

06/10/15

ALL-COLLEGE COURSE EVALUATION RESULTS: SPRING 2015

PART I: COURSE INFORMATION

Course: PL298 A Cognitive Sci of Relig'n Enrollment: 19
 Instructor: John P Waterman Forms Returned: 17

PART II: STUDENT INFORMATION (% based on number of answers to each question)

Reason Taking Course:

All-College Requirement	Major Requirement	Interest in Subject	Instructor Reputation	Time of Day	Other	[Responses]
2 (12%)	2 (12%)	13 (76%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	17

Expected Grade:

A	B	C	D	F	Satisf.	Unsatisf.	[Responses]
9 (53%)	8 (47%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	17

Class Standing:

First Year	Sophomore	Junior	Senior	Other	[Responses]
3 (19%)	4 (25%)	3 (19%)	6 (38%)	0 (0%)	16

Student Sex:

Female	Male	[Responses]
8 (50%)	8 (50%)	16

PART III: STUDENT REACTION (% based on number of answers to question)

(1) I was involved in this course (for example, I attended class regularly, I worked hard, and I participated in class discussions and activities).

	Str. Agree	Agree	Neith. Ag/Dis	Disagree	Str. Disagr	[Responses]
INSTRUCTOR	10 (59%)	6 (35%)	1 (6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	17
COURSE	10 (59%)	6 (35%)	1 (6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	17
DEPARTMENT	84 (54%)	59 (38%)	13 (8%)	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	157
DIVISION	1334 (63%)	703 (33%)	74 (3%)	17 (1%)	3 (0%)	2131
COLLEGE	4172 (59%)	2543 (36%)	268 (4%)	89 (1%)	12 (0%)	7084

(2) I found this course challenging and intellectually stimulating, and I learned a considerable amount.

	Str. Agree	Agree	Neith. Ag/Dis	Disagree	Str. Disagr	[Responses]
INSTRUCTOR	10 (59%)	7 (41%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	17
COURSE	10 (59%)	7 (41%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	17
DEPARTMENT	106 (68%)	40 (25%)	10 (6%)	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	157
DIVISION	1259 (59%)	675 (32%)	143 (7%)	44 (2%)	8 (0%)	2129
COLLEGE	3952 (56%)	2418 (34%)	471 (7%)	193 (3%)	48 (1%)	7082

(3) The workload and pace of this course seemed appropriate.

	Str. Agree	Agree	Neith. Ag/Dis	Disagree	Str. Disagr	[Responses]
INSTRUCTOR	8 (47%)	8 (47%)	1 (6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	17
COURSE	8 (47%)	8 (47%)	1 (6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	17
DEPARTMENT	86 (55%)	60 (38%)	8 (5%)	2 (1%)	0 (0%)	156
DIVISION	1130 (53%)	793 (37%)	136 (6%)	60 (3%)	10 (0%)	2129
COLLEGE	3378 (48%)	2875 (41%)	486 (7%)	267 (4%)	68 (1%)	7074

(4) The instructor's organizational skills (including planning, preparation, and productive use of class time) were effective.

	Str.Agree	Agree	Neith.Ag/Dis	Disagree	Str.Disagr	[Responses]
INSTRUCTOR	5 (29%)	10 (59%)	1 (6%)	1 (6%)	0 (0%)	17
COURSE	5 (29%)	10 (59%)	1 (6%)	1 (6%)	0 (0%)	17
DEPARTMENT	85 (54%)	59 (38%)	9 (6%)	3 (2%)	0 (0%)	156
DIVISION	1295 (61%)	629 (30%)	131 (6%)	52 (2%)	13 (1%)	2120
COLLEGE	4065 (58%)	2260 (32%)	441 (6%)	227 (3%)	65 (1%)	7058

(5) The instructor's communication skills (e.g., presentation of material, facilitation of discussion, and clarity of expectations) were effective.

	Str.Agree	Agree	Neith.Ag/Dis	Disagree	Str.Disagr	[Responses]
INSTRUCTOR	11 (65%)	4 (24%)	1 (6%)	1 (6%)	0 (0%)	17
COURSE	11 (65%)	4 (24%)	1 (6%)	1 (6%)	0 (0%)	17
DEPARTMENT	104 (67%)	43 (28%)	8 (5%)	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	156
DIVISION	1330 (63%)	610 (29%)	136 (6%)	38 (2%)	13 (1%)	2127
COLLEGE	4043 (57%)	2208 (31%)	482 (7%)	256 (4%)	83 (1%)	7072

(6) The instructor was open to questions and willing to help outside of class time.

	Str.Agree	Agree	Neith.Ag/Dis	Disagree	Str.Disagr	[Responses]
INSTRUCTOR	15 (88%)	1 (6%)	1 (6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	17
COURSE	15 (88%)	1 (6%)	1 (6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	17
DEPARTMENT	111 (71%)	41 (26%)	4 (3%)	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	157
DIVISION	1477 (69%)	532 (25%)	97 (5%)	15 (1%)	5 (0%)	2126
COLLEGE	4764 (67%)	1905 (27%)	322 (5%)	48 (1%)	21 (0%)	7060

(7) The instructor's assessment of student work was prompt, consistent, useful, and substantive.

	Str.Agree	Agree	Neith.Ag/Dis	Disagree	Str.Disagr	[Responses]
INSTRUCTOR	6 (35%)	9 (53%)	0 (0%)	2 (12%)	0 (0%)	17
COURSE	6 (35%)	9 (53%)	0 (0%)	2 (12%)	0 (0%)	17
DEPARTMENT	88 (56%)	59 (38%)	6 (4%)	4 (3%)	0 (0%)	157
DIVISION	1263 (59%)	676 (32%)	123 (6%)	52 (2%)	12 (1%)	2126
COLLEGE	3813 (54%)	2549 (36%)	460 (7%)	190 (3%)	51 (1%)	7063

(8) Overall, the instructor's teaching in this course was effective.

	Str.Agree	Agree	Neith.Ag/Dis	Disagree	Str.Disagr	[Responses]
INSTRUCTOR	11 (65%)	5 (29%)	1 (6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	17
COURSE	11 (65%)	5 (29%)	1 (6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	17
DEPARTMENT	98 (63%)	49 (31%)	9 (6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	156
DIVISION	1345 (64%)	612 (29%)	92 (4%)	33 (2%)	12 (1%)	2094
COLLEGE	4116 (59%)	2246 (32%)	366 (5%)	179 (3%)	68 (1%)	6975

PART IV: DEPARTMENT CHAIR'S COMMENTS

PART V: INSTRUCTOR'S COMMENTS

Course Evaluation - By Evaluation Questions
Waterman, John P
PL298 A Cognitive Sci of Relig'n
SP 2015

8. Overall, the instructor's teaching in this course was effective.

84202 Strongly agree:

84224 Strongly agree: Before this class, I had never taken a philosophy course. I was pretty nervous coming in, but I was very happily surprised at how much I enjoyed the material. John is a wonderful professor. He cares about his students, he is easy to understand, and he does not cause me stress. I am so thankful for his teaching style, and I hope to take a class with him again sometime soon.

84880 Strongly agree: Though I am not involved with the Philosophy department here, I enjoyed this course. I think that this is a class that a layperson is able to take and enjoy without being worried about the the strict definition of philosophy. I felt that Professor Waterman always facilitated a stimulating discussion that related to the material which we were reviewing. I also felt that the workload for this class was very appropriate and helped to make the overall experience in this class a positive one.

85389 Strongly agree:

85438 Strongly agree:

85611 Agree:

86414 Strongly agree:

86426 Strongly agree: I loved this course. The material was absolutely fascinating, the discussions were fantastic, and the philosophical, scientific, and experimental approach applied to a topic that can be as touchy as religion made the classroom a safe, respectful, and academic space, which I appreciated greatly. I loved the way we worked together as a class to critically analyze religion as we explored theories, and I loved the course material itself.

86867 Strongly agree: John was an excellent professor and it is a true shame that he is only visiting.

86963 Strongly agree:

86968 Strongly agree: Great Professor. Stimulating and thought provoking class.

87090 Agree:

88874 Neither agree nor disagree: Work was not returned at all close to when we turned it in, despite the fact that we only turned in four assignments all semester.

89018 Strongly agree: Professor Waterman has been very helpful and he has given me a lot of valuable suggestions on how to write papers and how to logically think about constructing arguments. I wish he could stay longer at Colby!!

89702 Agree:

89808 Agree: I think that this course would work much better as a 300 level discussion. The class often seemed too big to delve deeply into issues. Having 75 minute slots twice a week rather than 50 three times a week might help with this issue as well. Great course though!

89867 Agree: John, this was a fantastic course. I would have really appreciated prompt feedback on our assignments, but I also knew that I could come find you during office hours. Thanks!

Course Evaluation - By Evaluation Questions
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You are encouraged to use the space below to make any additional relevant comments concerning the course or the instructor.

84202 :

84224 :

84880 :

85389 :

85438 : John is one of the best professors I've had at Colby. I wish he wasn't just visiting. This is the second class I've taken from him this year and both have been outstanding. Make him stay!

85611 : I enjoyed this course. It certainly gave me some new ideas to think about when thinking about religion. I thought we had some great discussions. I was not expecting the class to be so centered on psychology, so I suppose that took me off guard due to my lack of psych experience. I would also have liked to see the professor push back against some of the students opinions more to help the discussion along.

86414 :

86426 :

86867 :

86963 :

86968 :

87090 :

88874 : While Professor Waterman doesn't have the technical aspects of teaching down pat, he is personable. He knows how to laugh at himself and he's not stuffy or pedantic. The other stuff may develop over time.

89018 :

89702 :

89808 :

89867 : I think that this course needs to be a bigger, lecture-based 100 level course, or a smaller, more discussion based 300-level course. I would have liked to either hear more from John about the material, or to be able to engage in a smaller group about the material we were reading, and delve more deeply into the material.