely with my reading comprehension and analysis skills. Furthermore, I feel more knowledgeable about the different schools of philosophy that have led us to this point in American politics.
The skills I learned in this class, specifically the critical thinking and in-depth analysis of complex texts, will be invaluable for future course and my professional growth.
Definitely, analyzing texts and being able to question an author or what is said in class!
Learning how to engage in thoughtful discussion about history and politics with my peers, and how to approach political thought using the "reflexive" technique of making connections to personal emotional responses as well as previously acquired information
Critically examining text in a way where I can identify analytical questions I may have, increased comfort with heavy reading
Critical analysis and open-mindedness

Spring 2023 Individual Instructor Aggregated for POT2002: Intro Political Theor (Glen Billesbach)

Project Title: **University of Florida GatorEvals – Spring 2023 Main Project**

Courses Audience: 47	Instructors Audience: 47
Responses Received: 33	Responses Received: 33
Response Ratio: 70.2%	Response Ratio: 70.2%

Report Comments

INTRODUCTION

Teaching is a fundamental purpose of the University of Florida and the dissemination of new knowledge in our classrooms, studios, and clinics enables our students and trainees to fully explore their intellectual boundaries. Assessment and evaluation of our courses are designed to enhance instruction and maximize learning to meet the mission of the university. This report contains the results gathered through the new GatorEvals system. Students were invited to share their feedback on the teaching and course material. We invite every faculty member to examine the analysis in the report and utilize the resources provided in the report. Thank you for your continued great work!

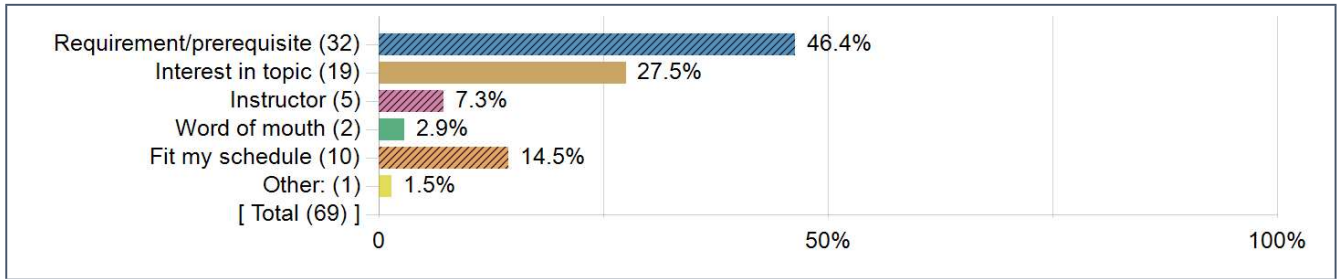
Chris Hass, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs



Creation Date: **Tuesday, June 4, 2024**

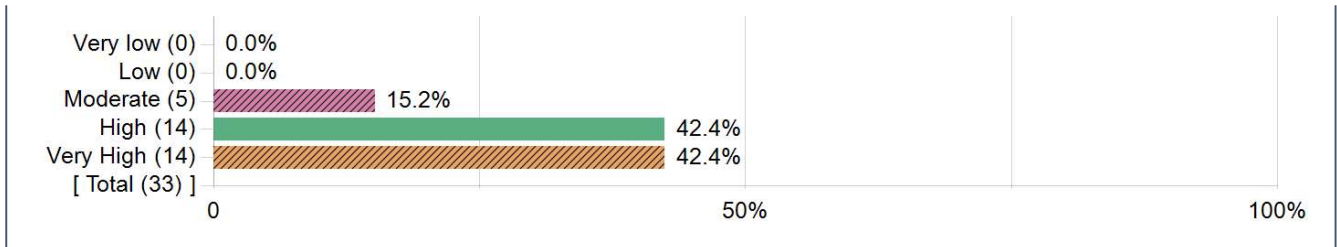
Student Self-Evaluation Questions

Why did you take this course?



How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?

How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?



Comparative Evaluation Results

How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?

Response Count	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
33	70.2%	4.27	4.32	4.00	4.04	4.08	4.16

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	70.2%	4.91	4.95	4.73	4.86	4.48	4.73
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	70.2%	5.00	5.00	4.41	4.71	4.23	4.57
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	70.2%	4.97	4.98	4.55	4.78	4.40	4.67
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	70.2%	4.97	4.98	4.50	4.75	4.35	4.66
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	70.2%	4.91	4.95	4.23	4.63	4.17	4.55
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	70.2%	4.97	4.98	4.35	4.71	4.11	4.54
Overall	70.2%	4.95	-	4.46	-	4.29	-

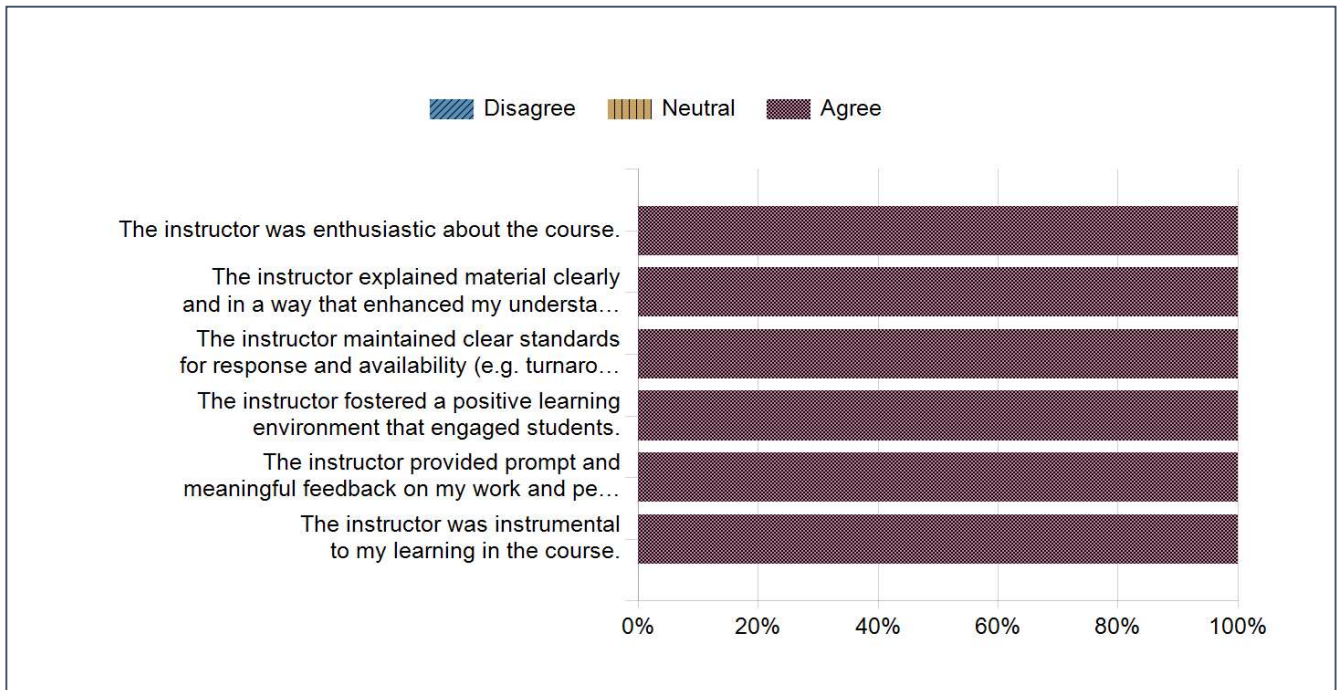
University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	70.2%	4.67	4.75	4.35	4.47	4.19	4.30
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	70.2%	4.67	4.75	4.09	4.33	3.98	4.18
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	70.2%	4.67	4.75	4.20	4.39	4.15	4.29
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	70.2%	4.76	4.84	4.32	4.54	4.18	4.35
Overall	70.2%	4.69	-	4.24	-	4.12	-

Aggregate Evaluation Results

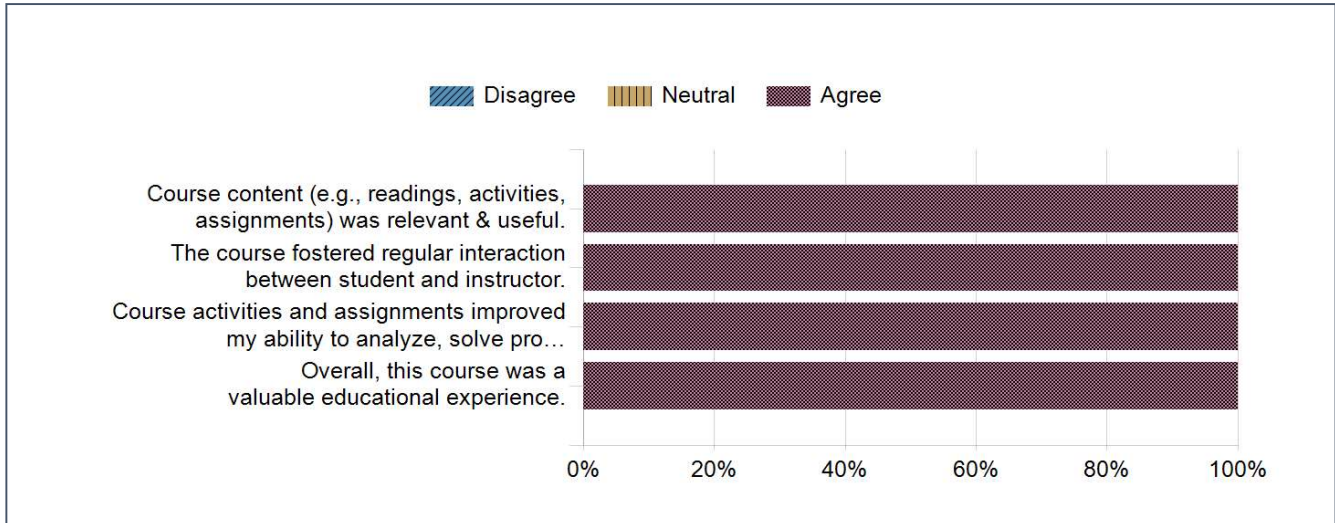
University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



University Core Course Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



Percentages Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	9.1%	90.9%	33	4.91	5.00	0.29
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	33	5.00	5.00	0.00
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	97.0%	33	4.97	5.00	0.17
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	97.0%	33	4.97	5.00	0.17
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	9.1%	90.9%	33	4.91	5.00	0.29
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	97.0%	33	4.97	5.00	0.17

University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%	33	4.67	5.00	0.48
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%	33	4.67	5.00	0.48
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%	33	4.67	5.00	0.48
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	24.2%	75.8%	33	4.76	5.00	0.44

For additional information and resources in each of these question areas, please visit the GatorEvals Website at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/resources--policies/question-set/>

Free Response Section

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Comments
I think his enthusiasm really contributed into my learning into this course – also, his real-life examples aided my learning a lot
Professor Billesbach is so clearly knowledgeable and passionate about the topics he teaches. He has a perfect tempo to his lectures, fitting plenty of information in while also providing ample time for note-taking.
The instructor was very good at being accepting of multiple different ideas and viewpoints while still being able to bring broader ideas into a narrower focus. He is also very knowledgeable about the field and I felt that he knew the books we read inside and out.
Very good at creating an open and positive environment for students to share their opinions
Professor dedicated Fridays to discussion to review any confusion students had in re: to assigned readings. If no confusion, it was a great time to dive deeper into the content of each thinker.
N/A
Professor Billesbach is so far the best professor I've had at UF. He is well educated, passionate, and relatable. He makes the class feel less intimidating, and is always there for his students. He gives great feedback, and I always get excited when I see he graded something because I thoroughly enjoy reading his feedback. He is open to political opinion from anyone, and holds no biases towards the content, which is extremely hard in a political class.
Instructor displayed a through understanding of each author and was receptive to everyone's views.
super kind funny and easygoing.
Prof. Billesbach was very interested in and knowledgeable about the course material which greatly enhanced the learning environment.
N/A
The instructor did an excellent job at breaking down the readings and explaining the main ideas of the thinkers. I don't know if I would've gotten as much out of the course if not for the professor's understanding of the topics and interactions with the class.
Billesbach is super passionate about this class. He's easy to relate too and made understanding the topics very easily.
Prof. Billesbach was amazing. He was very good at taking complex readings and explaining them in an easily digestible way. He also made pop culture references that brought a lot of the older readings to life. Furthermore, he truly cares about his students and works extremely hard to make sure that each and every one of them gets something out of the class. I would love to take more classes with him if they fit my schedule.
The instructor was very enthusiastic about this course, and was very knowledgeable about each author and its corresponding book. The instructor did not hesitate to help students during his office hours, and held them frequently. He also responded to emails in a timely manner, providing students with immediate feedback. The instructor encouraged everyone to participate in class discussions, and paid special attention to those who had not previously spoken during that class period.
Professor Billesbach incorporated a sense of positivity and enthusiasm into his teaching. Numerous readings in this course could be interpreted as boring and long. However, the instructor took numerous steps to engage his students in class.
Very very passionate about the course material and teaching it which made for a much more enjoyable & educational experience, gave super thorough feedback which showed how much he cared & also was very helpful for completing future assignments and understanding what to improve, gave a good breakdown of each of the texts, fostered engagement and actually wanted to know what students thought about what we were learning
I have only amazing things to say about this instructor. Mr. Bilesbach has got to be one of the best and for sure the most enjoyable instructor I've ever had here at UF. He's extremely knowledgable, personable, understanding, a quick/witty thinker, and any other great thing I could possibly say (the list goes on). He is extremely organized and sets the class up in a way that we had a constant flow of new ideas and discussions. his way of explaining concepts was very engaging as well.
instructor was extremely nice and engaging in discussion. always ready to teach, answer questions, and engage everyone.
The feedback on every assignment was extremely helpful as it allowed me to recognize what I needed to do to improve.
Extremely helpful and resourceful. Provided me extremely thorough feedback on my assignments and was always open to meeting during office hours to provide essay feedback.
Extremely knowledgeable, kind, and responsive to students. Definitely felt like he truly cared about our learning and in making sure that we all had clear understandings of certain concepts, but I truly loved how welcoming the classroom was to different perspectives and opinions.
Is clearly very knowledgeable on these topic but most importantly is able to break down complex and intricate subjects into an easily decipherable way for all his students. Is an incredibly engaging professor which really influenced my motivation for learning.
Very engaging, encouraged discussions, made content easier to understand.
Mr. Billesbach's lectures were always detailed and intriguing, and his reflexive examples during discussions helped to ground fairly abstract concepts in terms understandable to students.
Professor Billesbach has such a strong passion for this course that made me want to come to class. He gave meaningful comments on all of our work and made sure we were truly understanding the material. He engaged us during class and made sure everyone had a chance to speak and contribute. He is a great teacher and everyone would be lucky to take one of his courses.
Explained all concepts in-depth and was happy to elaborate further when questions were raised. Provided ample time to complete assignments and was always available for help. Was very accomodating for technical issues.
The instructor was extremely positive, and helped me gain an education in the course material through his ability to connect with me and understand my strengths and weaknesses. The professor also was extremely helpful when I went through difficult times and

Comments

helped make sure that I was able to gain an education and learn the content, while successfully handling the obstacles in my personal life as a helping hand and a positive force in my life.

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Comments

I think that the list-type review that we did at the end of the semester for the exam review would be helpful to do at the end of each section that way there is something to look for when starting exam prep.

None

The PowerPoint slides are super informative and useful as they are posted on canvas by the end of the week for students to refer to. However, they can be lengthy so I might suggest condensing them.

N/A

none, 10/10 professor.

Maybe some more in class group discussions between students would be beneficial.

none

N/A

I think this class would benefit from more small group discussions.

No constructive feedback. The instructor knows that not everyone came into this course with prior knowledge on different philosophers and took his time explaining each concept in detail for further understanding.

My only suggestion would be unlocking course grades on canvas. I know how I did on individual assignments in his class, however, the whole semester I never knew my total grade in his class. All in all, Professor Billesbach was an outstanding professor and always cracked jokes during lectures to further engagement in his class. Additionally, he is very informed in all of the reading that took place in the class and explained it to the class in ways that were easy to understand.

I think he could be a little tougher so people take the class a little more seriously (not that they didn't, I just wouldn't want people to take advantage of his kindness)

I have none.

the notes were a little too fast/hard to keep up with.

A little more explanation on how to really analyze and break down the various thinkers arguments (specifically for worksheets). Other than that Keep it up!

I think the class is set up perfectly.

While I greatly appreciated changes made in the course schedule to provide additional time to write the final essay and prepare for the final exam, I think I would have preferred to maintain the original schedule and discuss essay ideas with classmates.

I would say the reading and writing is definitely heavy, so maybe if the worksheets had some variability and not just plain writing every week

N/A

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Comments
I found the first essay that we had to do very interesting but I would actually prefer if we could have more of an opportunity to participate in more group work
I feel like it would be helpful in the worksheets we do to have an overall topic at the top of the page so that I can tell if I'm on the right path with interpreting what I am reading. Ex: for Locke: Self-Rule, Anti-Hobbes (chaos) .
The slides were very engaging and lectures were very helpful, I feel having a whole other final is a bit excessive though
I found the presentations at the end to be super helpful in recapping the theories/ideas presented by each thinker. Perhaps having 2 presentations would be beneficial?
N/A
None really, I enjoyed the lay out of the course.
N/A
Less required readings, focus text on pages that are more important.
Each assignment aided the students in further understanding each author and their book, and made it so that they were actually required to read the book. If there had been no assignment, the class discussions definitely would have had less participation, and probably would have been more confusing as less people would have read the assigned pages.
Unlock grades on canvas so students can see overall grades.
I think that for the final, there should be a little more information given ahead of time, like, for example, giving ideas as to what the prompts could be.
I have none. I enjoyed the structure/material thoroughly and completely.
go slower with the notes so that we can write down what the board says AND understand the lecture.
The readings got a bit difficult to keep up with at the end but that's just from it edging closer to the end of the semester, I think that there could be a bit more necessary information conveyed on the slides (ex. when I missed a day due to extenuating circumstances it was difficult to catch up using just the slides alone and I lacked the time to meet directly with the professor).
The course is complete and stimulating.
Being able to receive in-person constructive criticism about our essays.
I think that it would be beneficial to set aside additional classes for exam review.
Course materials should be more engaging rather than just writing. Maybe answering prompts rather than just writing down everything we learned.
N/A

Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

Comments
I think the way I relate historical thinkers and their analogies into contemporary examples will be something that I will use in the future as this really helped my learning
I feel like i gained the skill of being able to apply a reading to the real world. A lot of my past classes have not that so this class I feel like allowed for the comparison of a book to modern day society.
Really glad I took this class because I'd always wanted to learn about these important political thinkers, but definitely learned political theory is not for me lol
I have a deeper understanding of key political theorists and will be able to apply said knowledge to my future political science courses.
N/A
The wide range of philosophers we cover helps us learn different perspectives to politics, which is one of the most important lessons that can be taught.
I think there was a lot of concepts from the political theory content that will help me grow as an individual in the future.
N/A
Learning how to understand political theory.
Critical thinking and reasoning; Essay construction and writing
My reading comprehension skills greatly improved through my engagement in this class. Additionally my analysis and note-taking skills advanced due to instructor Billesbach's assignments.
I learned about various different political theories/ideologies, I learned how to accurately locate the main points, and I gained more confidence about speaking up in class.
He really fostered the idea of Paideia in me. I was already a student who was eager to learn but sitting in his class was a treat every single day for me. Political commentary is for sure a skill I can take away from this course, something I hadn't done much of in the past but learned that I enjoy.
knowing politics for my future in law!
critical thinking, heavy and in depth analysis was key throughout this course, and a willingness to listen to other perspectives was instrumental
Reading and thinking critically, evaluating different arguments, and building my own arguments based on reason are skills I learned in this course that I will carry with me in the future.
Understanding early political thinkers, improving my reflexive and analytical skills.
The thinkers we were introduced to and the ideologies we explored provided an in-depth history of many of the political ideas referenced today.
Critical thinking skills, foundation for politics
I have an established understanding of how to interpret political theory and the concepts surrounding the thinkers we studied in this class. I believe my learning from this course will be incredibly helpful in my future career in law school.

Fall 2022 Individual Instructor Aggregated for POT4053: Great Polit Thinkers (Glen Billesbach)

Project Title: **University of Florida GatorEvals – Fall 2022 Main Project**

Courses Audience: 23	Instructors Audience: 23
Responses Received: 12	Responses Received: 12
Response Ratio: 52.2%	Response Ratio: 52.2%

Report Comments

INTRODUCTION

Teaching is a fundamental purpose of the University of Florida and the dissemination of new knowledge in our classrooms, studios, and clinics enables our students and trainees to fully explore their intellectual boundaries. Assessment and evaluation of our courses are designed to enhance instruction and maximize learning to meet the mission of the university. This report contains the results gathered through the new GatorEvals system. Students were invited to share their feedback on the teaching and course material. We invite every faculty member to examine the analysis in the report and utilize the resources provided in the report. Thank you for your continued great work!

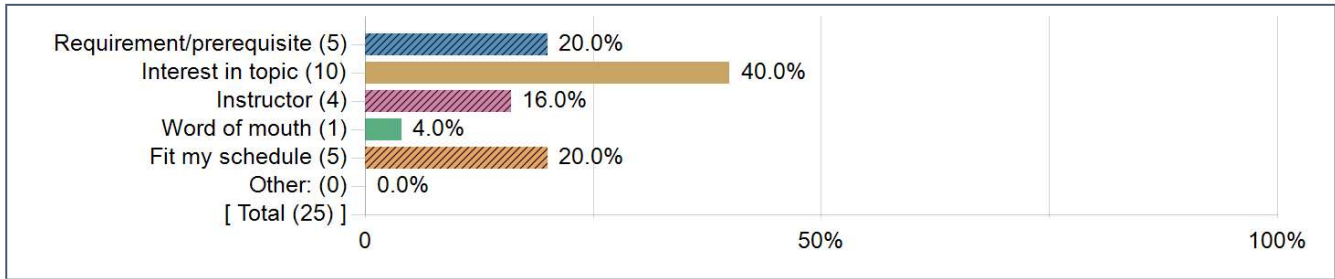
Chris Hass, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs



Creation Date: **Monday, July 10, 2023**

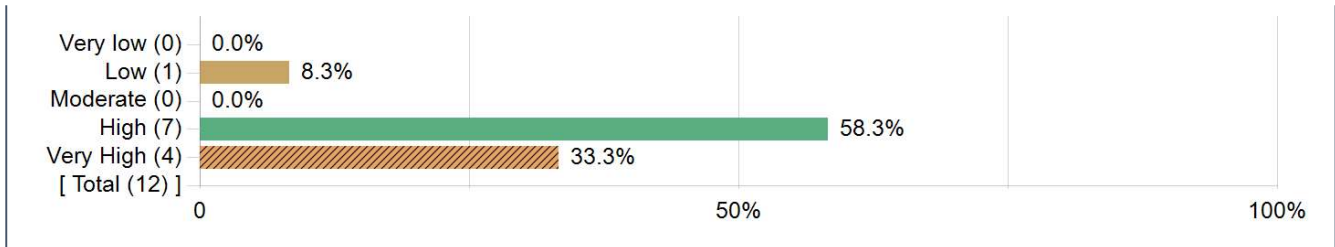
Student Self-Evaluation Questions

Why did you take this course?



How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?

How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?



Comparative Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	52.2%	4.92	4.95	4.73	4.86	4.44	4.70
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	52.2%	4.92	4.95	4.39	4.69	4.15	4.51
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	52.2%	4.92	4.95	4.54	4.77	4.37	4.64
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	52.2%	4.92	4.95	4.49	4.75	4.30	4.61
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	52.2%	4.92	4.95	4.21	4.60	4.09	4.46
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	52.2%	4.92	4.95	4.32	4.68	4.02	4.44
Overall	52.2%	4.92	-	4.45	-	4.23	-

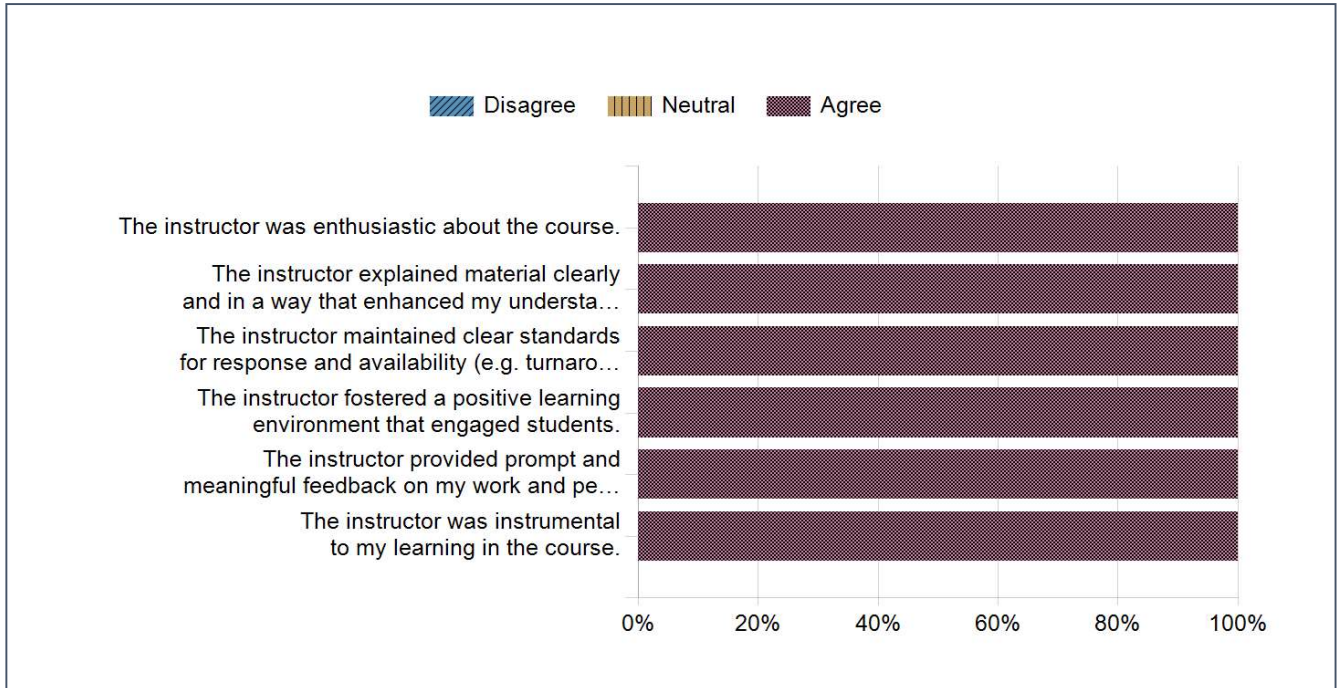
University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	52.2%	4.75	4.83	4.26	4.38	4.15	4.25
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	52.2%	4.92	4.95	4.06	4.26	3.88	4.08
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	52.2%	4.92	4.95	4.19	4.35	4.09	4.23
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	52.2%	4.92	4.95	4.27	4.51	4.12	4.28
Overall	52.2%	4.88	-	4.19	-	4.06	-

Aggregate Evaluation Results

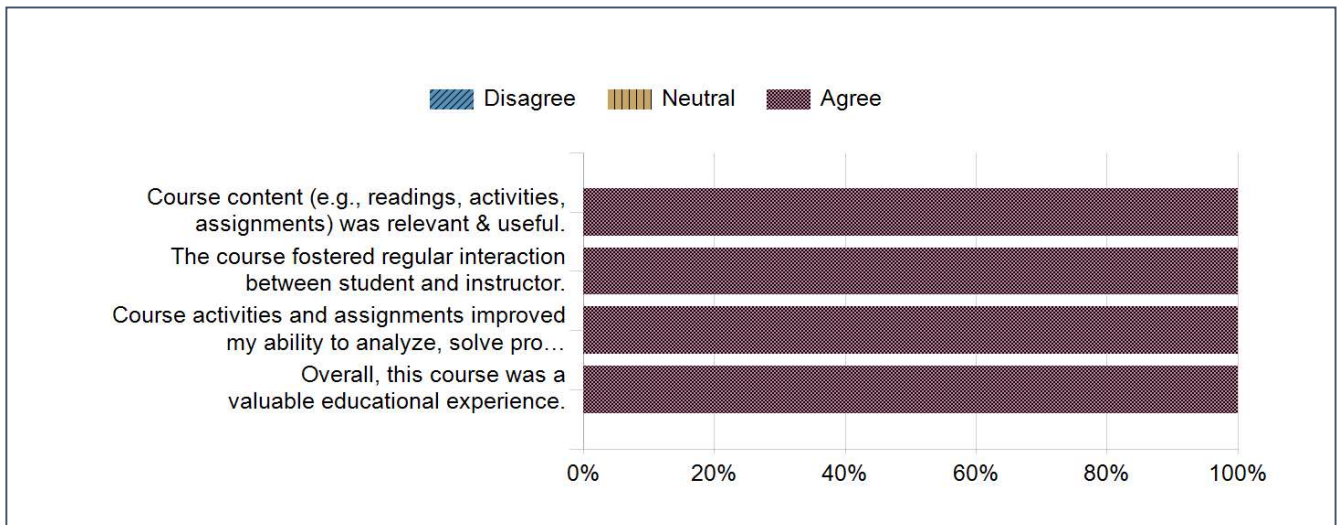
University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



University Core Course Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



Percentages Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	91.7%	12	4.92	5.00	0.29
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	91.7%	12	4.92	5.00	0.29
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	91.7%	12	4.92	5.00	0.29
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	91.7%	12	4.92	5.00	0.29
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	91.7%	12	4.92	5.00	0.29
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	91.7%	12	4.92	5.00	0.29

University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%	12	4.75	5.00	0.45
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	91.7%	12	4.92	5.00	0.29
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	91.7%	12	4.92	5.00	0.29
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	91.7%	12	4.92	5.00	0.29

For additional information and resources in each of these question areas, please visit the GatorEvals Website at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/resources--policies/question-set/>

Free Response Section

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Comments
Glen is my favorite instructor that I've had at UF, and I've recommended him to other political science majors. Glen has a fantastic teaching style – it is clear, interesting, and engaging. He constantly engages with the class and genuinely cares about his students, including their lives outside of his class. This is the first class I've had at UF where there was not one day that I dreaded going to the class or wanted to skip it. I think this is because of the friendly environment Glen creates and the types of deep, critical thinking that he invokes through his lectures, discussions, and questions he asks the class. He makes sure that students engage and do their work without being harsh or inflexible. Truly a great professor and I wish I could've had him for all my political science courses!
He is extremely approachable and kind and created a great learning environment. He was very flexible with students while remaining focused and scheduled with the coursework. Very easy to reach during office hours and was very helpful when writing essays (but not too helpful – gave the right amount of advice and guidance). Always answers any questions and you can tell he wants his students to thrive.
N/A
1. Insightful lectures that helped break down more complex concepts 2. Helpful feedback on assignments and essays that helped keep me engaged with my work 3. Great at allowing students to participate and voice their opinions, even during lectures 4. Very relaxed 5. Did a good job fitting everything into a small window of 50 minutes 6. Tries to get to know his students and treat them like peers
Was knowledgeable about the material and was able to give good answers to any question. Cared about the students and was flexible to maximize their wellbeing. Presented only the best examples of each text and was able to explain their relevance. Made himself available to answer questions or help on essays.
Professor Billesbach is always ready to help, provides incredibly engaging and interesting books to read (with really amazing lectures to explain the readings), and most importantly, encourages critical thinking in a generally positive, but still educational, environment. Honestly, he is one of the best professors I have ever taken here.
Very extensive knowledge on topics and able to speak on them for hours
He is very knowledgeable about the subject, friendly with his students, and willing and able to hold conversations on the topics.
Professor Billesbach was great with his lectures. His PowerPoints had enough meaningful information to make good notes without too much information. It always felt very comfortable to speak up in class and contribute to the discussions as well.
Genuine passion in the subject, engaging lecturer, pays close detail to work and gives frequent feedback.
Professor Billesbach is very passionate and outgoing in his method of teaching that makes the classroom very open and engaging allowing for discussion and free thought regardless of the topic at hand.
Deep Knowledge of the course

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Comments
I have no criticisms, the way Glen laid out this course is incredibly intentional, he gives appropriate time to each topic area, and as I said I thoroughly enjoyed the course.
N/A
I liked the smaller groups for discussion days instead of the one large group days
I honestly have no constructive feedback I can give. Professor Billesbach is one of the most supportive and engaging professors, in my opinion, here at UF. If I could take more classes with him, I would!
Personally, I do not like the forced notes or their format. I would recommend lessening their weight and maybe opening up the format. Also, during discussion you use a two finger system. I understand that this is to avoid discussions turning into an out of control argument, but it makes discussion somewhat disjointed and less conversational. Aside from those two things, you are awesome!
n/a
Participation points instead of roll call attendance

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Comments
N/A this course is great
N/A
1. Perhaps the inclusion of a contemporary thinker that is not Arendt. 2. This class needs to be longer, too short to allow for proper discussion.
Ideally prevent having 2 worksheets due on the same day.
None at all, the homework formatting is a lot, however, it really encourages further understanding and critical thought of the material.
I think I answered this one already regarding the notes assignments.
It would have been nice to do discussions on all of the readings rather than just the larger texts. The weekly worksheets were very helpful in organizing notes about the texts and conceptualizing them.
n/a
N/A

Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

Comments
Critical thinking, expansion of writing skills, ability to ask meaningful questions about topics, engage in discussion with others about high level ideas, and synthesis of complex topics
N/A
1. A valuable skill I learned was connecting the works of thinkers in different time periods together.
Analysis of texts argumentative writing relating conceptual ideas to the present Making connections between various traditions evaluating the merit of an argument understanding the effectiveness of an argument historical context for various major thinkers
Definitely improving how I interpret difficult texts, write, and think critically about principles I can apply in the real world.
independent reading, critical thinking, and communication
My reading analytical skills have definitely improved. I've also learned to think about the whole argument of the author and question whether or not their ideas are true or not. Critical reading skills improved much more, as well as my ability to articulate my ideas in my papers.
I learned the key traditions in political theory, how to write an analytic and evaluative paper, etc.
A deeper knowledge of the history of political thought.

Summer 2022 Individual Instructor Aggregated for POT2002: Intro Political Theor (Glen Billesbach)

Project Title: **University of Florida GatorEvals – Summer 2022 Main Project**

Courses Audience: 36	Instructors Audience: 36
Responses Received: 23	Responses Received: 23
Response Ratio: 63.9%	Response Ratio: 63.9%

Report Comments

INTRODUCTION

Teaching is a fundamental purpose of the University of Florida and the dissemination of new knowledge in our classrooms, studios, and clinics enables our students and trainees to fully explore their intellectual boundaries. Assessment and evaluation of our courses are designed to enhance instruction and maximize learning to meet the mission of the university. This report contains the results gathered through the new GatorEvals system. Students were invited to share their feedback on the teaching and course material. We invite every faculty member to examine the analysis in the report and utilize the resources provided in the report. Thank you for your continued great work!

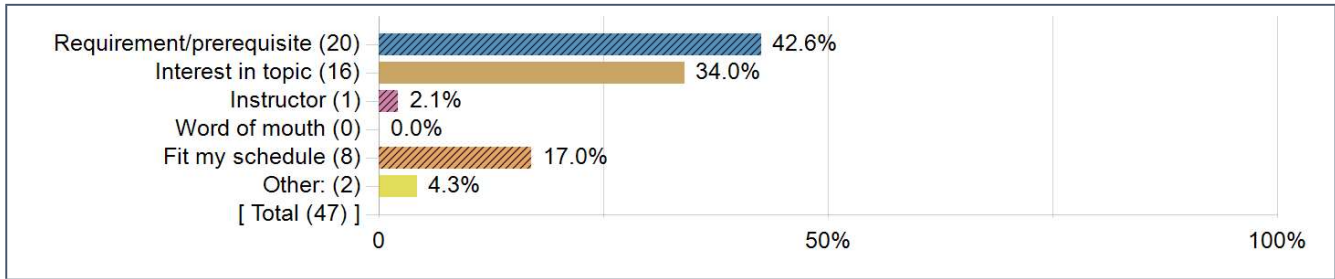
Chris Hass, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs



Creation Date: **Monday, September 19, 2022**

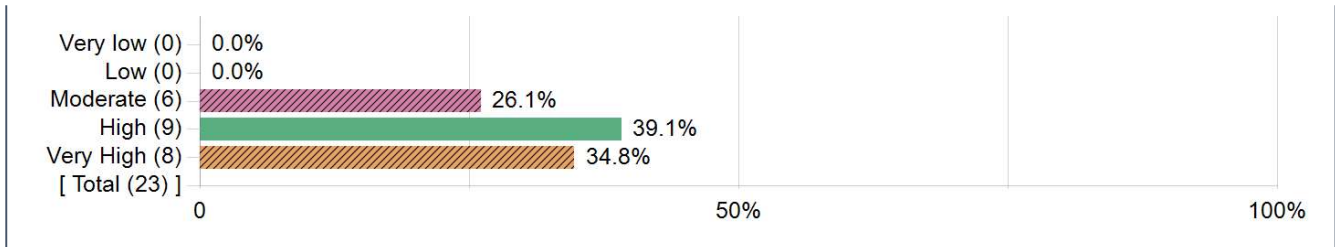
Student Self-Evaluation Questions

Why did you take this course?



How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?

How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?



Comparative Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	63.9%	4.96	4.98	4.55	4.76	4.41	4.68
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	63.9%	4.83	4.89	4.33	4.63	4.21	4.54
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	63.9%	4.96	4.98	4.38	4.70	4.39	4.66
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	63.9%	4.96	4.98	4.43	4.71	4.33	4.63
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	63.9%	4.96	4.98	4.14	4.53	4.15	4.53
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	63.9%	4.83	4.93	4.23	4.62	4.07	4.49
Overall	63.9%	4.91	-	4.34	-	4.26	-

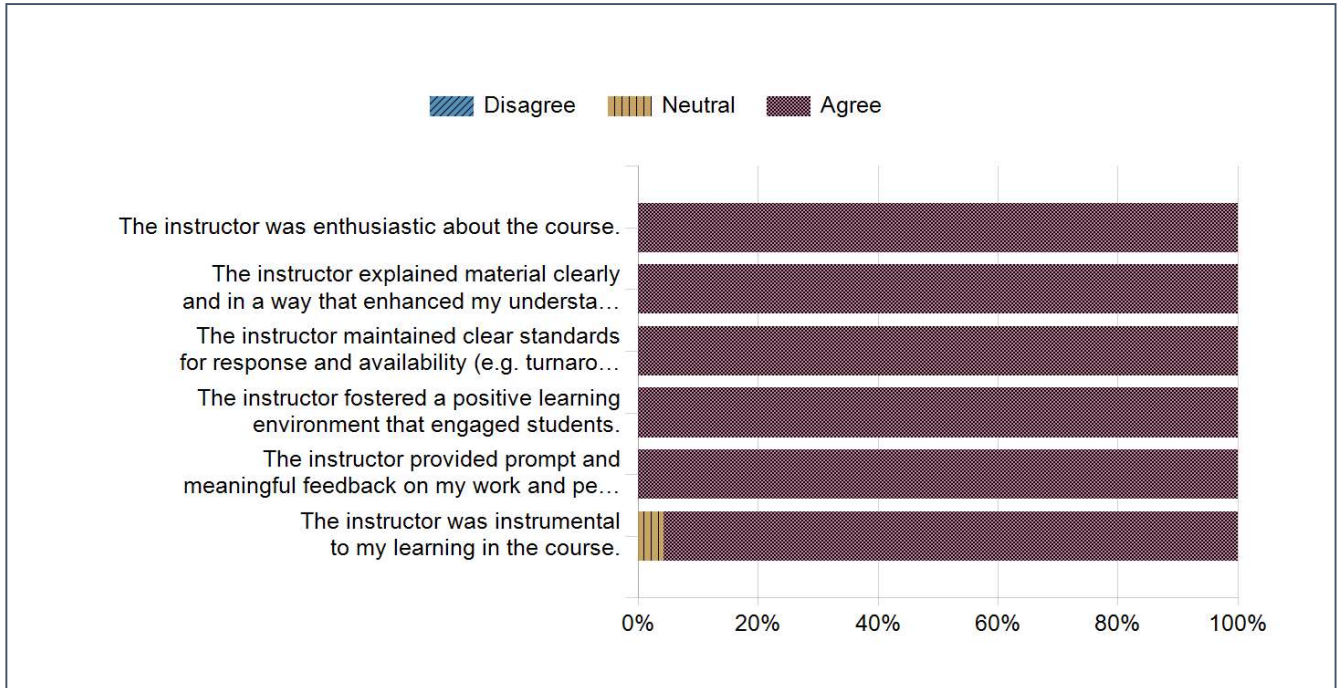
University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	63.9%	4.65	4.73	4.34	4.45	4.20	4.31
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	63.9%	4.78	4.86	4.29	4.60	3.93	4.14
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	63.9%	4.52	4.54	4.28	4.52	4.15	4.29
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	63.9%	4.61	4.68	4.28	4.58	4.18	4.36
Overall	63.9%	4.64	-	4.30	-	4.11	-

Aggregate Evaluation Results

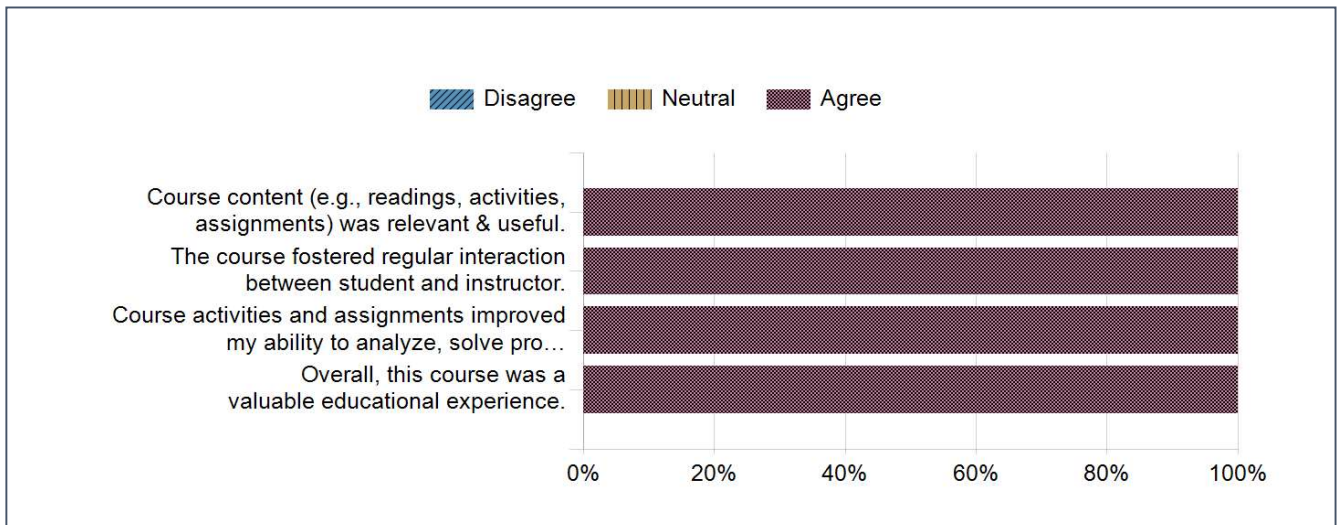
University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



University Core Course Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



Percentages Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	95.7%	23	4.96	5.00	0.21
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.4%	82.6%	23	4.83	5.00	0.39
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	95.7%	23	4.96	5.00	0.21
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	95.7%	23	4.96	5.00	0.21
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	95.7%	23	4.96	5.00	0.21
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	8.7%	87.0%	23	4.83	5.00	0.49

University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	34.8%	65.2%	23	4.65	5.00	0.49
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	21.7%	78.3%	23	4.78	5.00	0.42
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	47.8%	52.2%	23	4.52	5.00	0.51
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	39.1%	60.9%	23	4.61	5.00	0.50

For additional information and resources in each of these question areas, please visit the GatorEvals Website at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/resources--policies/question-set/>

Free Response Section

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Comments
Glen was an amazing teacher, he made an effort to make a dynamic and learning class in a very short time. In addition to the fact that he accommodated himself to the needs of his students, understanding them and guiding them to have a good semester. It shows that he loves what he does and that he gives his best in each class.
Professor Billesbach communicated the content in a way that was very digestible— we had a lot to cover in a short period of time, but he managed to hit what was essential in an incredibly effective manner. Moreover, having a professor who is strong in their abilities is important, and he undoubtedly fulfilled that aspect; however, finding a professor who accompanies his talent and passion with such an admirable level of warmth and relatability is hard to come across. This made it easier to ask questions, and made me look forward to come to class.
Was incredibly thorough and interacted a lot with the students.
Involving student participation and offering extra office hours for help
Professor Billesbach has genuinely had one of the most positive impacts on my experience here at UF. As a first-year and a Summer B student, it was really hard to find a class that was reasonable to take, while also fulfilling my classes. With Professor Billesbach's discussions, worksheets, and essays, I find myself wanted to go deeper into the world of politics. If you're considering his class: take it! The discussions are always fun and his office hours are extremely accessible. He really just wanted us to succeed.
I personally don't look at Canvas comments even if they're nice because I get anxious, but the amount of care and feedback he put into assignments for everyone was incredible
Glen was able to elaborate and really dive into the course's readings and get to the core concepts of political theory.
Mr. Billesbach was an amazing teacher, especially since class met every day for an hour and fifteen minutes. His slides were informative, his lectures were relevant, and even though the class was made up of around thirty students, he always managed to get many of us to participate. The worksheets he assigned were very helpful in facilitating my understanding of the readings, and the way he organized them also made it very easy to go back and use them for essays. His feedback on both the worksheets and essays were in-depth and well-written, showing he clearly made an effort to improve each and every student. His office hours were also very accessible and he was always able to provide meaningful answers and feedbacks without just giving you an answer. All around a stand-up guy.
He is an excellent communicator who is very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the course topics.
gave great feedback on homework and activities and caring for students.
Very open to discussions and pulling from outside materials of any kind. He always found a way to relate back no matter how off topic someone's comment may have seemed.
Very interactive with the class, informative, lectures were easy to understand and the professor broke down the content very well. The professor encouraged engagement and further thought on the subject.
The instructor facilitated the learning process in many ways. We read and review topics and expanded upon them in class adding layers to the information that we, as students, were able to take in. I also liked the scene setting that the instructor would do in order to give us a better understanding of the time and circumstances the authors we read were writing from. Lastly, the instructor was very willing to take and expand upon comparisons to other forms of media, as well as events in the real world, giving the students the bonus of being able to recontextualize and evaluate concepts in circumstances more applicable and understandable to people living in modern times.
Charismatic, knowledgeable, patient and knows how to teach
The instructor was extremely interactive and allowed for constant discussion between students and with himself. He was very responsive and always gave helpful feedback. Having an instructor that actually interacted in a meaningful capacity was so helpful and he seems genuinely interested in the subject, which can be seen in his enthusiasm for teaching.
Professor Billesbach's strengths that contributed to my learning in the course include his compassion for students throughout the semester as well as his engaging and passionate teaching style. Professor Billesbach made his expectations very clear for the course as well as for each assignment and paper, creating a much more comprehensive understanding of what was entailed within the course for the semester.
Professor Billesbach was wonderful in finding the value in anyone's comments or questions; he fostered an extremely positive environment where everyone is fairly comfortable asking him to clarify or expand on whatever he was saying. He provided great feedback on each assignment, which was available to us students very soon after it was submitted (considering the pace of a summer course, his speed was impressive). He split up the week in a great way, where we spent 4 days discussing a reading and then did a discussion at the end of the week; on those Fridays it was much easier to fully understand course material.
great communicator, excellent knowledge of the subject matter.
Mr. Billesbach's passion for political theory is unavoidable. He comes prepared with very helpful powerpoints discussing the reading of the previous night. He takes the time to carefully review assignments, providing insightful comments to help guide for future assignments of the same nature.
His enthusiasm was nice, and he connected with the class well.
very kind, warm, welcoming, charming, passionate and knowledgeable about material, well organized presentations, very engaging in class/values student participation and discussion

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Comments
n/
I have very minimal advice as to what he could improve, as I found him to be undoubtedly one of the best professors I've experienced thus far at UF. The only thing I will say is that some of the verbiage in the text is a bit difficult to understand sometimes, so perhaps giving us a quick overview as to how we can break down some of this old English could be beneficial.
N/A
More lecturing
The only thing I wish he would've continued to do is adding "questions" for students to think about for each author. For Plato, we focused on his definition of justice; for Locke it was property within the Social Contract. If he had continued this, I think it would've made the worksheets just a bit more analytical for students.
Honestly nothing, this course was great.
I don't really have much here. I loved the engaging discussions the class had, but sometimes it would get us behind. Maybe try and find a way to still have the discussion, yet stay on track.
I really enjoyed it overall.
N/A
Include readings that aren't the source material. (Almost impossible for summer b and he mentioned how he does it during fall, I'm just jealous.)
N/A
I enjoyed the structure of the course and the weekly classes purely dedicated to discussion of the prior days' learning. I did not find any aspect of the course particularly unsatisfactory, and it was an all around very enjoyable class.
I think the way he has it structured is perfect
I think being a little more flexible could have been helpful, but it definitely was manageable. Overall, he is still very understanding and helpful.
I do not have much constructive feedback for Professor Billesbach as he was very engaging and clearly passionate about the content. He assigned various readings and worksheets that all contributed to my understanding of the course and were very helpful. I especially enjoyed how we would spend time in class discussing what was noted in the readings and have class discussions relating to such.
Sometimes I felt that certain questions were almost too entertained, in that while it was relevant to the topic, it definitely was not what he had wanted to cover, which then left us scrambling a little at the end. I never felt like I learned less because of these moments, but I do think it might be important to remind students to stay fairly focused on the topic directly at hand during lectures.
keep doing what you are doing!
N/A one of the best professors I've had!

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Comments
The whole course seemed very well organized.
N/A: I felt this to be very well-organized and effective.
N/A
More tests
N/A; everything was very accessible through the bookstore and through online textbook platforms.
N/a
Since it was a summer course, we were only able to cover six books, and only one of them was from the modern era (Du Bois). This is probably rectified already, but if I was taking a course in the fall, I'd want to read even more books! However, I really liked the pacing of both the readings and assignments. I had to put in the work, but I never felt overwhelmed.
Maybe having an essay due the day after people are required to leave dorms isn't the best idea but it is still entirely possible to finish the final essay before because of the great allotted time given for it.
N/A
None. It was simple, straight forward, and useful.
None, really
No major complaints, the reading was enjoyable and none of the work was particularly laborious, although the reading would at times be a bit long.
I think it's perfect
Nothing really. The readings were sometimes extremely tedious, but it was not terrible.
The course is incredibly well structured and organized. The readings and corresponding assignments were all valuable to my understanding of the content, thus I do not have any suggestions for improving the course as a whole.
I understand this is a shorter semester so it is difficult to have more readers, but I would have included more women or POC thinkers.
NA
None, very well organized and specifically tailored for the summer session.

Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

Comments
This course taught me all about the main philosophers of political theory. I read a lot about society, justice and many other essential topics to understand society.
Fundamental political theorists whose ideologies will be critical in my pursuit of political science as a career.
The ability to reason in the world of political theory.
Good writing and note taking
Personally, I believe my analytical and discussion skills have grown the most. Professor Billesbach really encouraged us to stay active within class discussions, prompting me to think differently on subjects I was previously close-minded on.
As a prerequisite class, I believe that texts covered were perfect. The material was the perfect opening for further political theory classes and political science majors as a whole.
Learning about the political theory canon has taught me to look at government institutions differently and always be questioning the world around me. I also think this course has facilitated my critical thinking and analysis skills through quality assignments.
I learned to think more critically about the things I like and was able to learn and associate those ideas with other topics.
the readings were very interesting and I believe that I will use them in future classes.
Analyzing complicated language and historical readings.
I am interested in political theory and science, so I will definitely apply these texts to my own current beliefs and education.
I think the thinkers taught in the course have many ideas applicable to modern society and governments, and I feel as though I am more able to provide context to historical events than prior to taking the course.
Political theory in terms of Wollstonecraft , Dubois , Burke , Plato , Locke and Rousseau – best class ever
Definitely writing subject-related essays and maintaining a timeline to ensure I remained on track.
I learned an immense amount about differing philosophers as well as political theory and ideals. These topics that I learned about during this course will ultimately help me as I continue to progress throughout the various courses entailed within my major. Because I am a Political Science major I know that the notions of philosophers and their beliefs will help me have a more thorough understanding of political theory intertwined with classes I will take in the future.
Critically analyzing the texts in order to explore them and compare them with other readings is probably the most valuable skill I learned in this course.
deep literary analysis
I believe understanding the different perspectives of the authors of the books read in these books will enhance my knowledge and application of personal ideals, such as justice, freedom, and the notion of property.
important historical thinkers/leaders, basis of modern day political systems, philosophic thinking/theories/methods

Spring 2022 Individual Instructor Aggregated Final for POT4053: Great Polit Thinkers (Glen Billesbach)

Project Title: **University of Florida GatorEvals – Spring 2022 Main Project**

Courses Audience: 34	Instructors Audience: 34
Responses Received: 23	Responses Received: 23
Response Ratio: 67.6%	Response Ratio: 67.6%

Report Comments

INTRODUCTION

Teaching is a fundamental purpose of the University of Florida and the dissemination of new knowledge in our classrooms, studios, and clinics enables our students and trainees to fully explore their intellectual boundaries. Assessment and evaluation of our courses are designed to enhance instruction and maximize learning to meet the mission of the university. This report contains the results gathered through the new GatorEvals system. Students were invited to share their feedback on the teaching and course material. We invite every faculty member to examine the analysis in the report and utilize the resources provided in the report. Thank you for your continued great work!

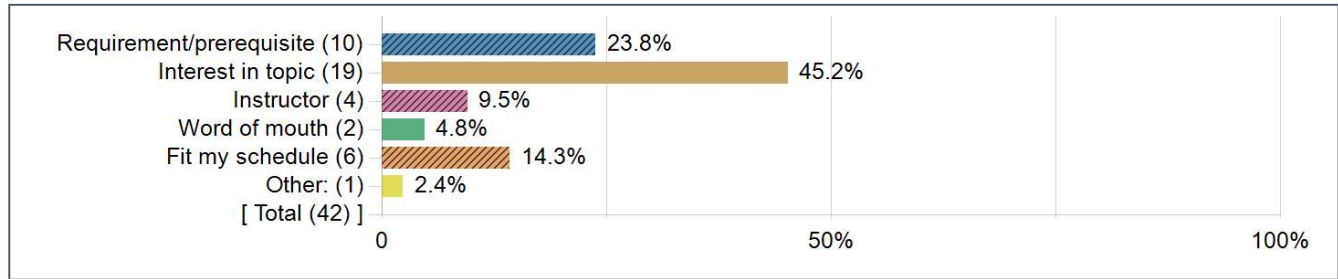
Chris Hass, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs



Creation Date: **Monday, June 13, 2022**

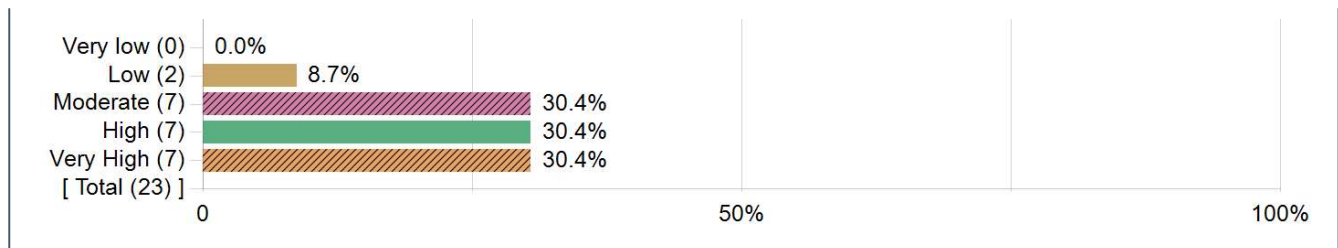
Student Self-Evaluation Questions

Why did you take this course?



How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?

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Comparative Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	67.6%	4.87	4.93	4.57	4.79	4.46	4.72
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	67.6%	4.83	4.89	4.30	4.65	4.22	4.57
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	67.6%	4.91	4.95	4.39	4.70	4.39	4.67
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	67.6%	4.83	4.89	4.35	4.69	4.34	4.65
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	67.6%	4.91	4.95	4.12	4.58	4.17	4.55
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	67.6%	4.83	4.89	4.21	4.63	4.11	4.54
Overall	67.6%	4.86	-	4.32	-	4.28	-

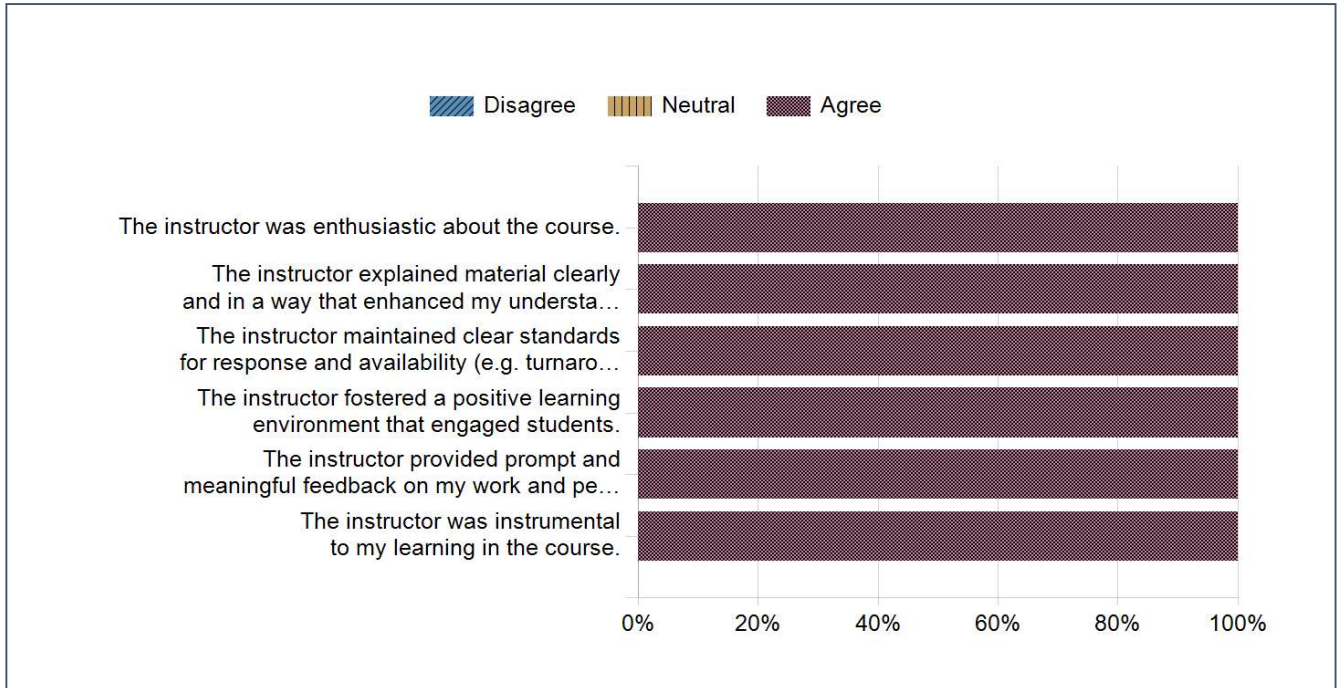
University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	Response Rate	Mean	IM	DPT Mean	DPT IM	College Mean	College IM
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	67.6%	4.65	4.73	4.32	4.45	4.21	4.32
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	67.6%	4.65	4.73	4.16	4.42	4.01	4.22
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	67.6%	4.74	4.82	4.18	4.41	4.17	4.33
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	67.6%	4.74	4.82	4.29	4.55	4.19	4.38
Overall	67.6%	4.70	-	4.24	-	4.14	-

Aggregate Evaluation Results

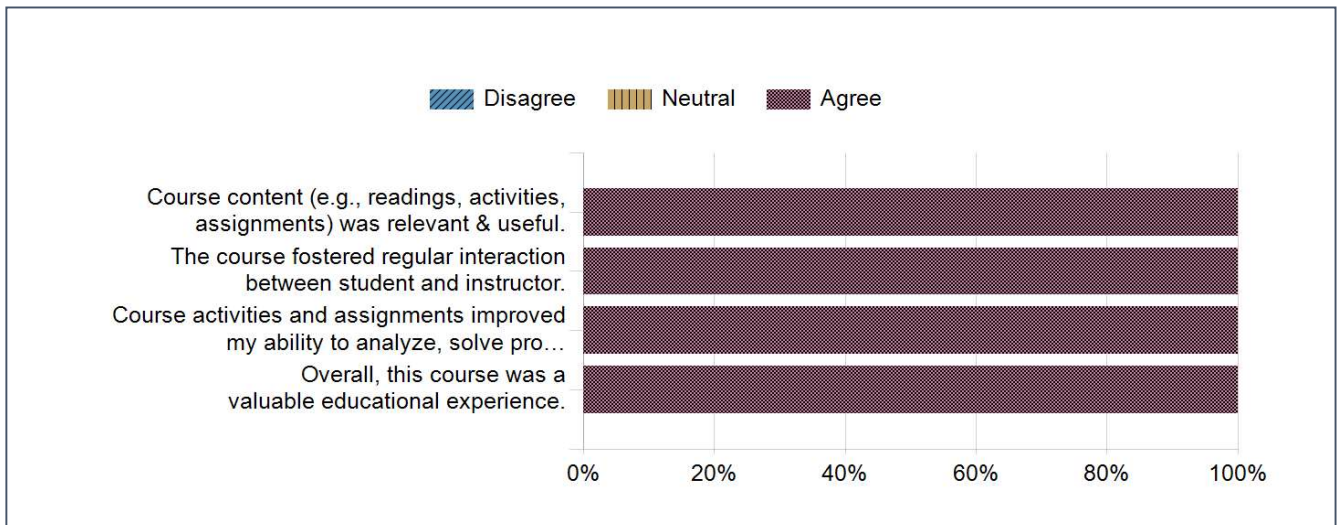
University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



University Core Course Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

Note that in the following aggregate chart "Strongly Agree" and "Agree" have been grouped together as "Agree" while "Strongly Disagree" and "Disagree" have been grouped together as "Disagree".



Percentages Evaluation Results

University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13.0%	87.0%	23	4.87	5.00	0.34
The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.4%	82.6%	23	4.83	5.00	0.39
The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.7%	91.3%	23	4.91	5.00	0.29
The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.4%	82.6%	23	4.83	5.00	0.39
The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.7%	91.3%	23	4.91	5.00	0.29
The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.4%	82.6%	23	4.83	5.00	0.39

University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	%(1)	%(2)	%(3)	%(4)	%(5)	Count	Mean	Median	SD
Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	34.8%	65.2%	23	4.65	5.00	0.49
The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	34.8%	65.2%	23	4.65	5.00	0.49
Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	26.1%	73.9%	23	4.74	5.00	0.45
Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	26.1%	73.9%	23	4.74	5.00	0.45

For additional information and resources in each of these question areas, please visit the GatorEvals Website at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/resources--policies/question-set/>

Free Response Section

Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Comments
The teaching for this course was excellent. The instructor was knowledgeable and always in good cheer. He also encouraged class participation and group revision, which added a gratifying social element to the course.
his attentiveness to his students and addressing all questions
Clear understanding of the material.
Incredible Professor that is clearly passionate about what he does. In the future I hope to take more classes with him. He is among the most caring and well prepared professors I've had. He has a bright future!
– His ability to water down certain topics in order for us to understand better
Every class period, Billesbach had lectures that covered the assigned readings' content and dived into in–depth information about the writers' and writings' backgrounds and different interpretations of their works. He fostered engaging and open–minded discussion with and between students while helping guide students' ideas using his knowledge of the subject. He was very approachable, easy to contact, and receptive to the various needs of every student. The course was well–structured and progressed in a way that made clear how successive thinkers were influenced by previous ones we learned about. He was also flexible with this schedule if circumstances warranted a change in plans. Billesbach has a clear passion for political theory that was contagious and made me consistently look forward to and enjoy this class throughout the semester.
Very knowledgeable and helpful when it comes to the readings. He is also extremely prompt when it comes to emails and addressing issues.
Very good at relating topics and leading discussions.
I found the lectures both enjoyable and very helpful in explaining the complex topics of the course.
He was very knowledgeable about the thinkers he was teaching as well as other works that were not in the syllabus when students would bring them up.
Great instructor. Great at providing explanations of concepts and giving feedback.
Professor Billesbach is a fantastic philosophy/political theory teacher who expresses genuine interest in his students and the subject material. I have heard no complaints about the professor that was not immediately resolved with the professor, and any minor criticism is greatly outweighed by his student's daily, resounding praise.
This instructor did a wonderful job explaining very difficult concepts to the class in an easy way and was always willing to discuss topics during office hours. It is very clear that he has a passion for political theory and is able to share that energy with students new to the subject.
The lectures and study guides were very helpful this semester. He is very enthusiastic about the material and willing to answer any questions that come up during our class discussions.
– Was enthusiastic about the course content – Promoted discussion in class – Nice ambience with TV screens (backgrounds)
Provided great and indepth written feedback on all discussion posts and essays. This helped identify strengths and weaknesses for future papers. Explantations of complex topics made information attainable and the instructor was always happy to answer questions or give alternative explanations.
The instructor explained course concepts in clear ways which enhanced my understanding of the material. He helped spur discussion on interesting and important topics within the course material which helped me better my understanding.
Enthusiastic, flexible, funny, clear in explanations and expectations.
Very personable and willing to expand lecture into group discussion of an idea if there appears to be a lot of thoughts or confusion
The instructor was very knowledgeable and helpful on the topics of the course and was very good at answering questions clearly and effectively. He was very good at answering emails in a very timely manner and was always available to answer the questions of students.
Glen is an incredibly kind soul who has been willing to work with me through a chaotic period of my life. It is very obvious that he is passionate about his work and his student's successes in his course. The material covered throughout this semester, as well as his own teachings facilitated through said coursework, have been incredibly insightful to myself and I'm sure many other students in his class. The course has inspired me to pursue philosophy further, as Glen's course has made the impacts of philosophy in the political space (and not just the political space, but our personal lives) incredibly apparent to me.
I am incredibly satisfied with Glen's work as an instructor; he has shown to me and my fellow students that he cares deeply about his field of research and his student's understandings of it. He was prompt in providing feedback to us on our writings, and the feedback was very constructive, which enabled us to improve our writing skills. Furthermore, Glen has been very willing to work with us, astutely aware of the challenges that many undergraduate students are facing in these turbulent times. I thank him for his efforts, and am confident that he has a promising career in higher learning ahead of him.

What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

Comments
I have no complaints.
More of an emphasis on classwork. Maybe short written assignments, and remove the emphasis on just essays and exams.
Nothing
I had bought a few of the assigned texts from the bookstore when I saw the list on Canvas. However, these ended up being made available for free on Canvas. In the future, it might be good to wait to list the required texts until having a chance to clarify this in class.
I honestly can't think of much of anything. The only small thing to make a note of is class discussions can become derailed fairly quickly, however, this is not always a bad thing.
I felt the readings were structured very well but I personally found the varied critiques of modernity section the most overwhelming since we were reading four separate thinkers in a relatively short amount of time. I would have preferred to instead just focus on one or two and feel I could have developed a deeper understanding that way.
I think clearer slides with less words on them would help break down the content even further. Additionally, speaking with a bit better inflection to reflect interest and important points.
The only small thing that could be super helpful for notetaking next semester would be posting the ppt slides to canvas before the lecture. Even if incomplete or incorrect, it would be super helpful to students, and they could take note of whatever changes you have made to the slide after posting.
The course was nearly perfect, however the powerpoint with quotes can be a little wordy and difficult. Although he discussed them and broke them down in class, I think it would be more helpful to break up large pieces of difficult text to make it easier to read. However, he was a wonderful instructor that was crucial to my understanding of this topic.
Being more confident in facilitating class discussions.
Perhaps, more time dedicated to explanations of some of the more complicated concepts in the course would help improve student's understanding of some of the more difficult ideas present in the material.
n/a
One thing I would like to see improved is the actual lecture structure. Having lots of material on the slide is great and I don't want that to change because it is very helpful for review of the material. However, don't just read from the slide during class have things on paper notes that are available to talk about during class. Also even though it is alright to make the class open discussion have a policy of calling on people if no one is talking. The hardest thing for students who are shy is to be the first person to do something, especially when it comes to talking in class. Picking someone to break the ice would help make the conversation better and more deep in the future and it will also help ensure that people do the readings as they don't want to be caught off guard if they are picked/called on to talk.
As mentioned above, I am incredibly satisfied with Glen's performance as an instructor. Perhaps the one thing that I would have appreciated more was more time to discuss the coursework, but that of course is no fault of Glen himself, given that you can only cover so much in 50 minutes and still have ample time to discuss those ideas.

What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Comments
The course design was nearly perfect. Significant thinkers were accorded an appropriate amount of readings. Fortunately, this did not result in a failure to address the writings of more peripheral thinkers.
More classwork and a less of word count on the essays
None
Some of the readings were a bit time-consuming. However, this is to be expected for a 4000-level political science course, and putting in the time to read what was assigned was well worth the effort.
The midterm study guide was a bit weak but you addressed this well with the final study guide. Beyond that, the course is organized well and is straightforward for expectations.
I would have preferred if we focused on just one or two different thinkers for the varied critiques of modernity section so that we could more in depth on their ideas.
I think reordering the units so Nietzsche is before varied critiques of modernity would make sense, but I also understand that the latter does not apply to Nietzsche so that may be why it is structured the way it is.
More time for class discussions.
Oh uh... last post kinda covered that. Uh, maybe briefly mention that Marx is kinda anti-semitic despite his Ashkenazi heritage? Felt kinda ignored, especially considering that we read "The Jewish Question". Can be super brief and just say that some people think that but yeah. It should probably be brought up a bit more since that was a massive argument in the groupme.
The assignments were perfect. They were difficult, but at an appropriate level that should be required for this course and required me to think outside of the box without being too frustrating.
In the course readings, having all texts with the ability to use the find command would be useful for papers and class discussions.
– Having weekly/bi-weekly short quizzes to ensure the understanding of the reading and concepts
The discussion posts were really helpful for this course. I think a few shorter essays over longer essays may have been more useful to cover all thinkers.
Perhaps assigning of less readings and going into those readings more in depth would improve the course. Maybe more class activates or discussion groups would enhance learning as well.
n/a
The course is understandably writing heavy, but perhaps another form of assignment might help with engagement
Everything in this regard was good!
I think the course was organized in the best way it could have been given the circumstances. Furthermore, the materials were thought-provoking, and the assignments were fair.

Please identify the topics and/or skills you learned in the course that you believe will have the highest application for future courses or professional growth.

Comments
The course helped ground my philosophical and theoretical training. Before this course, my readings have been rather haphazard; this course was not exceedingly canonistic in approach, but it did grant me a greater degree of familiarity with the central thinkers of the modern West.
Understanding political thinkers
Analytical
– Analyzing philosophical questions / prompts – Writing a good essay
I learned about a range of political theories that, in some cases, I had not realized were so inculcated in our culture. Seeing the origin of these ideas, and exploring ones I had never read about before, was incredibly interesting and helped me to remember the importance of keeping an open mind and constantly evolving intellectually. Writing about these ideas helped me to digest them further and provided me with more experience writing about new topics, something important in many academic and career paths.
Analyzing different schools of thought and better accepting different points of view I may not agree with.
How to read dense texts in a way that makes the content easier to grasp.
The philosophy helped me sort through some of my own problems, in addition to providing the base information to help expand my current and historical worldview.
I think being able to conceptualize difficult topics with a lot of nuance and being able to compare them in a new way will be extremely helpful throughout my career, especially when encountering opposing opinions I do not understand.
The reflections on freedom and education from the various thinkers
Taking into account multiple thinkers' perspectives from first-hand readings and discussions of the works will be extremely useful for writing papers in future courses and post undergrad.
In this course, I learned to hone my writings skills, which will help pretty much any career. Even more importantly, I honed my ability think critically and express my thoughts about complicated ideas. This will help me in my career and in my further education.
Critical reading of difficult political texts. Argumentative writing. Greater understanding of various political doctrines and their interactions.
Interpreting text to understand the core Ideas being communicated, and comparing them
I gained a deeper understanding of several different philosophies and theories that will definitely help when it comes to understanding certain constructs in government and identifying the possible impacts of certain policies. All the teachings and readings have helped developed my knowledge repository and will benefit my future career path.
I have learned many things through Glen's course, particularly the thinkings of incredibly influential philosophers, as well as how these writings have influenced our political realities. This will prove to be invaluable information for my desired future as a writer.

Free Response Section