

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!

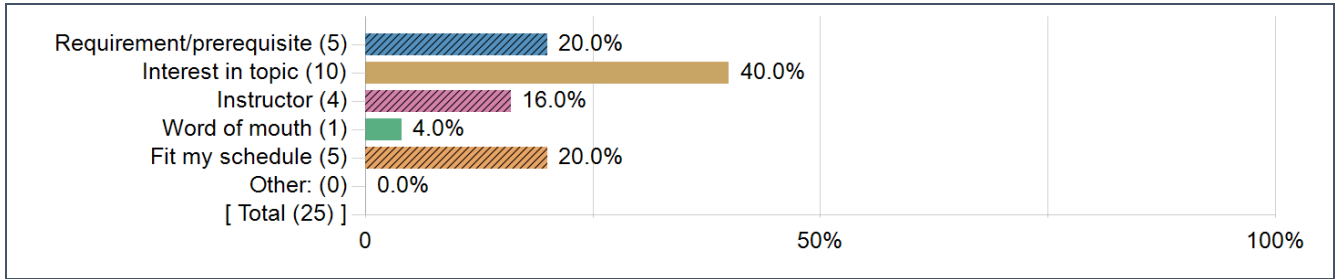
Chris Hass, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs



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

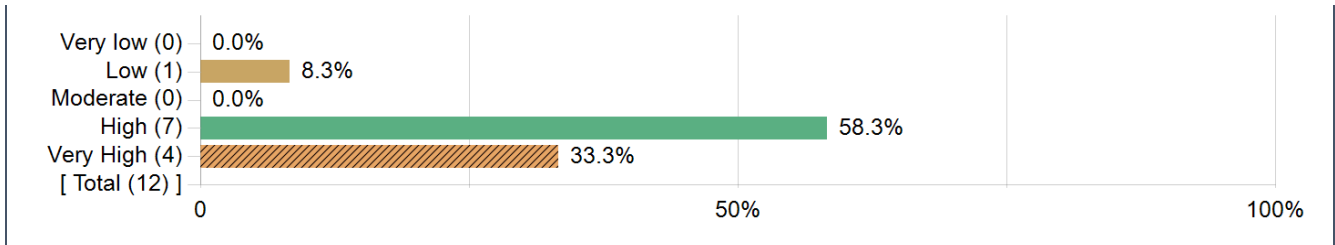
Student Self-Evaluation Questions

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	-

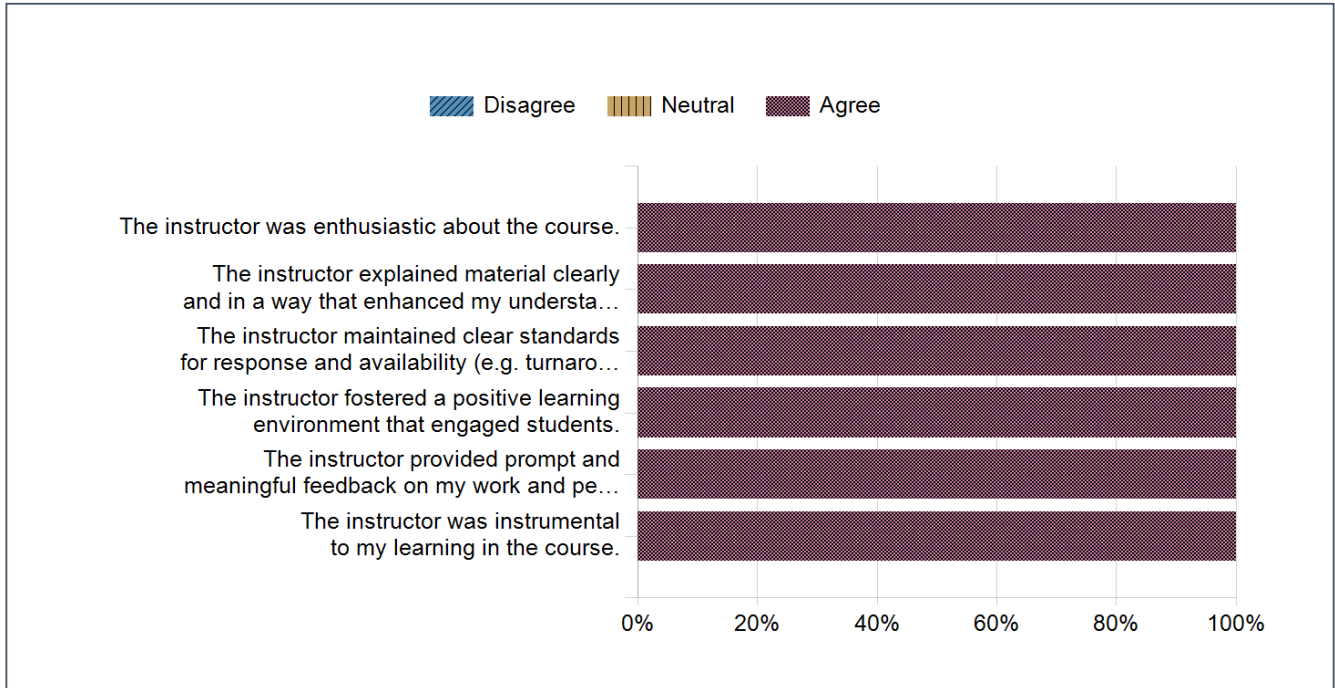
University Core Course Evaluation Questions

	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

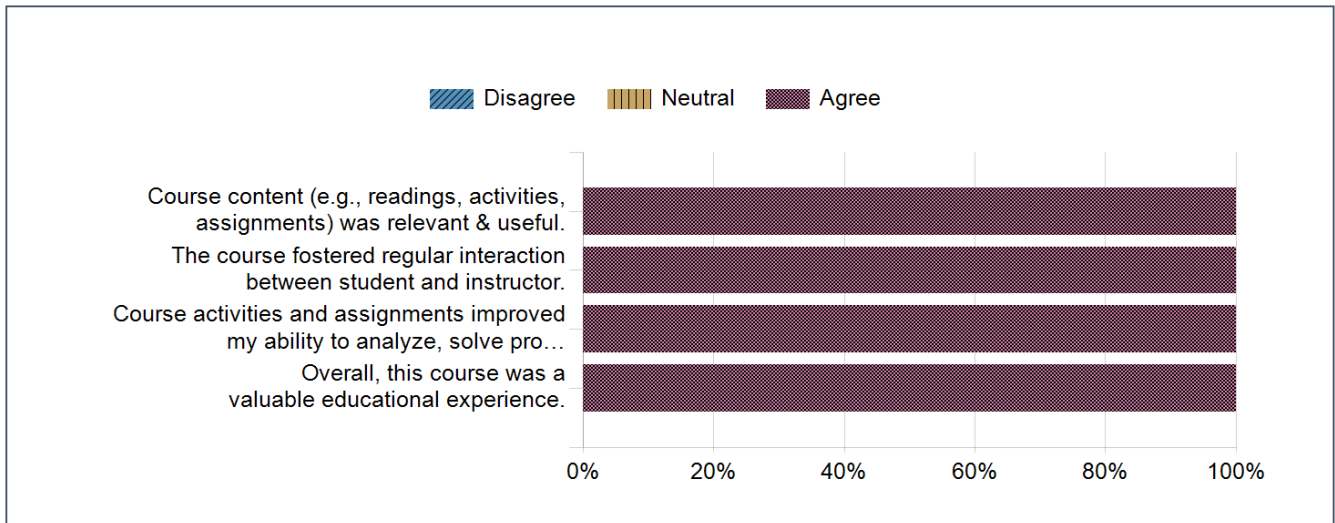
University Core Instructor Evaluation Questions - Aggregate Chart

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.