

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  
 Enrollment = 18  
 Surveys Returned = 12

	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	4	6	11	4.5
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	2	6	4	12	4.2
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	0	6	6	12	4.5
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	0	0	3	3	6	12	4.3
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	1	1	10	12	4.8
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	0	1	2	9	12	4.7
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	0	1	2	9	12	4.7
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	1	1	3	7	12	4.3
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	0	0	3	6	3	12	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.

Scanned: 01/06/2016  
 Printed: 11/17/2015

Printed: 02/03/2017

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.

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Fall 2015 DEPARTMENT COPY  
 Enrollment = 18  
 Surveys Returned = 12

	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: 02/03/2017

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.

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Fall 2015 DEPARTMENT COPY  
 Enrollment = 20  
 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	2	6	9	17	4.4
2 TA KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SUBJECT MATERIAL	0	0	3	6	8	17	4.3
3 TA INTERESTED IN SUBJECT MATTER	0	0	1	5	11	17	4.6
4 TA EXPLAINED MATERIAL CLEARLY	1	1	2	5	8	17	4.1
5 TA KIND AND RESPECTFUL	0	0	0	4	13	17	4.8
6 TA PATIENT WITH QUESTIONS	0	0	1	5	11	17	4.6
7 TA RECEPTIVE TO QUESTIONS	0	0	1	5	11	17	4.6
8 TA GAVE HELPFUL FEEDBACK ON ASSIGNMENTS	0	1	2	7	7	17	4.2
	Vry Unsat	Unsat	Satisfact	Very Good	Excellent		
9 TEACHING ASSISTANT RATING	0	0	5	6	6	17	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: 01/06/2016

Printed: 02/03/2017

COMMENTS:

Total Number of Comments: 9  
 Transcribed from paper forms.

1. The lectures are meandering and attendance is unnesesary 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 Fatema 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.