

Student Evaluation of Teaching, Spring 2022

Colin Case, POLI 203-608 DECLINE OF DEATH PENALTY

Mode:

Raters	Students
Responded	17
Invited	20
Response Ratio	85%

	Mean	Median	SD	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. Overall, I learned a great deal from this course.	4.82	5.00	0.39	17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.6%	82.4%
2. The instructor treated all students with respect.	4.88	5.00	0.33	17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	11.8%	88.2%
3. The instructor encouraged students to participate in this class.	4.88	5.00	0.33	17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	11.8%	88.2%
4. The instructor saw cultural and personal differences as assets.	4.76	5.00	0.56	17	0.0%	0.0%	5.9%	11.8%	82.4%
5. I could really be myself in this course.	4.71	5.00	0.47	17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	29.4%	70.6%
6. In this course I had multiple opportunities to express my viewpoints and questions.	4.94	5.00	0.24	17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5.9%	94.1%
7. The course challenged me to think deeply about the subject matter.	4.88	5.00	0.33	17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	11.8%	88.2%
8. The design of this course (e.g., its format, selected materials, assignments, exercises, quizzes, etc.) helped me better understand the subject matter.	4.82	5.00	0.39	17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.6%	82.4%
9. Overall, this course was excellent.	4.82	5.00	0.39	17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.6%	82.4%

11. The instructor held class meetings consistent with the official schedule published for this course.

Mean	SD	N	Yes	No
0.94	0.24	17	94.1%	5.9%

Department Specific

	Mean	Median	SD	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. My teaching associate was fair in the assignment of exams and paper grades.	4.76	5.00	0.56	17	0.0%	0.0%	5.9%	11.8%	82.4%
2. My teaching associate did a good job of leading class discussions.	4.82	5.00	0.39	17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.6%	82.4%
3. My teaching associate was well prepared for class.	4.82	5.00	0.39	17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.6%	82.4%
4. My teaching associate displayed mastery of the material.	4.71	5.00	0.59	17	0.0%	0.0%	5.9%	17.6%	76.5%
5. My teaching associate was available for help during office hours.	4.87	5.00	0.35	15	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13.3%	86.7%
6. My teaching associate made useful comments on my paper.	4.53	5.00	0.80	17	0.0%	0.0%	17.6%	11.8%	70.6%
7. Overall my teaching associate did an excellent job.	4.82	5.00	0.39	17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.6%	82.4%

	First Year	Sophomore	Junior	Senior	Other
9. Class Status:	41.2%	35.3%	11.8%	11.8%	0.0%

10. To the best of your knowledge, what is your grade in this course now?

A	B	C	D	F	PS
94.1%	5.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Open-Ended Responses

1. In what ways did your instructor make learning possible for you during the Spring 2022 semester?

Comments

I really liked how he reviewed the subject material during recitations then offered students the opportunity to interact with the material through discussion. I also appreciate how Colin would respond to each comment students made either with clarification about something with support.

Colin facilitated discussion during sections very well. They were relevant to both course material and the evening speakers series, and he was always prepared with powerpoints and other resources.

Colin was super accessible outside of class which really helps when unexpected questions or concerns come up during the semester! He did a great job of responding to my numerous emails in a timely, respectful and helpful manner. Both of these things combined, make for an excellent learning environment.

Colin is one of the best TAs I've had so far for a POLI course— he is very specific, engaging, and understanding, which helped me feel like I could really involve myself with the material. His questions in recitation were thought provoking and I always felt like I gained a new perspective on the material after attending recitation. I really appreciate how encouraging he was for sharing opinions— I enjoyed engaging with my classmates in an open discussion and I feel like I got a lot out of it.

He also had information that was relevant to course instruction and made it easily understandable. It was comfortable to participate in class.

Colin listens intently during class discussions and restates students' answers to ensure that everyone understands what is being discussed. Class discussions were rarely silent, and Colin was very good at keeping me engaged and focused.

We reviewed concepts that we learned in lecture and from textbook readings to reinforce the important ideas about the death penalty. He also promoted participation and the expressing of viewpoints from a variety of different perspectives.

- Providing a space for collaboration and conversation
- Reviewing major aspects from the main lecture

Colin Case made learning possible in this class by facilitating class discussions each week and coming to class prepared with discussion questions to ask. He also answered questions that students had about the class structure and the content matter.

Colin presented us with several opportunities in and outside of class to ask questions or give our opinions on the topics discussed in class. He was always very responsive and sought to ask questions that would make the students think on a deeper level about the material.

Colin regularly encouraged discussion regarding the topics we learned about in class. He asked thought-provoking questions that required us to form our own opinions and back them up with evidence.

Mr. Case was extremely organized and structured the course well. He posted slides consistently on the resources sakai page, and also made it very easy to schedule office hours meetings with him by using calendly. He allowed office hours to be flexible as well, providing both a zoom and in-person option. Mr. Case was very good at clearly explaining concepts when questions came up, as well as providing clear and timely feedback on written assignments. He was also very understanding when I got COVID, which was greatly appreciated!

Colin provided me with great feedback on my assignments and writing for the course, which further enhanced my learning. Colin was also extremely understanding during the semester.

2. Which aspects of this course should be kept for future times this course is taught?

Comments

I like the hands-on opportunities to engage with the material. For example during discussions about the fragility of witness testimony, Colin showed us a video that demonstrated how skewed our own memories can be and the way that certain details are often neglected. Similarly, during discussion about aggravating and mitigating factors, each group actually had the opportunity to review each state's list of aggravating and suggested mitigating factors. These activities really helped me better understand the material.

Definitely discussions about the speakers series. They help student understand anything that we may have mistakes, and help us get a real-world point of view on the course material.

Class discussions in recitations are extremely beneficial to my learning. I enjoyed listening to everyones viewpoint and opinions, even when they are different than mine.

I think the discussion format was very helpful. In a huge lecture, it can be difficult to feel like you can fully grasp every concept or get a good idea of what is important when you are thrown so much information. The discussion made it helpful for me to fully understand and apply the concepts from lecture. I also really liked that Colin asked us for input when we discussed the speakers series: I really appreciated the integration of my and my classmates' opinions/questions into the class and I liked to hear what my peers had to say on the topics that struck my interest the most.

I like how recitation was mainly focused on discussions and bouncing ideas off of peers.

I think going over the concepts and challenging us to think deeper about the subject matter in a smaller environment is really great!

All aspects mentioned above

I think there should be more opportunities to get participation credit (like the Sakai discussion submissions) in ways other than talking in class

The questions asked in class were thought provoking. I also appreciated when he went into more detail about things we may have missed in class to help guarantee understanding.

I highly recommend keeping the discussion-based format of recitation. I also enjoyed reading Right Here, Right Now and think the essays were helpful because they encouraged me to think deeply about the stories we read and analyze why people are faced with the death penalty, how they get to that point, and whether there is a better solution.

The zoom and in-person options for office hours are amazing! I really appreciate the flexibility.

I definitely enjoyed the speakers series, it was my favorite part of the course. Also, I really liked reading Right Here, Right Now and being offered the opportunity to reflect deeply on those readings in the form of short essays.

Department Specific

Please offer your teaching associate positive feedback, suggestions for change, and any other comments you have about his/ her performance.

Comments

Colin is obviously very knowledgeable about the material but he does not let this come off as condescending when we may not have as deep of a mastery of material as he does. Instead, he uses these opportunities to help us better understand the material.

Very facilitating with attendance and timelines due to covid/other matters. Everything in recitation really helped me understand the class content to a higher degree.

I believe Colin truly enjoys teaching students, cares about each of us and wants us all to succeed. I will 100% be looking for other courses taught by him in the future as I continue my undergrad career. Another big thing for me was that Colin came across as neutral when talking about political subjects. I know this is difficult, just as humans, to not let your own beliefs affect the way you teach others and Colin was great at this. He very effectively listened and discussed with everyone, no matter what their stance seemed to be, considering all sides of the issue at hand and challenging us to do the same. I thoroughly enjoyed class with him and have nothing bad to say.

Colin— your dedication and passion for the material really shined through in our recitation section and I appreciate all the hard work you put in to make sure that we were engaged with the material and on top of any assignments. I have learned so much in this course, and you have been a huge part in bridging the gap between the material and my personal understanding of the death penalty. I have enjoyed being in your section very much! One bit of feedback, and this may have been my fault for not noticing, but I wish I had an overview of the questions you would ask in section for the week, either via email before section or otherwise, so I could start to think about my answers before coming to class. I like being prepared for discussion beforehand so I don't feel like I'm caught off-guard during discussion and I can make streamlined responses when speaking to the entire class, but that is definitely a personal thing.

I enjoyed having Colin as my TA for recitation. He did a great job covering material and leading discussions. I would absolutely take another course taught by him.

I had a very pleasant experience with Colin as our TA. He was incredibly understanding of anything that came up, even willing to extend a deadline for mental health reasons. I learned a great deal about the death penalty and how to lead discussions from this recitation.

I think you did an excellent job leading recitation discussions and incorporated the comments we made about the speakers series into discussions the following Thursday.

Thank you so much for a great semester and for being such an understanding TA during a time when I needed one!

Student Evaluation of Teaching, Spring 2022

Colin Case, POLI 203-615 DECLINE OF DEATH PENALTY

Mode:

Raters	Students
Responded	12
Invited	20
Response Ratio	60%

	Mean	Median	SD	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. Overall, I learned a great deal from this course.	4.33	4.00	0.65	12	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	50.0%	41.7%
2. The instructor treated all students with respect.	4.75	5.00	0.45	12	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%
3. The instructor encouraged students to participate in this class.	4.75	5.00	0.45	12	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%
4. The instructor saw cultural and personal differences as assets.	4.42	4.50	0.67	12	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	41.7%	50.0%
5. I could really be myself in this course.	4.17	4.00	0.72	12	0.0%	0.0%	16.7%	50.0%	33.3%
6. In this course I had multiple opportunities to express my viewpoints and questions.	4.75	5.00	0.45	12	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%
7. The course challenged me to think deeply about the subject matter.	4.58	5.00	0.51	12	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	41.7%	58.3%
8. The design of this course (e.g., its format, selected materials, assignments, exercises, quizzes, etc.) helped me better understand the subject matter.	4.00	4.00	0.85	12	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
9. Overall, this course was excellent.	4.25	4.00	0.75	12	0.0%	0.0%	16.7%	41.7%	41.7%

11. The instructor held class meetings consistent with the official schedule published for this course.

Mean	SD	N	Yes	No
1.00	0.00	12	100.0%	0.0%

Department Specific

	Mean	Median	SD	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. My teaching associate was fair in the assignment of exams and paper grades.	4.55	5.00	0.93	11	0.0%	9.1%	0.0%	18.2%	72.7%
2. My teaching associate did a good job of leading class discussions.	4.75	5.00	0.45	12	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%
3. My teaching associate was well prepared for class.	4.75	5.00	0.45	12	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%
4. My teaching associate displayed mastery of the material.	4.50	4.50	0.52	12	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%
5. My teaching associate was available for help during office hours.	4.80	5.00	0.42	10	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20.0%	80.0%
6. My teaching associate made useful comments on my paper.	4.44	4.00	0.53	9	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	55.6%	44.4%
7. Overall my teaching associate did an excellent job.	4.67	5.00	0.65	12	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	16.7%	75.0%

	First Year	Sophomore	Junior	Senior	Other
9. Class Status:	66.7%	16.7%	8.3%	0.0%	8.3%

10. To the best of your knowledge, what is your grade in this course now?

A	B	C	D	F	PS
75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Open-Ended Responses

1. In what ways did your instructor make learning possible for you during the Spring 2022 semester?

Comments

Colin conducted class using thought-provoking and conversational questions; he was always available and more than willing to help when needed.

In class discussions

He opened the classroom p for discussion and supported all viewpoints

He presented the class with discussion questions that stemmed from the readings in lecture and challenged us to expand on what we learned and apply it to other situations.

Colin is very knowledgeable about the material and always willing to reexplain concepts we learned in class which I found helpful.

The opportunities to attend office hours were abundant, and I always felt like there were resources if I needed help with anything related to the class.

Colin made PowerPoints focused on review of the previous week's materials for each course section and those were a helpful way to achieve a deeper understanding of important course concepts. Additionally, he encouraged small and whole class discussion which was an interesting way to hear other opinions about the topics of the class as well as share my own view points.

his powerpoints were very well put together relating to the topics we had discussed or read about during the previous week. he encouraged students to share their thoughts quite often which kept us involved in the class, he did not just lecture us. he gave opportunity for us to share our viewpoints and use that within discussion.

Colin was extremely supportive of students and their needs. I feel like he really took our feedback and concerns into account and was very understanding and accommodating. He gave good feedback on assignments and made sure that we were prepared for everything that was thrown at us. Also very accessible and willing to help outside of class, along with being very knowledgeable in the subject matter and effectively explaining concepts/material. I felt seen and valued in this class! Thanks Colin.

I also appreciate how fast he talks. Engages students with material even in our 8am recitation!

Throughout the semester, Colin made several accommodations in order to make sure learning was possible for me. These included extensions on quizzes due to medical factors and a compassionate understanding. I appreciated all his comments on my essays, and his clear instructions in recitation made it easy for me to succeed within the class!

2. Which aspects of this course should be kept for future times this course is taught?

Comments

I enjoyed having the ability to collaborate with other students in the class

I like the group discussions

The open-discussion aspect of the course.

I enjoyed the reflections we had to complete weekly, as it allowed me to collect my thoughts on what I had read.

I think the recitation was exactly how I expected so I do not think any changes need to be made.

The small group discussions, and the opportunities to send feedback about the guest speakers prior to recitation was a great way to engage with the speaker and course content.

I think the use of small group discussion in recitation should certainly be used again because it avoids simply becoming another lecture and helps students to understand different angles/viewpoints of the course.

the material shared and the open-ended lectures allowing students to share their opinions.

Structure of recitations and lectures was good. Same with assignments and other expectations. All reasonable.

I really appreciated the interactive discussion on the speaker series. My favorite recitations were when we went in-depth on a subject that one of the guest lecturers brought up; it was interesting to hear various opinions and perspectives from the class as well.

Department Specific

Please offer your teaching associate positive feedback, suggestions for change, and any other comments you have about his/ her performance.

Comments

Not sure whether this is something that Colin has control over this or not, but I did not get a lot of the recitation being discussion based because of a lack of participation from the class. For me, I feel that review over class material, complicated subjects, and court cases would have helped me gain a better understanding of the material. Regardless, Colin was extremely helpful and always knowledgeable when I had any questions.

Thank you for a wonderful semester! Your teaching style made classes engaging.

He performed amazing, no changes.

I was especially impressed by his ability to lead a discussion despite the level of class participation. He had slides ready for each class and there was never any hiccups with the delivering of material.

I think you did a great job this semester and I enjoyed your recitation.

For one, Colin was very easy to reach with any questions which was especially helpful for such a big class when it is not always an option to go ask questions in lecture. He was also always prepared with a helpful powerpoint and was good at encouraging discussion.

I think Colin did a really good job allowing us to share our thoughts in discussion and not just ignore what we were saying but incorporate it into the lecture.

Colin was extremely supportive of students and their needs. I feel like he really took our feedback and concerns into account and was very understanding and accommodating. He gave good feedback on assignments and made sure that we were prepared for everything that was thrown at us. Also very accessible and willing to help outside of class, along with being very knowledgeable in the subject matter and effectively explaining concepts/material. I felt seen and valued in this class! Thanks Colin.

I also appreciate how fast he talks. Engages students with material even in our 8am recitation!

I think that Colin did an excellent job in facilitating class discussions and leaving clear guidelines on papers and exams. There was open communication within the course and Colin quickly responded back to any lingering questions I had through email. If anything, I would suggest to have more discussion via forums. Sometimes recitation was cut short, so it could be another way to participate and hear people's opinions.

Student Evaluation of Teaching, Spring 2022

Colin Case, POLI 203-616 DECLINE OF DEATH PENALTY

Mode:

Raters	Students									
Responded	7									
Invited	20									
Response Ratio	35%									
	Mean	Median	SD	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	
1. Overall, I learned a great deal from this course.	4.57	5.00	0.53	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	42.9%	57.1%	
2. The instructor treated all students with respect.	5.00	5.00	0.00	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	
3. The instructor encouraged students to participate in this class.	4.57	5.00	0.53	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	42.9%	57.1%	
4. The instructor saw cultural and personal differences as assets.	4.29	5.00	0.95	7	0.0%	0.0%	28.6%	14.3%	57.1%	
5. I could really be myself in this course.	4.71	5.00	0.49	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	28.6%	71.4%	
6. In this course I had multiple opportunities to express my viewpoints and questions.	5.00	5.00	0.00	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	
7. The course challenged me to think deeply about the subject matter.	4.71	5.00	0.49	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	28.6%	71.4%	
8. The design of this course (e.g., its format, selected materials, assignments, exercises, quizzes, etc.) helped me better understand the subject matter.	4.57	5.00	0.53	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	42.9%	57.1%	
9. Overall, this course was excellent.	4.71	5.00	0.49	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	28.6%	71.4%	
11. The instructor held class meetings consistent with the official schedule published for this course.										
	Mean	SD		N	Yes			No		
	1.00	0.00		7	100.0%			0.0%		

Department Specific

	Mean	Median	SD	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. My teaching associate was fair in the assignment of exams and paper grades.	4.71	5.00	0.49	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	28.6%	71.4%
2. My teaching associate did a good job of leading class discussions.	4.86	5.00	0.38	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	85.7%
3. My teaching associate was well prepared for class.	4.86	5.00	0.38	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	85.7%
4. My teaching associate displayed mastery of the material.	4.71	5.00	0.49	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	28.6%	71.4%
5. My teaching associate was available for help during office hours.	4.43	5.00	0.79	7	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	28.6%	57.1%
6. My teaching associate made useful comments on my paper.	4.14	4.00	0.69	7	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	57.1%	28.6%
7. Overall my teaching associate did an excellent job.	4.71	5.00	0.49	7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	28.6%	71.4%

	First Year	Sophomore	Junior	Senior	Other
9. Class Status:	71.4%	14.3%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%

10. To the best of your knowledge, what is your grade in this course now?

A	B	C	D	F	PS
85.7%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Open-Ended Responses

1. In what ways did your instructor make learning possible for you during the Spring 2022 semester?

Comments

encouraged discussion and provided deeper insight into the class material

Open class discussions, great question prompts, challenged encouraged us to expand on ideas

Professor Case prepared extensively for each and every recitation class and allowed me to reinforce and expand on knowledge gained in the main lecture. Class dissections allowed me to explore themes more deeply and challenged me to think about things from a different perspective.

Colin is always extremely prepared and knows exactly what to do/talk about to get students to engage in conversation; there was never really a moment where no one expressed their opinions. Additionally, Colin is very understanding and flexible when it comes to needing extra time or extra help/feedback, and was always available to help.

He reviewed relevant material in class, offered a lot of discussion time in groups, and allowed us to reflect with the class as a whole on what we were learning.

He led a variety of discussions broken into subgroups which were very helpful.

Listened to everyone in class and helped us relate our ideas to the course content.

2. Which aspects of this course should be kept for future times this course is taught?

Comments

Open discussion style!

Organizing class by different discussion questions on the main themes as well as focusing on takeaways from the speaker series, which I thought was the best aspect of the class.

Everything except for assignments being due at 5pm.

The reflection questions, thought-provoking conversations, and discussion of the Speaker Series.

The discussion heavy focus should be kept a priority.

All.

Department Specific

Please offer your teaching associate positive feedback, suggestions for change, and any other comments you have about his/ her performance.

Comments

Overall, I was impressed with his teaching performance and enjoyed his style of teaching. I loved the emphasis on class participation, even if those ideas weren't polished or perfectly spoken. Well done!

It is clear that Professor Case was very passionate about the content he was teaching which made for a more engaging class.

I don't really have constructive criticism! This recitation was one of my favorites even though it's at 9am, and it's because of the discussions we have and they way that class is structured to give information/go over the lecture material, and then discuss.

It'd be helpful to include a class that demonstrates how to find empirical papers and research for our final paper.

Colin was really great at leading us in class and understanding individual political views and how those may shape interpretation of the DP. He was also very helpful and gave clear instructions on assignments.