

Instructor Feedback for Lawrence Dallman

Introduction to Philosophy

University of Chicago, Fall 2021

Student Takeaways

1. This course challenged me intellectually.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (1) – 20%
 - e. Strongly Agree (4) – 80%

2. I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (0) – 0%
 - e. Strongly Agree (5) – 100%

3. I understood the standards for success on assignments.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (0) – 0%
 - e. Strongly Agree (5) – 100%

4. Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (0) – 0%
 - e. Strongly Agree (5) – 100%

5. I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve subsequent work.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (0) – 0%
 - e. Strongly Agree (5) – 100%

6. My work was evaluated fairly.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (0) – 0%
 - e. Strongly Agree (5) – 100%

7. I felt respected in this class.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (0) – 0%
 - e. Strongly Agree (5) – 100%

8. Overall, this was an excellent course.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (1) – 20%
 - e. Strongly Agree (4) – 80%

The instructor ...

1. organized the course clearly.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (1) – 20%
 - e. Strongly Agree (4) – 80%

2. presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (0) – 0%
 - e. Strongly Agree (5) – 100%

3. facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (1) – 20%
 - e. Strongly Agree (4) – 80%

4. stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (0) – 0%
 - e. Strongly Agree (5) – 100%

5. challenged you to learn.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (1) – 20%
 - e. Strongly Agree (4) – 80%

6. helped you gain significant learning from the course content.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (1) – 20%
 - e. Strongly Agree (4) – 80%

7. was available and helpful outside of class.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (0) – 0%
 - e. Strongly Agree (5) – 100%

8. motivated you to think independently.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (1) – 20%
 - e. Strongly Agree (4) – 80%

9. worked to create an inclusive and welcoming environment.
 - a. Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - b. Disagree (0) – 0%
 - c. Neutral (0) – 0%
 - d. Agree (0) – 0%
 - e. Strongly Agree (5) – 100%

10. Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.
- Strongly Disagree (0) – 0%
 - Disagree (0) – 0%
 - Neutral (0) – 0%
 - Agree (0) – 0%
 - Strongly Agree (5) – 100%

Student Information

- Prior to starting the class, my interest level was?
 - Very Low (0) – 0%
 - Low (0) – 0%
 - Neutral (0) – 0%
 - High (5) – 100%
 - Very High (0) – 0%
- Now that the course is over, my interest is?
 - Diminished (0) – 0%
 - Satisfied (0) – 0%
 - Heightened (5) – 100%

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

- I think beginning to create a formal framework for the philosophical jargon that we frequently use is really important, and that's a big part of the assignment portion of the class. What I found more important, personally, was the efficiency and ease with which we discussed such a wide variety of authors and schools of thought. We managed to cover a lot of information in a relatively short time and with a lot of depth thanks to the thoughtfulness of Prof. Dallman's lectures.
- Comprehensive impression of philosophy — schools of thoughts, argument structures, etc.
- This class helped me develop an understanding of Philosophy as a field. When you're learning to surf, there are general things to know: don't wear your wetsuit backwards, don't wax a soft-top, wear a leash. Just getting out on the water, you can be awful at surfing, but just gaining a grasp of the don'ts allows you not to come across as a total idiot. Similarly, coming out of this class, I feel like I have a general sense of the philosophy don'ts. Although most of us don't have a perfectly formed writing voice, Dallman did a good job of taking us through some of the greatest hits in the field and having us attempt to reconstruct the arguments.
- How to make philosophical arguments.
- how to write a philosophy paper, think in a philosophical mindset.

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

1. The reading was thoughtfully selected and respectful of our time challenges while covering a breadth of interesting and foundational perspectives. Discussion solidified the ideas and gave time for our own extrapolations which were equally essential. The assignments were always relevant and useful for formulating our takes on the text, though the argument deconstructions were sometimes a bit mundane.
2. Two lectures (seminar-style), one very short (two pages double-spaced) argument reflection weekly
3. I thought it made sense how structured lectures were with the packet Dallman prepared for the lectures since we're newer to the discipline. I liked the write-ups and actually wish we had more for the weeks leading up to the final because I felt less incentivized to do the readings toward the end.
4. The professor began each class by explaining the texts very clearly. This was great as it brought everyone's understanding of the text to the same level before starting the class discussion.
5. Lectures and discussions. Professor Dallman is very articulate and prepares so well for each class.

Thinking about your time in class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

1. Prof. Dallman is an excellent lecturer. He explains concepts and arguments in an eloquent and precise manner, and our discussions were always well-paced. His eagerness to encourage our own questions and contributions was also appreciated and helpful. I like that he would choose some of our weekly prompts to reflect the conversations that were most compelling in class.
2. Lectures were extremely clear and Prof. Dustin can explain complex ideas very well. Also he is good at understanding students' remarks and framing them more clearly, which helped me with expressing my ideas.
3. Lectures and Write-ups.
4. The introductions of the texts at the beginning of class. He defined terms and answered all and any question relating to the reading before then guiding the class into a discussion.
5. teaching, and feedback on reconstruction essays. I like how we have a short essay/response every week. I have a much clearer sense regarding how to write a

philosophy essay. It also helps me understand the materials. The prompts are very thoughtful.

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

1. I felt that the ontology portion of the course was cut unfortunately short.
2. Maybe add a discussion section.
3. Have write-ups every week

Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

1. Concise reading and clear assignment instructions made it fairly easy to do well.
2. can take regardless of experience
3. Not too difficult

Additional comments about the course:

1. Great course
2. Professor is awesome!



PHIL 22002 1 - Introduction to Philosophy - Instructor(s): Dustin Dallman

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2021**

Number Enrolled: **7**

Number of Responses: **5**

Report Comments

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

Creation Date: **Tuesday, April 19, 2022**

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

Comments
I think beginning to create a formal framework for the philosophical jargon that we frequently use is really important, and that's a big part of the assignment portion of the class. What I found more important, personally, was the efficiency and ease with which we discussed such a wide variety of authors and schools of thought. We managed to cover a lot of information in a relatively short time and with a lot of depth thanks to the thoughtfulness of Prof. Dallman's lectures.
Comprehensive impression of philosophy — schools of thoughts, argument structures, etc.
This class helped me develop an understanding of Philosophy as a field. When you're learning to surf, there are general things to know: don't wear your wetsuit backwards, don't wax a soft-top, wear a leash. Just getting out on the water, you can be awful at surfing, but just gaining a grasp of the don'ts allows you not to come across as a total idiot. Similarly, coming out of this class, I feel like I have a general sense of the philosophy don'ts. Although most of us don't have a perfectly formed writing voice, Dallman did a good job of taking us through some of the greatest hits in the field and having us attempt to reconstruct the arguments.
How to make philosophical arguments.
how to write a philosophy paper, think in a philosophical mindset.

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

Comments
The reading was thoughtfully selected and respectful of our time challenges while covering a breadth of interesting and foundational perspectives. Discussion solidified the ideas and gave time for our own extrapolations which were equally essential. The assignments were always relevant and useful for formulating our takes on the text, though the argument deconstructions were sometimes a bit mundane.
Two lectures (seminar-style), one very short (two pages double-spaced) argument reflection weekly
I thought it made sense how structured lectures were with the packet Dallman prepared for the lectures since we're newer to the discipline. I liked the write-ups and actually wish we had more for the weeks leading up to the final because I felt less incentivized to do the readings toward the end.
The professor began each class by explaining the texts very clearly. This was great as it brought everyone's understanding of the text to the same level before starting the class discussion.
Lectures and discussions. Professor Dallman is very articulate and prepares so well for each class.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
I felt respected in this class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Great course
Professor is awesome!

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	0.00%	100.00%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
Prof. Dallman is an excellent lecturer. He explains concepts and arguments in an eloquent and precise manner, and our discussions were always well-paced. His eagerness to encourage our own questions and contributions was also appreciated and helpful. I like that he would choose some of our weekly prompts to reflect the conversations that were most compelling in class.
Lectures were extremely clear and Prof. Dustin can explain complex ideas very well. Also he is good at understanding students' remarks and framing them more clearly, which helped me with expressing my ideas.
Lectures and Write-ups.
The introductions of the texts at the beginning of class. He defined terms and answered all and any question relating to the reading before then guiding the class into a discussion.
teaching, and feedback on reconstruction essays. I like how we have a short essay/response every week. I have a much clearer sense regarding how to write a philosophy essay. It also helps me understand the materials. The prompts are very thoughtful.

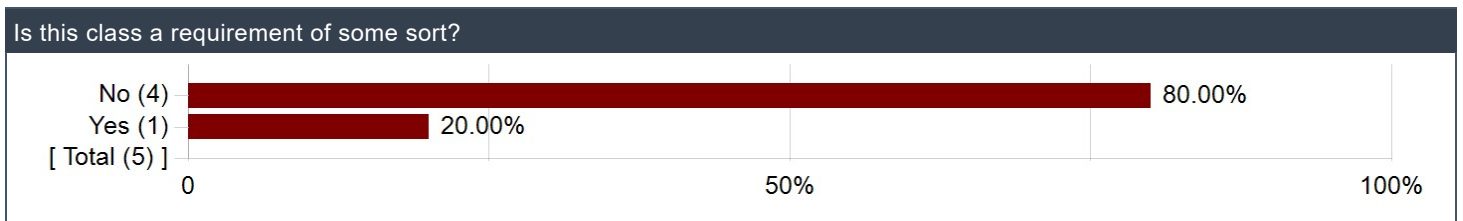
What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
I felt that the ontology portion of the course was cut unfortunately short.
Maybe add a discussion section.
Have write-ups every week
He would write these detailed bullet points that he would read to us at the beginning of class. They really clarified the readings. However, he did not then share his notes. Would be great if he posted his notes of key points of the text on canvas after class.
n/a

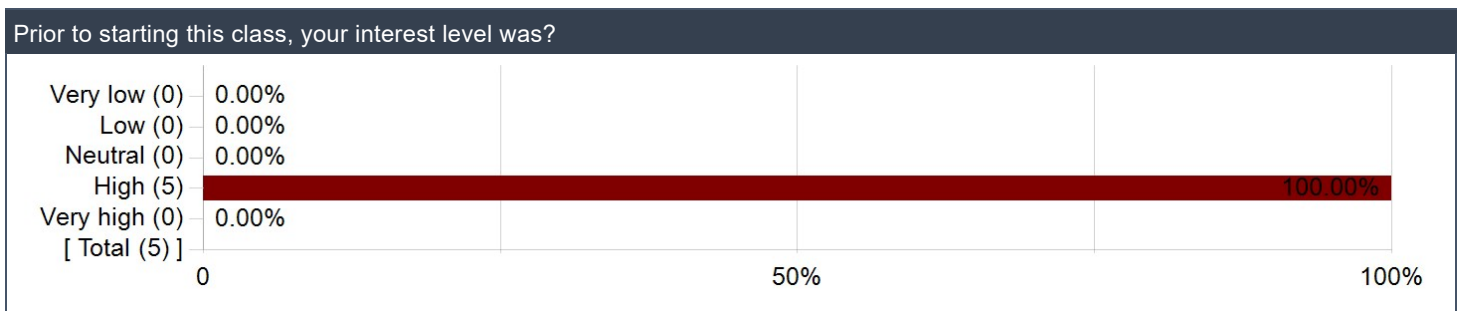
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%

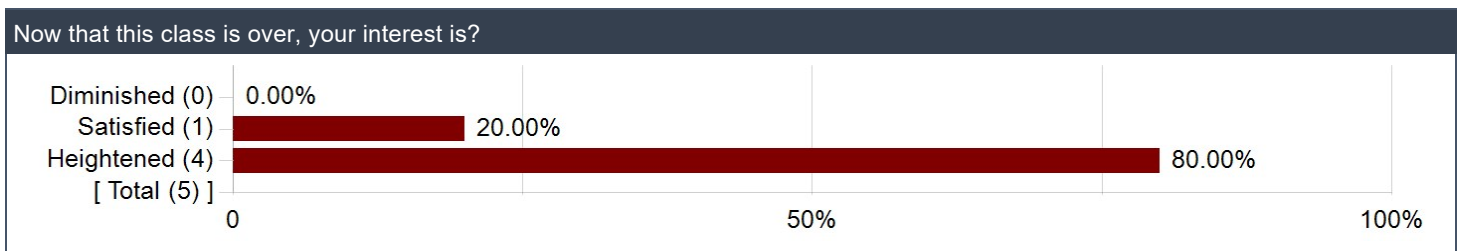
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



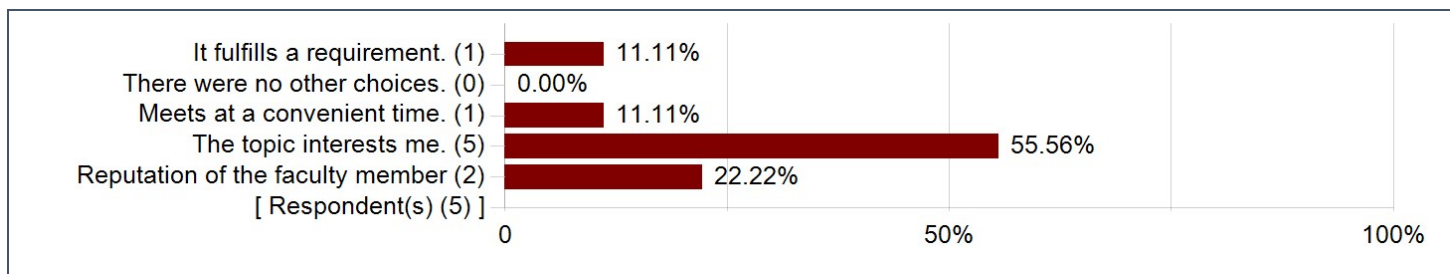
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



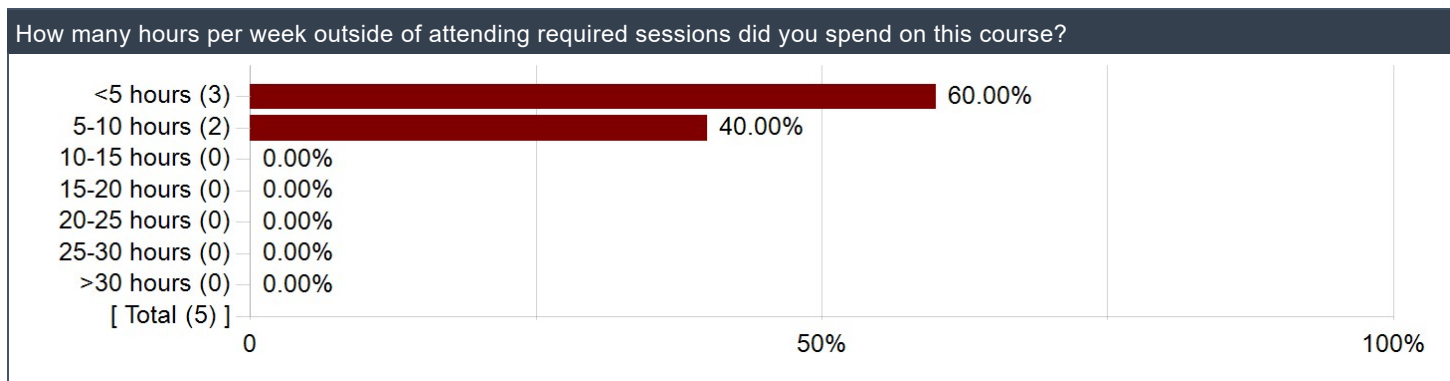
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



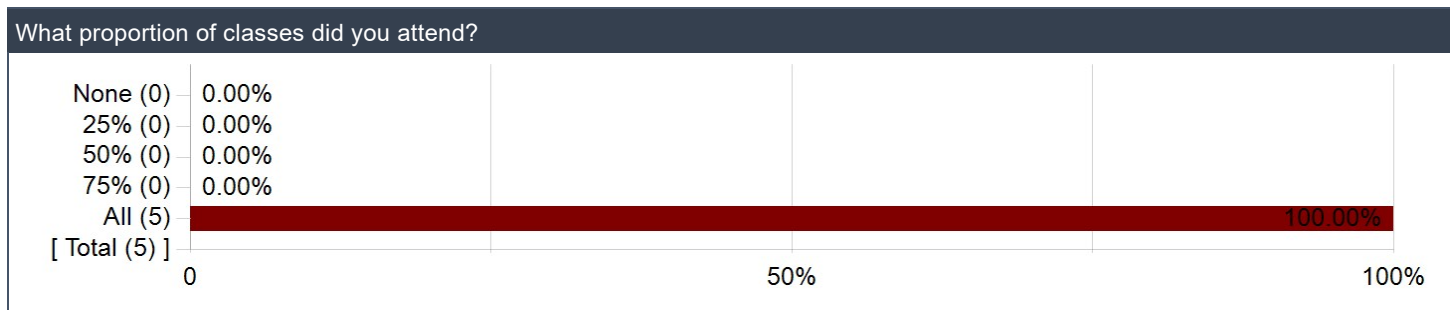
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
Concise reading and clear assignment instructions made it fairly easy to do well.
can take regardless of experience
Not too difficult