

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL325M 43035
 S050 Teaching Assistant

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 MEDICINE, ETHICS, AND SOCIETY

Fall 2014 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Enrollment = 21
 Surveys Returned = 14

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE					NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	1	6	7	14	4.4
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	0	5	9	14	4.6
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	4	10	14	4.7
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0	0	0	6	8	14	4.6
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	0	4	10	14	4.7
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	0	1	6	7	14	4.4
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	0	0	6	8	14	4.6
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	0	0	7	7	14	4.5
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	0	0	1	9	4	14	4.2

 For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

Scanned: 01/12/2015

Printed: 11/17/2015

 COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 7
 Transcribed from paper forms.

-
1. Fun section, great TA :)
 2. More comments on how to improve on tests would've been helpful.
 3. Thank you for all the reviews and guidance for exams, the class would have been a lot less structured and manageable without you.
 4. Great job, especially for your first time TAing.
 5. Zach encouraged us to seek out current events and application of class concepts. I really enjoyed learning from him.
 6. Zach was very interested in the subject matter. I really appreciated his time & effort to help explain concepts! :)
 7. Zach really took his time grading all of our exams and unlike most TA's, he provided very useful and detailed feedback on each exam question. You could tell that he genuinely cared about the course material and wanted us to be just as interested in the material as he was.
-

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
Blaesi, Zachary A PHL325M 43030
S050 Teaching Assistant

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
MEDICINE, ETHICS, AND SOCIETY

Fall 2014 DEPARTMENT COPY
Enrollment = 15
Surveys Returned = 9

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree			
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	2	4	3	9	4.1	
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	0	5	4	9	4.4	
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	1	8	9	4.9	
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0	1	0	5	3	9	4.1	
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	0	4	5	9	4.6	
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	0	0	4	5	9	4.6	
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	0	1	3	5	9	4.4	
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	2	2	3	2	9	3.6	
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent			
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	0	0	2	6	1	9	3.9	

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

Scanned: 01/12/2015

Printed: 11/17/2015

COMMENTS:
Total Number of Comments: 3
Transcribed from paper forms.

-
1. Very responsive outside of class and helpful answering philosophical questions.
 2. Zach was a good TA, explained everything clearly.
 3. Zach was a great TA, very helpful in elaborating info and clearing up any questions as well as grading on time.
-

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL325M 43025
 S050 Teaching Assistant

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 MEDICINE, ETHICS, AND SOCIETY

Fall 2014 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Enrollment = 17
 Surveys Returned = 7

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree			
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	1	2	4	7	4.4	
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	1	1	5	7	4.6	
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	2	5	7	4.7	
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0	1	0	2	4	7	4.3	
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	1	0	2	4	7	4.3	
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	1	0	2	4	7	4.3	
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	1	0	0	2	4	7	4.1	
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	1	0	2	4	7	4.3	
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent			
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	0	1	0	3	3	7	4.1	

 For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

Scanned: 01/12/2015

Printed: 11/17/2015

 COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 4
 Transcribed from paper forms.

-
1. It's nice to have a TA that makes the students critically think and share their thoughts. Zach was a great TA, and cares/knows a lot about what he teaches us.
 2. When people asked questions he pretty much either ignored them or went off on a random tangent + didn't answer what was asked. I feel like he meant well but was really ineffective.
 3. I like how the TA was very knowledgeable on the material and could answers all questions.
 4. Zach was very informed on every topic we covered in class. He was available, caring, kind, engaging, and thoughtful. An excellent instructor.
-

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL317K 41877
 S050 Teaching Assistant

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 INTRO TO PHILOS OF THE ARTS

Spring 2015 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Enrollment = 16
 Surveys Returned = 4

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree			
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	0	1	3	4	4.8	
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	0	1	3	4	4.8	
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	1	3	4	4.8	
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0	0	0	2	2	4	4.5	
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	0	2	2	4	4.5	
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	0	0	2	2	4	4.5	
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	0	0	2	2	4	4.5	
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	0	0	1	3	4	4.8	
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent			
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	0	0	0	3	1	4	4.3	

 For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

Scanned: 06/01/2015

Printed: 11/17/2015

 COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 2
 Transcribed from paper forms.

- 1. He really tried to make the concepts more understandable which was great for philosophy. I appreciated his hard work. Thanks Zach!

 2. Zachary encouraged an open and active learning environment as well as participation.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL317K 41878
 S050 Teaching Assistant

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 INTRO TO PHILOS OF THE ARTS

Spring 2015 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Enrollment = 11
 Surveys Returned = 5

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES	AVG.
	Str	Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree	THIS ITEM	
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	0	0	3	2	5	4.4
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	0	0	1	4	5	4.8
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	0	1	4	5	4.8
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0	0	0	0	2	3	5	4.6
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	0	0	2	3	5	4.6
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	0	0	0	2	3	5	4.6
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	0	0	0	1	4	5	4.8
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	0	0	1	2	2	5	4.2
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	Vry	Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
	0	0	0	1	1	3	5	4.4

 For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

Scanned: 06/01/2015

Printed: 11/17/2015

 COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 4
 Transcribed from paper forms.

 1. I enjoyed you as a TA. While some of the material was less than exciting, you did pretty well with making it not incredibly boring. Sometimes, it would have been nice for the discussion sessions to be more structured, but I know you relied on us to provide feedback on the level of structure we wanted.

I appreciate how you generally replied to emails pretty quickly.

 2. You held very interesting group discussions! Now, at the beginning of the semester, you told us that we were mainly going to have discussions among ourselves. That didn't exactly pan out the way you planned, but you are very passionate about this subject, and it kept me interested. It was also helpful for improving our understanding in the class, so thank you for that as well!

 3. Zach, you were awesome and seemed very interested in the course material. If you keep TA'ing, don't change your style!

 4. I thought you were super knowledgeable on the subject and helpful in explaining subject matter. The only thing that would have helped would be if you gave out a form of handouts/study guides/additional notes to help with the information.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL317K 41879
 S050 Teaching Assistant

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 INTRO TO PHILOS OF THE ARTS

Spring 2015 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Enrollment = 18
 Surveys Returned = 1

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str	Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5.0
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5.0
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5.0
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5.0
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5.0
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5.0
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5.0
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5.0
	Vry	Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5.0

 For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

Scanned: 06/01/2015

Printed: 11/17/2015

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL322 41565
 S050 Teaching Assistant

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 SCIENCE AND THE MODERN WORLD

Fall 2015 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Grade-eligible enrollment = 18
 Surveys *Returned = 12
 *Eligible paper CIS=correct form
 + completed in pencil

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str	Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	0	1	4	6	11	4.5
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	0	2	6	4	12	4.2
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	0	6	6	12	4.5
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0	0	0	3	3	6	12	4.3
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	0	1	1	10	12	4.8
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	0	0	1	2	9	12	4.7
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	0	0	1	2	9	12	4.7
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	0	1	1	3	7	12	4.3
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	Vry Unsat		Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent	12	4.0
	0	0	0	3	6	3		

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

Scanned: 01/06/2016

Printed: 10/18/2019

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 8
 Transcribed from paper forms.

1. Zach was very kind and committed as a TA.
2. Helpful in concretizing abstract concepts from the lecture.
3. Zach was a great TA in that he clearly worked hard, and was supportive and responsive. I think that he was misassigned to this course. He would've been a better TA for a course in a subject he had a broader knowledge of like philosophy of mind. Overall, aside from that, he was great.
4. I think discussing various ideas in the discussion format was good, but there was a tendency for him to talk about things in a drawn-out manner, which helped at times, but also ate a lot into the discussion section time.
5. Pretty good overall. I would have liked to have seen more structured assignments such as the mock critique of the essay question responses. Normal discussion was a bit too open-ended for my taste.
6. Zach was genuinely interested in what we had to say, and wanted us to do well in the course. He was enthusiastic, helpful, and inspiring.
7. Zach is very nice and helpful, he explains difficult material in a way that makes sense and is always willingly to meet and answer questions.
8. Seemed generally passionate about the material and interested in what students had to say and making sure they understood the material.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL322 41570
 S050 Teaching Assistant

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 SCIENCE AND THE MODERN WORLD

Fall 2015 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Grade-eligible enrollment = 18
 Surveys *Returned = 12
 *Eligible paper CIS=correct form
 + completed in pencil

NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE

NO. REPLIES
THIS ITEM AVG.

	Str	Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str	Agree		
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0		0	1	2		9	12	4.7
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0		0	2	2		8	12	4.5
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0		0	0	2		10	12	4.8
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0		0	2	4		6	12	4.3
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0		0	0	1		11	12	4.9
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0		0	0	2		10	12	4.8
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0		0	0	2		9	11	4.8
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0		0	1	4		7	12	4.5
		Vry	Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING		0		0	2	5	5	12	4.3

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

Scanned: 01/06/2016

Printed: 10/18/2019

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 12
 Transcribed from paper forms.

1. Zach was great, always very helpful and dedicated himself to make sure we knew the material. This class has been a challenge, however Zach provided enough help and plenty of resources to ensure that we would be successful in class. Great TA!
2. The discussion sections should be spent more on discussion than on reviewing, if they're suppose to be for reviewing make the attendance optional.
3. Zach was very eager to teach and make sure the students understood the course material.
4. Zach Blaesi was a very good TA who was definitely interested in the success of his students + very helpful. Occasionally during philosophy discussion he seemed hesitant about exploring more abstract and alternate viewpoints which I personally would have enjoyed more of.
5. Zach gave helpful answers to questions and prepared me for what to expect on the exam. I liked the laid back nature of discussions - maybe youtube videos could be included.
6. Zach provided an overall good and helpful experience. Anything that was unclear in class he was able to explain during discussion.
7. All the diagrams you use in section really helps me wrap my head around the experiments we talk about, which is really useful considering I have no science background and just hearing them explained tends to do nothing for me.
8. You could tell philosophy of science wasn't his subject, but he research before sections and tried to know the covered material in a manner that made it easier for us to understand. Good TA.
9.
 - I think having a longer time to review for exams + what's required/expected of them would be helpful (especially if people can't make outside sessions).
 - an outline of what was discussed in lecture would also help (we always seem to be a day or two behind the lectures).
 - attendance policy was confusing
10. The discussion sections were very helpful and the TA did a very good job. However, I would appreciate it if the students got an idea of where their grade stands earlier in the semester.
11. Discussion sections were often reviews of the content taught in class. I'd like it to be more of a discussion on the implications of the content taught.
12. I think incorporating something visual into your discussions would be helpful in understanding the various theories we've learned. Because most of the material is kind of dense, so a video or pictures would help visualize what the material is talking about.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL322 41575
 S050 Teaching Assistant

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 SCIENCE AND THE MODERN WORLD

Fall 2015 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Grade-eligible enrollment = 20
 Surveys *Returned = 17
 *Eligible paper CIS=correct form
 + completed in pencil

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str	Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	0	2	6	9	17	4.4
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	0	3	6	8	17	4.3
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	1	5	11	17	4.6
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	1	1	2	2	5	8	17	4.1
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	0	0	4	13	17	4.8
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	0	0	1	5	11	17	4.6
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	0	0	1	5	11	17	4.6
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	0	1	2	7	7	17	4.2
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING		Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent	17	4.1
		0	0	5	6	6		

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

Scanned: 01/06/2016

Printed: 10/18/2019

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 9
 Transcribed from paper forms.

1. The lectures are meandering and attendance is unnecessary to doing well. Classes are fine.
2.
 - what made discussions better than other discussions for my classes is that you were passionate about the material.
 - talk to Patema Amheji to clearly explain some parts of readings.
3. Engaging and thought provoking. Consistently excellent discussion sections. Probably my favorite TA in college thus far!
4. I think a little more structure during discussion could have been helpful.
5. It would be helpful to have more outside material, to help students understand the subject matter.
6.
 - Very patient w/ questions asked.
 - Willing to help ill students throughout class time and outside of class.
7. Extremely helpful w/ subject matter & understanding.
8. TA sessions had no structure and were pretty worthless. It would have been nice to even have a list of topics available on what we covered in class the week before.
9.
 - Cared about his students and would never mind talking about concepts after class.
 - Passionate about what he does
 - Good analogies to help make hard concepts understandable.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL303M 41470
 S050 Teaching Assistant
 SURVEYED WITH: 41471 41472

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 MIND AND BODY

Spring 2016 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Grade-eligible enrollment = 53
 Surveys Returned = 17

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE					NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	3	6	8	17	4.3
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	2	6	9	17	4.4
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	1	5	11	17	4.6
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	1	2	2	8	4	17	3.7
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	2	6	9	17	4.4
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	1	1	4	11	17	4.5
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	1	1	7	8	17	4.3
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	2	1	6	8	17	4.2
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	1	1	3	4	8	17	4.0

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 7

- Zach was the best TA I've had so far. He knew the subject material up and down and could easily answer all of our questions. The only thing that frustrated me and seemed inefficient was that he took about 10 minutes to explain certain topics or specific questions and by the time he finished, I had either gotten more confused or had stopped listening. I think it just had to do with his excessive knowledge of the subject, but he should work on communicating more efficiently. With that being said, I enjoyed having him as my TA and he's been the best I've had and was definitely qualified.
- Zach did a very good job in explaining everybody's answers even if it was a bit repetitive at times. He was incredibly patient, and showed that he cared.
- You did an excellent job explaining question in S.I. and were very approachable so we felt free to ask those questions, which was much more intimidating class. You were also very responsive to what your students wanted, and I appreciated how you would check in with us to see what concepts you should cover and how we should use our time together.
- TA lacked a collaborative spirit in discussion sessions, favoring lecturing and often ignoring student questions in an effort to complete his planned lecture. Attempts at more collaborative sessions worked well, but TA was very dependent on re-explaining professor's lecture.
- Zach is a wonderful TA! Knew just as much as the prof. but could explain the material even better, he also seemed to care more about answering questions, and was very respectful and friendly toward his students. Zach was one of the best TAs I have ever had!
- A very good TA who was passionate and knowledgeable about the subject. However, the only minor problem may be lack of clarity or conciseness of answers and explanations to certain topics. Overall, though, very good TA.
- The only question I responded "Neutral" for was "The teaching assistant explained the material clearly" and that's just because this is a philosophy class. Professor Tye did NOT make me feel comfortable asking questions in his class since he viewed as students who knew nothing about philosophy and he was a God with all the answers. On the other hand, Zach was an excellent TA. He made me comfortable asking questions and he ACTUALLY seemed like he cared about helping students. My grade will most likely be an A in this class, NOT because of Professor Tye, but because of my TA Zach. His review sessions, self-made review sheets and practice quizzes are a small illustration of Zach's dedication as a TA. Thank you Zach, for a great semester!

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL610QA 42290
 S050 Teaching Assistant
 SURVEYED WITH: 42295 42300

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 PROBS OF KNOWLEDGE & VALUATION

Fall 2016 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Grade-eligible enrollment = 34
 Surveys Returned = 15

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str	Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	0	0	4	11	15	4.7
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	0	2	3	10	15	4.5
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	0	4	11	15	4.7
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0	1	1	1	5	8	15	4.3
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	0	0	4	11	15	4.7
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	0	0	1	4	10	15	4.6
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	0	0	1	3	11	15	4.7
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	0	0	2	4	9	15	4.5
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	Vry Unsat		Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent	15	4.6
	0	0	0	2	2	11		

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 7

1. Zach brought interest and excitement to an otherwise fairly uninspired course. Any praise I could write here wouldn't do Zach justice. Favorite TA I've had.
2. The absolute best TA I have ever had by a long shot. Mr. Blaesi inspired me in class and was always helpful.
3. He made the material easier to understand and would often explain things more lucidly than the professor would. He also provided really helpful handouts that outlines the material. Was also a great grader, very fair and objective. Much of my success in the class is due to him. I also appreciated how personable he was.
4. He was great!
5. Mr. Blaesi has been one of THE most fantastic teaching assistants I've had. He ensured that we all were advancing smoothly and was quick to help and reach out when we fell behind. I felt comfortable participating in discussion and had no qualms about seeking his help when needed. The discussion sessions were very invigorating and Mr. Blaesi fostered an atmosphere in which everyone felt comfortable participating and asking questions. He was flexible with office hours and connecting with students and he consistently made every effort to reach out and help with the course. Mr. Blaesi has contributed to my newfound interest in philosophy and I highly commend him. The only improvement I would ask for is more study guides to aid in discussion!
6. You were really great with helping us understand the material, I would just say talk to the professor about the course expectations prior to the class, so you don't have the whole exam two debacle again. I generally really enjoyed the course and felt your comments were helpful throughout. The TA sessions are one of the main reasons I did well on the exams, so thanks!
7. Overall, very receptive to questions and was good at explaining the material in a way that was easy to understand. Awesome!

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL317K 42420
 B100 BASIC

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 INTRO TO PHILOS OF THE ARTS

Fall 2017 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Grade-eligible enrollment = 147
 Surveys Returned = 89

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree			
1 COURSE OBJECTIVES DEFINED-EXPLAINED	0	4	5	37	43	89	4.3	
2 INSTRUCTOR PREPARED	0	1	6	31	51	89	4.5	
3 COMMUNICATED INFORMATION EFFECTIVELY	1	3	8	40	37	89	4.2	
4 STUDENTS ENCOURAGED-ACTIVE ROLE	0	2	20	35	32	89	4.1	
5 INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY	0	1	2	30	56	89	4.6	
6 COURSE WELL-ORGANIZED	0	5	9	41	34	89	4.2	
7 STUDENT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION	1	3	7	24	54	89	4.4	
8 HELPFUL COURSE MATERIALS	1	6	14	37	31	89	4.0	
9 STUDENT PERCEPTION OF AMOUNT LEARNED	4	4	18	32	31	89	3.9	
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent			
10 OVERALL INSTRUCTOR RATING	0	4	15	28	42	89	4.2	
11 OVERALL COURSE RATING	2	6	31	23	27	89	3.8	
	Excessive	High	Right	Light	Insuff			
12 STUDENT RATING OF COURSE WORKLOAD	1	16	66	6	0	89		
	Less 2.00	2.00-2.49	2.50-2.99	3.00-3.49	3.50-4.00			
13 OVERALL UT GRADE POINT AVERAGE	1	2	8	37	41	89		
	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>			
14 PROBABLE COURSE GRADE	<u>53</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	89		

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 35

1. Prof Blaesi is very engaging and well-prepared for class: it's clear he takes the time to really understand the readings/materials before teaching them
2. Zach is so nice!!
3. Fun class that talked about complex topics. However, Zach made sure to help us understand each topic.
4. Professor Blaesi was a very thorough professor. He explained every topic very well and was receptive to questions.
5. good i guess
6. The course itself could've been interesting but I believe it was muddled in its message with the way the information was presented. The quiz grades everyday were annoying, especially because even though I would read thoroughly, sometimes the readings were dense and complicated and my grande suffered as a result.
7. the course was unorganized and i was unsure of what we were learning. the grading scale was unfair, as i got points taken off without being given an explanation why.
8. Zach was a great professor. He seemed to be very interested in the course material and did a good job of explaining the concepts in his lectures. As I have never taken a philosophy class before and struggled with some of the readings, he always used examples in class to help clarify the topics. The readings sometimes felt long and confusing, and the clicker quizzes were sometimes difficult even when I had done all of the readings, but overall, the grade distribution was fair and the course load was an appropriate amount. He was available with office hours which was helpful when I needed help since I wasn't used to writing philosophy papers. Zach was very nice, understanding, and did what he could to help us understand the concepts.
9. Great class taught with a lot of dedication by Blaesi. Impressive for a PhD candidate run class!
10. The course material was very interesting.
11. Zach Blaesi is very knowledgeable about both philosophy and art and obviously brings his own intellectual curiosity and passion to the class and its subjects.
12. Pros: - Much of the reading was fairly interesting, and the readings provided relevant perspectives on the material discussed in class. - The accompanying video clips and in-class screenings were helpful in understanding other perspectives on the issues being discussed. Cons: - I could certainly tell the instructor was passionate about the subject matter, but I think he could do a better job of convincing us to also be interested, maybe by making the lectures more engaging. - Most lectures were simply discussing the readings. I think it might be better to have an overall lesson plan which incorporates the readings as a component of the lecture, but not the whole thing.
13. Very good professor, great information taught. A little unorganized sometimes, but overall very opening and welcome to students and allowed for a lot of creativity. Also very accessible, even opened up discussions and held extra lectures and added extra optional readings for anyone who wanted to learn more.
14. Though I will receive a VAPA credit from this course, I am very disappointed that I will not also be receiving a writing flag. For this class, we were ONLY required to write papers. We had in-class iClicker questions most of the time to check for attendance but other than that, we had no multiple choice tests or projects. I enjoyed that the class was writing based though just to reiterate, it should have been a writing flag (also given our final was a 6-8 page paper).

15. I thought the course was very interesting, and I enjoyed listening to the instructor's presentations. He seemed very well-versed and engaged in the topic material.
16. It would be nice to have a discussion section for the course, or have more opportunities to discuss with peers during class. Also, I felt that the grading was a bit harsh for an introductory class that many people are taking to fulfill university requirements.
17. Zach Blaesi's course has been one of my most enjoyable courses at the University of Texas. His lectures are interesting and informative. The workload is somewhat high, but the readings are resourceful. Zach was willing to work with my accommodations and provide assist on all assignments.
18. Zach is highly enthusiastic about teaching the material of this course and provided a lot of opportunities to engage with students in a large lecture setting
19. Professor Blaesi's class was very cool to take. This was my first semester at UT and I appreciate the learning skills that I obtained while in this class. We had writing assignments and short quizzes, so I never felt too stressed out about this class. Blaesi structures his teaching in a way that encourages learning, whereas some teachers may just lay all of the information out on the table and expect students to absorb it all. With this philosophy class, I was able to retain the knowledge I needed to be successful at my own pace, which I am very thankful for.
20. I really found this course interesting! I've always wanted to take philosophy course and I'm really glad this course fulfilled my VAPA credit. I talked about almost everything in this class with some of my friends who had taken philosophy courses before. I may have never spoken up in the class, but I was fascinated and I think it added a lot to my studies as someone who makes art and participates in art themselves. The class felt very relaxed and not intimidating.
21. Professor Blaesi is dedicated and excited about the work he is doing in this class. Throughout the semester, he was always willing to help and give the best insight he possibly could. Excellent class.
22. This class should have been named the Philosophy of Film, not the Philosophy of Art. The class content was extremely biased towards the professor's own film interests. I feel as though we were not often encouraged to ask questions or interact, and when you would ask questions he would never fully answer the questions. I feel like his course was extremely scrambled. I am appreciative that we were given a final essay and reading responses as our assignments, however because these are what we are graded on I feel like I did not need to attend lecture. I did attend lecture, but I feel like I could just read the readings, write the responses/paper, and never have to show up, save the iclicker attendance quizzes.
23. I love philosophy but the topics covered in this course just seemed like such an awful use for philosophical thinking. I enjoy philosophy when it comes to fathoming why people do things, what makes people act certain ways, and the effects of certain things on the mind along with abstract concepts. But trying to figure out why we like horror movies, what makes art good art, and figuring out if film can be art, come on these topics have simple answers because they are not very philosophical questions. All in all I enjoyed the teacher, he was knowledgeable on the subject, I disliked the way papers were graded in this class due to it taking multiple papers before I figured out what my TA wanted and unfortunately I hated the topics presented.
24. Awesome course. Being the first college course I ever took in college, it was a great way to start my semester. Learned a great deal about a subject I never thought I would never be this invested in.
25. Blaesi is a great instructor. With consideration to his first year teaching, he was able to connect with the students on not just a professional level, but an interpersonal level. He was very knowledgeable in the field of Philosophy of Arts and he cared about the students and their engagement. Philosophy is a tough course to tackle and explain to a majority of non-majors, but Blaesi made it possible through his concise presentations and fluid trains of thought. If there were one thing I would tell Blaesi, I would enforce a no phone or technology classroom, and adopt the "cold calling" style of teaching. This would ensure the full attention of the student and allow the students to respond more positively.
26. Zach made the subject matter very interesting and, though philosophy can be a difficult topic to understand, Zach ALWAYS connected subjects within the course to real life scenarios. Heo?=d always show clips of shows or popular movies that exemplified what we talk about in class, making it so much easier to comprehend. Overall, super fair, funny, and engaging teacher.
27. If you keep up with readings and are fairly interested in the course then doing the work is easy although I began to lose motivation later in the semester as I just seemed to focus on the major essay rather than the class.
28. One of my favorite classes and teachers. I could tell he was really interested in the course and loved to get involved with students. I felt like I actually learned useful information in this class.
29. Zach is a great teacher all around. Very knowledgeable about the subject and passionate about the material. His communication was enthusiastic and fun. Would definitely recommend.
30. I really liked this class. Zach is great, but he might have been a bit too easy on us. I wanted more of a challenge in the course. Overall, each section felt a bit disorganized. However, all content pushed us to consider things in a philosophical sense, something that most don't consider on a day to day basis. Having film at the center of the course was very unique, I'm glad Zach chose something he is passionate and well educated about, it gave the course productive energy. When the professor is excited to teach the material, it makes it a lot easier to be excited to learn it.
31. Zach is a stand up guy. Very understanding and knows his stuff
32. I really enjoyed the videos that Zach showed us to further explain every idea he was teaching us. They helped me understand what the slides were saying more time than I can count. Sometimes I wish we had gone over topics that our major papers were about a little earlier, as Zach often introduced them right before papers were due, with little time for me to apply that information to my work. I also think that sometimes the slides simply echoed our readings, and if we had already done the readings there was not much we could benefit from by going to class (except for the quizzes that we had to be present for). Overall, however, I learned a lot and Zach really encouraged us to get involved in the philosophical ideas and figure out our own side
33. Offers an incredibly clear understanding/interpretation of the material and was always very helpful via email whenever I had questions. Always took the time to ensure I had a sufficient understanding of the readings and gave thought provoking essay topics. The class was very organized and he made complex material easy to follow.

34. It seemed almost pointless to pay attention in class because the powerpoint lectures were never tested. I think it would have been better to go over more about the papers that we were writing or perhaps have homework assignments based on what we learned in class. I also found it more interesting when you would show video examples so that was enjoyable. I think it would be really cool if we had watched, say, The Matrix or something and talked about the arguments behind it that particular film did philosophy, because sometimes I hadn't seen the films that the examples were about. Overall, I enjoyed how passionate you were about the subject but I think the students could learn more from the course.

35. I liked how the Professor made random snide remarks and jokes occasionally. The movie clips and suggestions were nice too. I actually liked watching Funny Games for some strange reason.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL317K 42005
 B100 BASIC

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 INTRO TO PHILOS OF THE ARTS

Spring 2018 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Enrollment = 48
 Surveys Returned = 26

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str	Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 COURSE OBJECTIVES DEFINED-EXPLAINED	0	0	0	2	8	16	26	4.5
2 INSTRUCTOR PREPARED	0	0	0	2	8	16	26	4.5
3 COMMUNICATED INFORMATION EFFECTIVELY	0	0	0	2	10	14	26	4.5
4 STUDENTS ENCOURAGED-ACTIVE ROLE	0	1	4	3	18	26	26	4.5
5 INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY	0	0	0	11	15	26	26	4.6
6 COURSE WELL-ORGANIZED	0	0	2	10	14	26	26	4.5
7 STUDENT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION	0	0	0	8	18	26	26	4.7
8 HELPFUL COURSE MATERIALS	0	1	5	9	11	26	26	4.2
9 STUDENT PERCEPTION OF AMOUNT LEARNED	1	0	6	10	9	26	26	4.0
	Vry	Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
10 OVERALL INSTRUCTOR RATING	0	1	3	7	15	26	26	4.4
11 OVERALL COURSE RATING	0	3	6	8	9	26	26	3.9
	Excessive	High	Right	Light	Insuff			
12 STUDENT RATING OF COURSE WORKLOAD	0	3	22	1	0	26	26	
	Less 2.00	2.00-2.49	2.50-2.99	3.00-3.49	3.50-4.00			
13 OVERALL UT GRADE POINT AVERAGE	0	1	4	9	12	26	26	
	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>			
14 PROBABLE COURSE GRADE	15	9	2	0	0	26	26	

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 8

1. Great teacher, TA kinda harsh on grading though.
2. UT Administration: Please give us, or at least future students, a writing flag for this course. Blaesi should not change the structure of the course, but we should be rewarded for our efforts.
3. The course helped me broaden my ideas in philosophy beyond the Ancient philosopher to more modern philosophy and how philosophy can be done about basically any issue. Zachary Blaesi was a great professor that knows a great deal about what he is talking about, and he is an excellent instructor. He tells you exactly what is required of you.
4. I appreciate how open to change the instructor is. I.e. Mid semester surveys
5. The debate over whether cultural appropriation is morally/aesthetically wrong was wack. It's frustrating that people left that classroom thinking cultural appropriation is acceptable in any way, shape, or form. Not Professor Blaesi's fault necessarily, just annoying and without adequate time to fight all of the people whose opinions were different from mine.
6. I think this class would've been much better without one question quizzes. Having such a bad grade even when doing the readings really killed all my interest in the class. I think Prof. Blaesi is very passionate about philosophy and knowledgeable about the subject, which I really admire as this isn't an easy field. But I do wish he had a stronger Art background, as I felt that was what was really lacking in the course. I'm an Art History major, and I think that this lack of knowledge on art (not necessarily on purpose or anything, I know this isn't his section of study) was my least favorite part of class.
7. The instructor was very knowledgeable about the topic and was approachable, while still being professional. The class was entertaining and his lectures were informative. In addition, the instructor was incredibly receptive to suggestions to improve the class. Overall, the instructor showed a lot of effort to better our understanding of the material and our general appreciation of philosophy and created a good environment for us to learn in.
8. I originally took this course for the VAPA credit, but ended up enjoying it a lot more than I thought. The topics we covered, for the most part, were very interesting, and some I was aware of but hadn't known it was an actual concept or theory (e.g.the male gaze). Zach was very knowledgeable on the topics in lecture but also kept us entertained and engaged. Zach was a wonderful instructor that showed his passion for the subject, which allowed us to become interested in it as well. This class helped me gain a new perspective in looking at art, and has already changed how I watch films. Thanks for a great class and semester!

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zachary A PHL304 41940
 B100 BASIC
 SURVEYED WITH: 41945 41950 41955 41960 41965

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 CONTEMPORARY MORAL PROBLEMS

Fall 2018 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Grade-eligible enrollment = 117
 Surveys Returned = 77

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str	Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 COURSE OBJECTIVES DEFINED-EXPLAINED	0	0	0	5	22	50	77	4.6
2 INSTRUCTOR PREPARED	0	0	0	1	23	53	77	4.7
3 COMMUNICATED INFORMATION EFFECTIVELY	0	1	1	9	21	45	76	4.4
4 STUDENTS ENCOURAGED-ACTIVE ROLE	0	2	2	4	27	44	77	4.5
5 INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY	0	0	0	3	22	52	77	4.6
6 COURSE WELL-ORGANIZED	0	1	1	9	23	44	77	4.4
7 STUDENT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION	0	1	1	3	19	54	77	4.6
8 HELPFUL COURSE MATERIALS	0	4	4	12	25	36	77	4.2
9 STUDENT PERCEPTION OF AMOUNT LEARNED	1	3	3	4	25	43	76	4.4
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent			
10 OVERALL INSTRUCTOR RATING	0	1	11	20	45	77	4.4	
11 OVERALL COURSE RATING	2	1	13	20	41	77	4.3	
	Excessive	High	Right	Light	Insuff			
12 STUDENT RATING OF COURSE WORKLOAD	0	21	47	8	1	77		
	Less 2.00	2.00-2.49	2.50-2.99	3.00-3.49	3.50-4.00			
13 OVERALL UT GRADE POINT AVERAGE	1	2	9	21	43	76		
	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>			
14 PROBABLE COURSE GRADE	61	12	2	0	1	76		

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 39

1. I LOVE Professor Blaesi. He was always available to students, and it was so obvious that he really cared about each and every one of us. He is passionate about Philosophy and sparked student's interests as well. He really worked very hard to make this class the best it could be for his students.
2. Great teacher !
3. Makes the class very interesting and fun.
4. I really enjoyed this class and the professor made everyone feel comfortable expressing their own ideas. My TA was excellent.
5. I took this class to get a flag. I thought an intro philosophy class wouldn't be too much of a load. I was wrong. The prof cares but I just don't have the time or the energy to parse through these arguments and thought experiments at the end of the day. I don't know what I expected but I didn't think I would be having to write as much as I am. I am not well equipped for this course and the instructor doesn't really have a schematic for people who aren't considering philosophy as their future. I do physics not philosophy and all the hand waving is really hard for me to digest. That said, Blaesi really cares about his students but I think it would go a long way to do maybe a crash course on philosophical writing rather at the beginning.
6. I definitely had a problem with the TA's in this course. The grading seemed very unfair due to how the class was set up. It is a 100 point system with virtually no room for error. The TA's are not aware of this when grading, therefore they turn a normally difficult class into an unnecessarily difficult class. On top of that, the feedback was virtually useless for assignments and grades did not come out until 4 weeks later. It was a very difficult class to deal with and I'm not sure if the TA was qualified to be a TA or not.
7. Zach is an amazing instructor. I couldn't ask for a better intro to philosophy professor.
8. This is by far my favorite course that I've ever taken at UT, and maybe even in my entire educational career. All of Zach's lectures were interesting and actually made me want to come to class. He was always open to questions and could always come up with a very well put response. He genuinely cared about his students and took their feedback very seriously. For example, students complained that the assigned readings were too long so he took the time to read through the articles he assigned and cut out all the extra "fluff." I have recommended this course to multiple friends and would definitely take another course offered by Zach.
9. Professor Blaesi truly cares about the learning of his students. He immediately makes it clear that if you want a good grade in this class you can if you work for it. I have met with him in office hours or through email, and he makes sure to respond to my questions fast and effectively. The pace at receiving grading has been a bit slow which is unfortunate when the semester is to a close, and you are waiting on multiple assignments to be graded. However, this was due to unplanned events. I still believe receiving our assignments sooner is something that needs to be improved on in this class. I do appreciate how he was my only professor who took the time to go through our mid-semester evaluation and make minor changes to benefit the whole class.
10. Good professor! Classes were always interesting and informative, although some of the classes didn't seem necessary to complete the assignments at hand.

-
11. The professor always went above and beyond in his preparation for this class, even though the assignments weren't very difficult to complete (in my opinion). You can tell that he's really passionate about his field and knows what he's talking about. My TA, Emilie, was also phenomenal. She made things easy to understand and facilitated discussion such that everyone was encouraged to participate. I sincerely enjoyed going to class and discussion. I'm also considering changing majors to philosophy!
-
12. Super passionate about this and very approachable. Great guy.
-
13. Zach was always prepared for lectures. It was obvious how much effort he put into what he was teaching. You could tell that he was very passionate about not only the material but making sure that his students understood the material well.
-
14. This class reminded me of the way I was graded in high school. It was never about interpretation of text, but it was about figuring out what was the "right way" to think about something. We'd read articles and write responses, but if we didn't get certain points, it felt like we were wrong. Morality seems very grey, but this class made it seem like it was black and white.
-
15. This was one of my favorite classes. You can tell that Zach is passionate about what he is teaching and wants students to excel. He does a great job of providing information and optional readings for us! Great class.
-
16. This was an entirely new class for me, so I struggled a great deal attempting to comprehend the material presented to me. Blaesi did an excellent job handling the material. However he would try and pack a lot of material and many concepts into a short period of time, so very rarely did I leave the classroom feeling confident about knowing what was going on. Overall, though, Blaesi was a superb professor. He picked topics that are appropriate for the time. If I were Blaesi, I would cut down on a few topics so as to allow more time to indulge in the larger ones. For example, I would have loved to study Virtue Ethics for much longer, and then I would have been able to really apply it to other topics in the class. Very good job done by Blaesi.
-
17. Zach was a good professor, and me coming into this course knowing absolutely nothing about what i was going to learn was awesome because i learned a whole lot. I was able to think outside the box and refute my own opinions and challenge myself. I really enjoyed this class.
-
18. I really liked the effort he put into communicating with his students via Canvas. He used the platform very well with announcements and links to pdf's and assignments. He extended due dates when needed which helped with my completion of assignments and overall performance in the class.
-
19. This course was a lot of work, however, I think I drastically improved my writing and thinking skills. Wish I got the credit for a writing flag. If you did the work, which was a lot, and completed it to the best of your ability and received help from the TA, it was possible to succeed in this course. Which is the way it should be.
-
20. This class has without a doubt been one of my favorites here at UT. The topics discussed were engaging and related to current events. The lecturer reciprocated very well to concerns of students and it was very apparent throughout the semester that he truly cares for his students and their ability to learn and enjoy learning the material discussed in class. It was very clear what was expected of each student in the class and was overall organized very well. I would like to see more of how the ethical issues discussed relate directly to current events so we have a better understanding of WHY we should care, this would make the class even more engaging in my opinion.
-
21. i feel that this course was a bit unstructured when it came to readings and essays. personally my TA wasn't always as prepared or available as i had hoped and therefore i felt that my essay grades suffered. i felt that some of the paper topics were clear and were difficult to complete. the final essay was confusing to me and i felt that the prompt and my TA was having trouble explaining to me what i was not understanding.
-
22. Professor Blaesi is an excellent professor and the course was one on my favorite courses at UT so far.
-
23. Professor Blaesi is an amazing person. He did a great job presenting both sides to each controversial topic we covered. He was always open to opposing views or concerns. He never seemed to present or express bias or his own opinions, except for on climate change (which I believe he made the right choice in endorsing his beliefs publicly for this topic). He somehow has managed to always be available to his students, he replies to emails super fast, is extremely understanding, cares about our learning and understanding, really wants us to broaden our beliefs and minds, all while being a student himself. He is awesome. This course was definitely challenging in the sense that it required active engagement, but it was my favorite class so far.
-
24. I thoroughly enjoyed this course. I have never had a professor who has put in so much work and thought into their class. Zach was always available to his students and constantly communicated with us about assignments and topics we would discuss in class. He also listened to feedback from his students and tried to accommodate everyone. When students voiced concerns that the workload was heavy, he did his best to slim down assignments while still giving us important material needed for the class. He also provided multiple opportunities outside of class for extra practice if students were confused. Zach is the most fair and hardworking professor I have had during my time at UT and I would love to take a class with him again in the future.
-
25. It was an amazing and fun class. Really enjoyed it!
-
26. This class was a great class for undergraduates, allows for critical thinking, and thinking on your own. The TAs were fantastic at responding to questions, and the professor allowed for class engagement during the course.
-
27. I really enjoyed the class. I'm not sure how helpful the debates were though. I felt like during regular discussion there was a lot more organic conversation about the topic and I got a lot more out of it personally.
-
28. Professor Blaesi is one of the most caring, eloquent, inspiring, and engaging professors. It is evident how much effort and time he puts into this course. He has office hours in person and online, his lectures seem so prepared, and he provides so many resources and optional readings for those who want to read more about a topic we briefed over in class. Maybe it is just in the nature of this course, but he makes us think and talk about issues that are uncomfortable but necessary. He also cares about what we think while questioning our beliefs. Most importantly, he teaches us how to carefully determine our beliefs and how to stay consistent with our beliefs.
-
29. Zach obviously cared greatly about this information - however, the lectures became boring and lacking towards the end of the semester, and often times they only provided us with one side of a belief. That being said, Zach tried everything he could to make it interesting, I don't really know how else it could've been more interesting other than not lecturing everyday, or providing us with some in-class activity or something along those lines.

-
30. For an Undergraduate course, this class was difficult. We were expected to have a basic knowledge of philosophic concepts, despite this being an introductory course. We were told to write in a philosophic style without ever being taught how, and overall I think this class was unnecessarily hard.
-
31. Professor Blaesl did a very good job in teaching this subject and it is clear that he is very passionate about moral philosophy and ethics. I enjoyed the class; however, I did not enjoy the workload and, as this is my first philosophy course ever, I found it to be more difficult than I had expected
-
32. Zach was a great teacher. He had engaging presentations and lectures that related well to the content we were learning in class. There was a good balance of reading and material for the course but it was not overwhelming. I liked that he was engaging us in class discussion and using squarecap to help facilitate discussion.
-
33. A really great course. I felt really comfortable expressing my own opinions and Zach was respectful of everyone. Zach is really knowledgeable about the subject matter and I learned a lot. This class has actually changed some of my viewpoints about the world and will influence how I talk about issues and make decisions for the rest of my life
-
34. The instructor was very well informed about the information of this course. He did a great job explaining everything and responding to student questions. The only thing I did not like/ think wasn't helpful, was the slide show presentations- they had too many words and he went through them too fast in class to retain anything.
-
35. The instructor was well versed with most of the topics provided. This class did open my eyes to a world of philosophical debate. Because of this class, I ended up in so many arguments with friends of mine.
-
36. Professor Zach was incredible. He allowed me to change some of my moral views and I truly appreciate him for that.
-
37. Even though I probably did terrible in this class, that is on me. With the readings and discussion group section, I feel as if I have acquired a new sense of the world and a new perspective on ongoing issues happening almost everywhere. Instead of dismissing ideas, I had to research and find stances for both sides of various moral issues and to then debate them more often than not finding myself on the side that I would normally disagree with. Great class.
-
38. Zach has been one of the most dedicated professors I have had at UT. He was always really prepared for each class. Also, anyone could see his passion on the subject, and his ability to make it understandable for undergraduate students. I have never taken a philosophy course, and have now found myself very interested in the topic. Zach went the extra mile for every class, and his effort was evident. This was a great class.
-
39. Zach was chill.
-

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zach Alan PHL610QA 40855
 S050 Teaching Assistant

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 PROBS OF KNOWLEDGE & VALUATION

Fall 2019 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Grade-eligible enrollment = 18
 Surveys Returned = 8

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE					NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	1	3	4	8	4.4
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	1	2	5	8	4.5
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	0	8	8	5.0
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0	1	1	2	4	8	4.1
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	1	3	4	8	4.4
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	0	0	4	4	8	4.5
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	0	1	2	5	8	4.5
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	0	1	2	5	8	4.5
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	0	1	1	2	3	7	4.0

 For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 3

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1. Zach is a great TA. He takes time to understand students and their questions, he explains and clarifies course material, and he is very open to students' ideas and learning styles. He is also very funny!
 2. Very effective and engaging in teaching the first four weeks of the class.
 3. Zach was very helpful and one thing I really appreciated was he never made me feel dumb or like my questions were dumb, and he always tried to understand my reasoning. He also made extra office hours and a writing workshop, both of which were helpful.
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UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zach Alan PHL610QA 40850
 S050 Teaching Assistant

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 PROBS OF KNOWLEDGE & VALUATION

Fall 2019 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Grade-eligible enrollment = 14
 Surveys Returned = 9

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE					NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	0	3	6	9	4.7
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	0	3	6	9	4.7
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	1	8	9	4.9
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0	1	2	1	5	9	4.1
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	1	0	0	3	5	9	4.2
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	1	0	0	2	6	9	4.3
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	1	0	0	2	6	9	4.3
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	0	2	1	6	9	4.4
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	1	0	2	0	6	9	4.1

 For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 6

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1. Zach was one of the best TAs that I have ever had; he could be a professor. He was extremely helpful for assignments and was always patient with us. He made himself readily available for extra help, and I really appreciate how he went out of the way to help us.
 2. Zach is a great Philosophy TA. He has been patient with us when we do not understand the material. He lets us ask questions and is always available to talk about the material to help us boost our understanding. I can tell he wants us to succeed in this class. His grading is just and his comment are very helpful. I am happy I have a friendship with this guy because he is a really interesting and intelligent man. He stepped in to teach while our professor was sick and he did an excellent job. I received a foundation which I use to this day to understand philosophy texts and write my own philosophy essays from Zach's teaching.
 3. Knew much about philosophy but not much about Plan II philosophy. Would make almost rude remarks after my comments in discussion and seemed to automatically discount any contribution I had to discussion no matter the subject.
 4. I really like how Zach tries to incorporate examples from movies/shows/etc. into philosophical discussions
 5. There was absolutely no practice or preparation for the first assignment which was one if only three and late in the semester, yet it was graded by the TA based on very specific requirements. It was no wonder the whole class has been panicked since the first grades came out.
 6. Fantastic. Dedicated. Knowledgeable. Most invested and responsive TA I have had yet.
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UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zach Alan PHL610QA 40845
 S050 Teaching Assistant

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 PROBS OF KNOWLEDGE & VALUATION

Fall 2019 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Grade-eligible enrollment = 14
 Surveys Returned = 8

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str	Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 TA AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULED OFFICE HOURS	0	0	0	0	3	5	8	4.6
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	5.0
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	5.0
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0	0	1	3	4	8	8	4.4
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	0	2	6	8	8	4.8
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	0	0	2	6	8	8	4.8
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	0	1	1	6	8	8	4.6
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	0	0	2	6	8	8	4.8
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent			
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	0	0	0	4	4	8	8	4.5

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 4

1. Was very understanding when I made mistakes and asked for help!
2. Zach was great! Especially after getting the first paper back, he gave so many helpful comments.
3. Best TA I've ever had.
4. Zach is perhaps the most knowledgeable, professional, and engaging teaching assistant at the University. He did a fantastic job leading discussion hours. My favorite aspect of Plan II is small group seminar environments, thus, at the beginning of the semester, I knew our discussion hour had the potential to fulfill that for me. Without someone like Zach leading, however, the experience would not have been nearly as fulfilling. Each Monday, I was excited fo the brain exercise that was discussing prompts with Zach. He knew the subject extremely well and could go down nerdy, funny, highly thought-provoking rabbit holes with us. I was not familiar with much philosophy before this, but Zach has made me excited to continue philosophizing

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
 Blaesi, Zach Alan PHL315F 40690
 B100 BASIC

COURSE-INSTRUCTOR SURVEY
 PHILOSOPHY AND FILM-WB

Fall 2020 DEPARTMENT COPY
 Grade-eligible enrollment = 26
 Surveys Returned = 11

	NUMBER CHOOSING EACH RESPONSE						NO. REPLIES THIS ITEM	AVG.
	Str	Disag	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Str Agree		
1 COURSE OBJECTIVES DEFINED-EXPLAINED	0	0	0	3	3	5	11	4.2
2 INSTRUCTOR PREPARED	0	0	0	0	4	7	11	4.6
3 COMMUNICATED INFORMATION EFFECTIVELY	0	0	0	2	4	5	11	4.3
4 STUDENTS ENCOURAGED-ACTIVE ROLE	0	1	1	4	1	5	11	3.9
5 INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY	0	0	0	0	3	8	11	4.7
6 COURSE WELL-ORGANIZED	1	0	0	3	3	4	11	3.8
7 STUDENT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION	1	2	2	3	0	5	11	3.5
8 HELPFUL COURSE MATERIALS	1	0	0	2	3	5	11	4.0
9 STUDENT PERCEPTION OF AMOUNT LEARNED	1	1	1	0	4	5	11	4.0
	Vry	Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
10 OVERALL INSTRUCTOR RATING	0	2	2	3	1	5	11	3.8
11 OVERALL COURSE RATING	1	2	2	2	2	4	11	3.5
	Excessive	High	Right	Light	Insuff			
12 STUDENT RATING OF COURSE WORKLOAD	1	3	6	1	0		11	
	Less 2.00	2.00-2.49	2.50-2.99	3.00-3.49	3.50-4.00			
13 OVERALL UT GRADE POINT AVERAGE	0	0	2	4	5		11	
	A	B	C	D	F			
14 PROBABLE COURSE GRADE	7	3	1	0	0		11	

For the computation of averages, values were assigned on a 5-point scale so that the most favorable response was assigned a value of 5 and the least favorable response was assigned a value of 1.

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 5

1. RESPONSE: Overall, I very much enjoyed this course. You're a very intelligent person with extensive knowledge in the fields of film and philosophy, so it was rewarding to hear your lectures. As someone who was taking this class for fun, I would've liked to have more discussion on how philosophy was directly working within films vs discussion on the philosophical ideas we see within them. On top of that, I felt the workload was a bit high, especially for an intro class, while trying to juggle other classes, a job, independent pursuits, and during COVID with little leniency on late or missed work. However, I took this class for enjoyment and certainly got that. I feel your inclusion of optional readings really opened up the world to philosophy for me and your detailed feedback was always very helpful. Thank you! /// SURVEY SUMMARY (Question Number-Scale Position) /// Q1-5, Q2-5, Q3-5, Q4-5, Q5-5, Q6-5, Q7-5, Q8-5, Q9-5, Q10-5, Q11-4, Q12-2, Q13-5, Q14-2,

2. RESPONSE: To be honest, I don't think this is a problem with him or the course as much as it was with me. Every lecture just flew into one ear and out the other and I just couldn't find the courage to participate in class. I've spoken up every now and then only to feel really stupid at the end of it. Although, I honestly don't think philosophy is for me, and I shouldn't be too harsh on the class. However, I learned a lot about myself in this class and I can't deny that the critical thinking refresher I've had has been great. I just don't think this class was for me. Sorry Zach. /// SURVEY SUMMARY (Question Number-Scale Position) /// Q1-3, Q2-4, Q3-4, Q4-3, Q5-5, Q6-3, Q7-1, Q8-3, Q9-4, Q10-3, Q11-2, Q12-3, Q13-3, Q14-2,

3. RESPONSE: The professor for this course is the most critical grader I have encountered, and for that I am grateful. The instructor made the course objectives and expectations very clear from the beginning while relaying to us the difficulties that come with philosophy courses and work. Through the instructor's critiques of my assignment, the instructor allowed for resubmission of work and gave insight into where the assignment went right and where it went wrong. The instructor was the most instructive grader I have had in my academic career and was incredibly patient when explaining what is expected from philosophical writing, both style and structure. /// SURVEY SUMMARY (Question Number-Scale Position) /// Q1-5, Q2-5, Q3-5, Q4-5, Q5-5, Q6-5, Q7-5, Q8-5, Q9-5, Q10-5, Q11-5, Q12-3, Q13-5, Q14-1,

4. RESPONSE: I really enjoyed having Zach as my professor this semester! I especially appreciated his individualized, detailed feedback on our writing assignments, as they helped me improve my writing skills and streamline my corrections. He was also always available during his office hours, so I would often go and speak with him about my specific assignment and receive any clarification, if needed. Overall, an amazing professor! /// SURVEY SUMMARY (Question Number-Scale Position) /// Q1-5, Q2-5, Q3-5, Q4-5, Q5-5, Q6-4, Q7-5, Q8-5, Q9-5, Q10-5, Q11-5, Q12-3, Q13-5, Q14-1,

5. RESPONSE: For being the first online class this professor taught, it went very well. The class was engaging and interesting. /// SURVEY SUMMARY (Question Number-Scale Position) /// Q1-5, Q2-5, Q3-5, Q4-5, Q5-5, Q6-5, Q7-5, Q8-5, Q9-5, Q10-5, Q11-5, Q12-3, Q13-4, Q14-1,