WR 120 (B8): First-Year Writing Seminar

Fall19 | Mihaela Barokova

18	Students Enrolled
17	Students Responded
94.44%	Response Rate

Quantitative

	(1) Low	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5) High	DNA	SD	MN
Relevance of assigned readings	0% (0)	11.76% (2)	0% (0)	11.76% (2)	76.47% (13)	0	0.98	4.53 17

	Easy	Moderately Easy	Neither Easy nor Difficult	Moderately Difficult	Difficult	DNA	SD	MN
Difficulty of course	0% (0)	5.88% (1)	82.35% (14)	11.76% (2)	0% (0)	0	0.42	3.06 17

	Light	Moderately Light	Neither Light nor Heavy	Moderately Heavy	Heavy	DNA	SD	MN
Workload in course	0% (0)	11.76% (2)	58.82% (10)	29.41% (5)	0% (0)	0	0.62	3.18 17

Course Evaluation	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N/A	SD N	M DNA
Overall rating of discussion instructor (if applicable)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	17.65% (3)	23.53% (4)	58.82% (10)	0.49 17	4.57 0
Overall rating of lab instructor (if applicable)	0% (0)	0% (0)	6.25% (1)	12.5% (2)	6.25% (1)	75% (12)	0.71 16	4 0
Usefulness of assignments and papers	0% (0)	5.88% (1)	5.88% (1)	47.06% (8)	41.18% (7)	0% (0)	0.81 17	4.24 0
Overall course rating	0% (0)	0% (0)	11.76% (2)	52.94% (9)	35.29% (6)	0% (0)	0.64 17	4.24 0

Faculty Evaluation	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	N	DNA	SD	M
Effectiveness in explaining concepts	0% (0)	0% (0)	11.76% (2)	47.06% (8)	41.18% (7)	17	0	0.67	4.29
Ability to stimulate interest in subject	0% (0)	11.76% (2)	5.88% (1)	47.06% (8)	35.29% (6)	17	0	0.94	4.06
Encouragement of class participation	0% (0)	5.88% (1)	23.53% (4)	29.41% (5)	41.18% (7)	17	0	0.94	4.06
Fairness in grading	0% (0)	0% (0)	23.53% (4)	41.18% (7)	35.29% (6)	17	0	0.76	4.12
Promptness in returning assignments	0% (0)	0% (0)	12.5% (2)	37.5% (6)	50% (8)	16	0	0.7	4.38
Quality of feedback to students	0% (0)	0% (0)	5.88% (1)	35.29% (6)	58.82% (10)	17	0	0.61	4.53
Availability outside of class	0% (0)	0% (0)	5.88% (1)	47.06% (8)	47.06% (8)	17	0	0.6	4.41
Overall rating of instructor	0% (0)	0% (0)	11.76% (2)	35.29% (6)	52.94% (9)	17	0	0.69	4.41

Qualitative

Strengths of the course and of the instructor: -

- The course was very tailored towards students. While the course wasn't easy, there was definitely some leniency which made the course more enjoyable.
- The writing course has helped improve my confidence and communication skills. With the guidance of my professor, I was always on the right track to finish my papers and clear any doubts I had. Overall, it has helped me grow as a writer.
- being flexible and really making sure/ being flexible with helping you learn and complete tasks, and being understanding of limitations and helping students overcome them. Setting up meetings after writing drafts ensuring that we are not only on track but also ensuring we have every opportunity to do well, as well as with the comments/ revisions after turning in the completed assignments. Also, the assignments/ homework was not only relevant, but it ensured that you were prepared for the assignment that they are meant to build up to. The expectations of the students were very clear.
- The course is very interesting and stimulating. The readings are all very interesting and reinforced by class participation. Even without a particular interest psychology, she can motivate students to take an interest in it. Professor Barokova is noticeably very interested in her subject and in her teaching. She provides very good feedback and is always available for questions or giving extra materials if we are interested. The assignments are creative and she always tries to pinpoint flaws that her students have as writer and work on them in new, creative ways.
- I loved the range of topics and types of writing that we went over, it kept the class interesting and I learned so much in a short time. Prof. Barokova is great at explaining concepts, making something that can be very confusing into something very understandable. I felt challenged by this course but not overworked. The meetings for each main writing assignment were very helpful, I appreciated getting to communicate ideas and hear feedback. The readings, while sometimes long, were always very relevant and helpful.
- Comes to class prepared, very understanding when something goes wrong (technical problems or personal), good at receiving feedback from students and listening, takes the time to help you
- Able to stimulate interest in the topic through in-class discussions and participation. Makes the writing topic more interesting to learn.
- Class was interesting and gave new perspective on how humans act towards each other.
- - Passionate about the material - Very empathetic and understanding towards student's needs - Taught the course at a nice pace
- all classes were interesting and informative

Weaknesses of the course and of the instructor: -

- there was a lot of reading homework and the Turabian reading homework didn't always tie into class lectures
- Sometimes class was a bit dry/tired. Certain times what we were doing in class was not relevant to our homework assignments, so students may have lost interest a bit.
- Mediocre at encouraging class participation.
- In the beginning of the semester, the period of time between the assignment of our papers and the due date weren't far enough apart
- The only weakness would be the posting grades on blackboard.
- The topic of the class is dragged on for a long time. Theory of Mind was very interesting at first, but we didn't learn much more about psychology or developed our knowledge in Theory of Mind, which made the course a little repetitive. Additionally, she is a harsh grader, especially for the second essay. Since it was so open ended, some students chose topics that were too complex scientifically, while others replicated some of the topics we discussed in class. This difference in difficulty of the argument felt like it was not accounted for in the grading.
- Not so much of a weakness but I wish there were 4 or even 5 papers because I feel like 3 papers (One of which is not an academic paper) isn't enough to show that much growth.

General Comments -

- Theory of mind is a bit challenging but interesting topic. It covers a wide range of areas and you get to know how theory of mind is present and applied in everything we do
- Loved this class, and really appreciated the knowledge and passion of the topic held by the professor, as well as their helpfulness and flexibility.
- Loved this class!! I learned so much about the topic of theory of mind and how much I'm really interested in the behavioral side of science. This course opened my eyes to a different side of writing and science that I hadn't been exposed to before.
- Overall, great professor