

Teaching Evaluation Summary (Spring 2015)

Comment Summary

Instructor: BADDORF, MATTHEW
Subject: 1WRT 105
CRN: 73911

Course Title: JUSTICE WITHOUT BORDERS
Enrollment: 16 Responses Incl Declines: 12
(Declined: 0)

1. Teaching skills - MATTHEW BADDORF

Comments:

- GOOD!
- I felt as though none of the readings or topics we discussed in class had anything to do with the topic of global ethics, the classes proposed focus. All we covered through readings and class time was fundamental writing skills, which were never clearly described or effectively described during class.

2. Rapport with students - MATTHEW BADDORF

Comments:

- GOOD!
- I felt that Instructor Baddorf taught the class as if we were middle schoolers. I also felt that he did not listen respectfully to the thoughts of all students in the class, or give clear reasoning regarding his grading or essay commentary.
- Definitely!

3. Quality of exams/assignments - MATTHEW BADDORF

Comments:

- GOOD!
- One small thing: I would have liked if papers weren't due on Friday nights or Saturday nights.

4. Organization - MATTHEW BADDORF

Comments:

- GOOD!
- I honestly felt that each class was waste of time, where I could have been taking a class I was more interested in. I felt that class discussions and lectures were very informal and often not well organized. I felt like we did very little with our class time each week.
- Could speak up more if he notices students are on their phones or laptops.

5. Comments on instructor - MATTHEW BADDORF

What are the major strengths of this instructor?

- Everything is Ok.
- Made clear when office hours were. Met with us when we had big papers.
- Very thoughtful and helpful in his comments on our papers. Always took the time in class to answer student questions, discuss topics we brought up, respectfully say his opinion if appropriate, and make sure we were satisfied before moving on. Considerate of student needs (e.g. not making our big paper our last paper), and willing to adjust (e.g. extending a deadline, adjusting readings). Clear rubric for what he would be grading us on. Made us write paragraphs about what we needed to revise, which helped focus my revisions.
- Providing hands on examples
- -Always prepared before class
-Fair
-Always available to meet to talk about formal papers
- Engaging topic.

Please share any suggestions for improvement

- No.
- He definitely made efforts to encourage quieter people to speak up more in the larger group and encourage more talkative people to step back sometimes, but trying to facilitate this even more might have been helpful. Some possible approaches: more frequent reminders ("Step Up Step Back" guideline), saying you want to hear from everybody, reminding the more talkative people to give room to the quieter ones, even calling on quieter people. I liked that he did small group discussions often, though, which got everybody engaged.

6. Comments on course

What are the major strengths of this course?

- Improve writing skills.
- Multiple drafts on papers (with peer and instructor comments) helped me see where I needed to revise. Well-paced for what a freshman student can realistically do (for the most part). Interesting readings about writing --

not just from a textbook. Gave me writing techniques at all levels of detail: sentence, paragraph, essay, etc. Interesting readings about global justice. Gave me a better idea of how to do research -- especially with the librarians available to help.

- -Specific due dates for formal papers was nice. And Professor Baddorf's policy on extending the deadline when necessary was helpful.
- The topic.

Please share any suggestions for improvement

- No.
- I feel like organization would be a major improvement for the course. Along with more of a focus on actual discussion based on ethical situations which are globally occurring. Rather than unclear discussions (or lack there of, because the class was often silent) of writing techniques..
- More chance to apply the specific writing techniques we read about / learned about. One of the grading objectives for each paper could be based on the student's personal writing goal, to try to encourage personal growth.
- -TSIS chapters were not very helpful. So it was nice that near the end, Professor Baddorf went through them with us.
- increased focus on what is meant by Justice Without Borders. It felt like a vague expression that was never explained.