

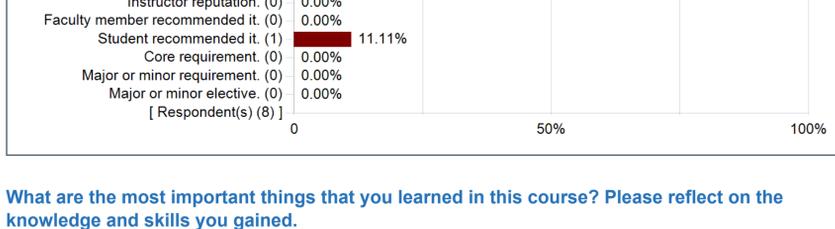
Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specif course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: Friday, December 4, 2020



Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments

I learned about how everything worked in the governmental system, and learned many political science belief and the idea behind it.

I would say the most important thing I learned was the different ways to examine the presidents and their powers, as well as their relationships with other actors. The course also introduced me to more scholarly writing, especially political science writing, and I learned how to effectively analyze each author's arguments.

I feel like the most important things I learned was to read critically, inquire why, and to have important discussions about controversial topics. I find this very important because I normally stay away from politics because I did not have a well developed understanding and strongly disliked disagreeing with people and was worried about their opinion.

The ability a president can push his or her agenda, the politicization of parties, the method president can use, and the different methods that the president can use to approach the people

I learned about not only the different theories about presidential power and the institution of the presidency and its role in our government, but I was also introduced into political science itself. I explored concepts like experimental and quantitative politics, hypotheses and game theoretic models, and other fundamentals for anyone serious about studying our political system.

I learned so much in this course about history, political science, and research. This course allowed me to examine new concepts I had never been introduced to before and develop solid understandings that I can now use as a foundation for my future ideas.

The most important thing I've learnt would be how the power of presidents are demonstrated and used in the American political system. I've also learnt extensively about different systems of presidential governing and their pros and cons

I learned the true power that the president holds and what skills and strategies the president can use to gain power. Having to connect this to the current presidency and current events allowed me to have a deeper understanding overall.

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments

Mr. James lecture is really helpful in a way that he helped to clarify the reading a lot and further expand on the idea sometimes.

I really liked the discussions and the lectures as they grounded the readings which could sometimes be really complex. The discussions and lectures really allowed me to grasp the main points and see what other people were thinking, especially on the days where I might not have been able to finish all the readings. The readings themselves were really interesting and I really appreciated them. Additionally, the essays helped me to slow down and think about whether I agreed with the readings. They allowed me to really sit down with my thoughts and understand the topics.

The discussions and lectures helped me because they developed my understanding at looking towards literature critically and not taking it at face value (as I used to often do)

discussions make my mind on a specific reading more clear, I know better what the reading was talking about, and the games help me to experience the USA political system

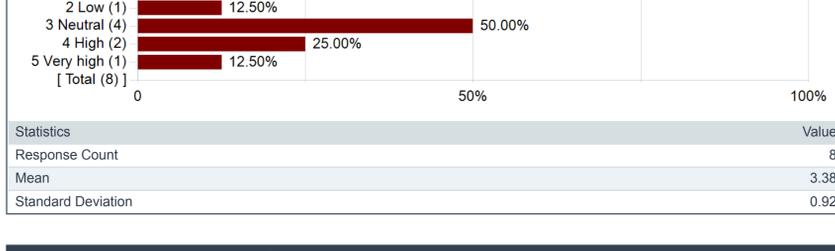
Through our discussions and reading assignments, I gained an understanding for the intellectual exchange of ideas and for academia in general. I learned to appreciate and recognize the validity of interpretations of texts that may differ from my own. Through complex and extensive reading assignments, I also better prepared myself for coursework as an undergraduate student, hopefully at the University of Chicago!

The lectures in this course were helpful to further understand the readings. While being recorded, we could ask questions in class. The class periods were really helpful to go further in depth about topics that interested us, and the instructors were really helpful at sharing articles and additional information addressing other topics. Discussions allowed for deeper conversations about the readings themselves, which, while interesting, were often long and hard to understand the first time. The papers were really helpful to my learning because that was my opportunity to delve deeper into the topics and ideas that interested me and find a way to make my own conclusion and ideas off of it.

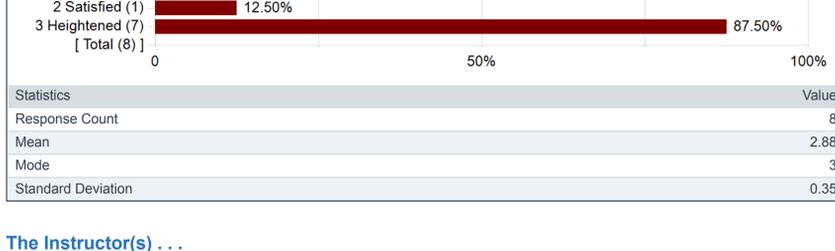
Lectures and readings are my main way to gain the knowledge required for this course. Discussion sections are my opportunity to hear other people's opinions while demonstrating mine. Assignments are also a great way of demonstrating the things I have learnt in this course.

The discussions allowed me to gain and express my ideas and learn from other students as well. The assignments also improved my writing skills.

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



Now that this class is over, your interest is?



The Instructor(s) . . .

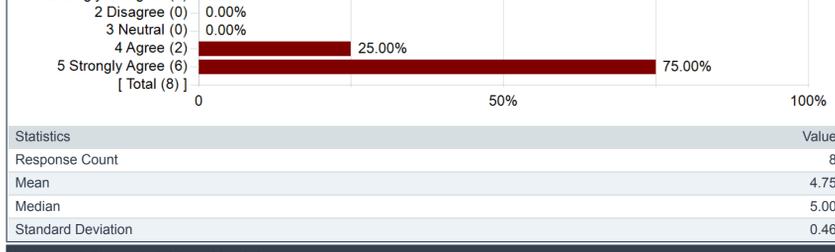
1. Provided a syllabus that allowed you to plan your learning and study time effectively.



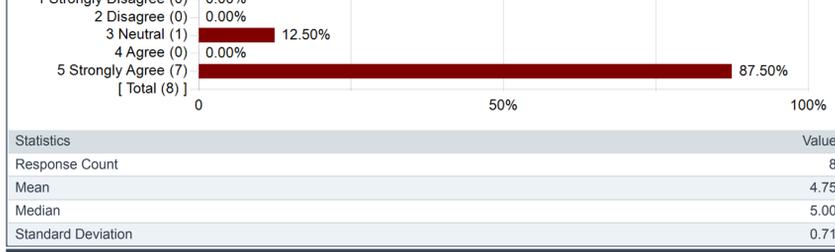
2. Explained clearly the course objectives and expectations.



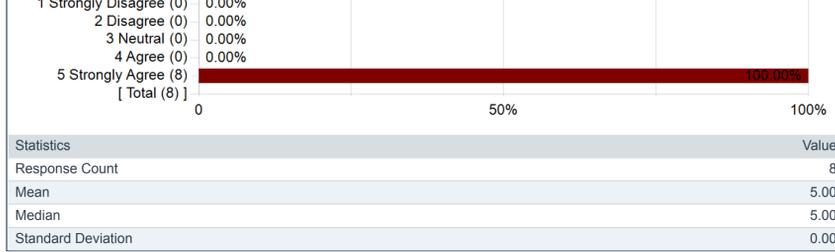
3. Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.



4. Was available and helpful outside of class.



5. Overall, the instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.



What aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments

Chandler's lectures were extremely helpful as they broke the readings into their most basic elements with easy to understand language.

I loved the office hours because a lot of people did not take advantage of them so I was able to spend valuable time with the instructor and run with different ideas I had and things I was interested in.

The amount of knowledge and patience the instructor have

His explanation of rudimentary concepts incorporated in high-level discussions of texts in an attempt to ingrain within us a sense of academic engagement, as if we ourselves were researchers or intellectuals in the field, helped us understand the principles of political science and the varied approaches to it.

Both my teachers were available through email and office hours almost every day. Their out of class time helping with questions or discussing ideas in a smaller space really built my understanding, and I learned a lot in those times.

Lectures, discussion sessions and Q&A times in the class session

Connecting a lot of what we were learning to the current presidency

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments

I think if you could go over how to read political science studies in the beginning or give a cheat sheet about how to read their graphs or whatever, that would be really helpful. I got kind of confused when we would read a study and not understand what the numbers meant. That just might be because I haven't taken statistics yet but I think that would be a bit helpful if we could go over that at the beginning. The other thing that I would say is that some days there were a lot of readings and I knew that I couldn't possibly finish all of them. So I think it would be helpful for those days that we have 60+ pages for you to clarify which ones are the most important for us to read so I can read more efficiently.

I really cannot think of anything I loved the course and how the instructor structured everything. I felt like I was able to really connect with the instructor and the other students despite the new conditions they were under.

Mr.Chandeler, perhaps one of the places you can improve is look at the chicago email for potential emails

I think it would have been better if we had two consecutive synchronous sessions instead of one in the morning and one at night, but I understand he was trying to accommodate students from other areas of the world, primarily China.

Over Zoom, it was difficult to be fully engaged the whole time, but I think my teachers did a really amazing job of keeping our attention and making the class interesting.

I guess more interesting games that help motivate learning (like the ones we have done on Fridays) could be more helpful in terms of making me learn more.

Possibly the amount of readings, it was hard to analyze everything

Please include the name of the TA/CA/Intern you are evaluating.

Comments

Winston Berg

Winston Berg

Winston Berg

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Winston Berg

What aspects of the TA's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments

Winston led our discussions. He always asked thoughtful and provocative questions that really facilitated our discussions. I really liked how he asked questions that really targeted the broader context of the readings. His feedback on the essays was also helpful.

I greatly enjoyed the office hours because I was able to learn a lot about different subjects I was interested in including libertarians. I was also able to clear up any misunderstandings that I had about the readings.

He was very articulate in explaining different theories or concepts in the course. He held he discussion sessions and engaged with each of our ideas very professionally and with great consideration and deep pondering. I felt like I could ask him about anything in his office hours and he never made anyone feel less-than.

Winston was really patient and helpful throughout the class. During our discussions that he led, he always took the time to let everyone speak. He also asked questions that challenged my interpretation of the article, pushing me to understand more about it. He was available to answer questions and help with papers if necessary.

Leading the discussion session by asking questions

he brought great ideas and questions that helped our discussion sections and helped me think in a different way

What could the TA modify to help you learn more?

Comments

nothing really

I thought his teaching was just flawless.

Often the office hours space was busy with other students, so Winston was not as available on Zoom out of discussion as students as I think could have been helpful, but these larger out-of-class discussions were good opportunities to get to know other students better and explore materials further.

N/A

Nothing particular

I cannot think of anything, everything was splendid.

Additional feedback to the TA/CA/Intern:

Comments

n/a

Keep up the amazing work

You greatly inspired me, as someone intending to study political science, to really think on a higher level, to go past surface level analysis.

Winston was a really amazing teacher and I really appreciated his help and patience with me when I didn't understand readings or the political science games. He was so helpful in answering questions and facilitating conversations that helped me further my understanding of ideas.

Nothing particular

He did a great job overall