

## Patrick Frierson

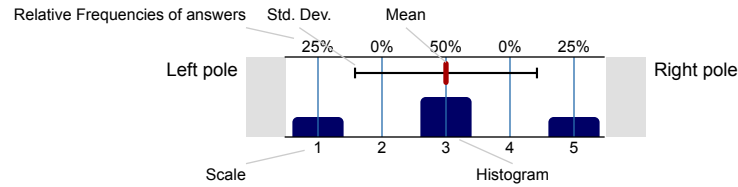
Modern European Philosophy (PHIL-202-A-22fall: Modern European Philosophy (PHIL-202-A-22fall))  
No. of responses = 16



## Survey Results

## Legend

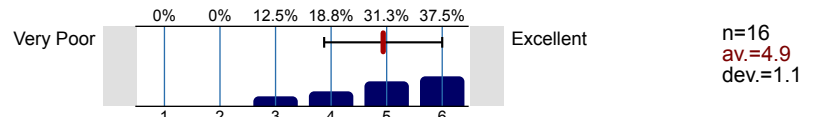
Question text



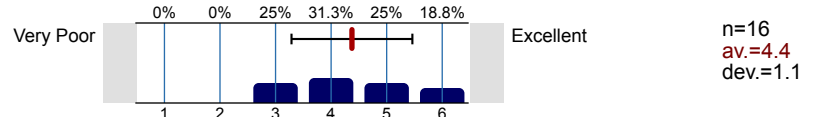
n=No. of responses  
av.=Mean  
dev.=Std. Dev.  
ab.=Abstention

## 1. About the Course:

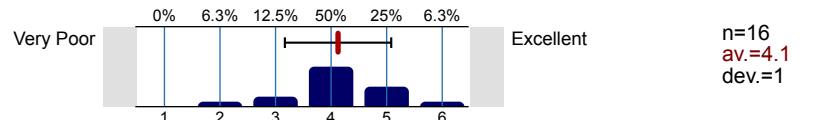
1.1) This course as a whole was:



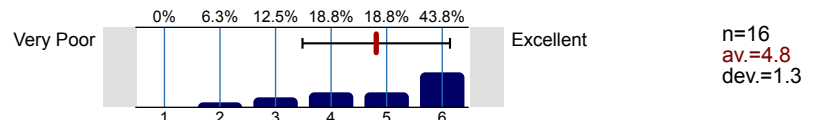
1.2) The course organization was:



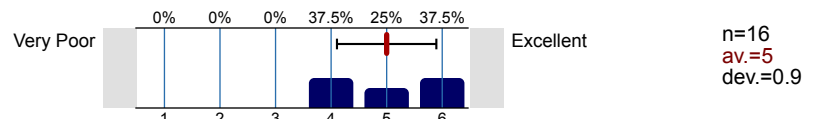
1.3) The clarification of student responsibilities in this course was:



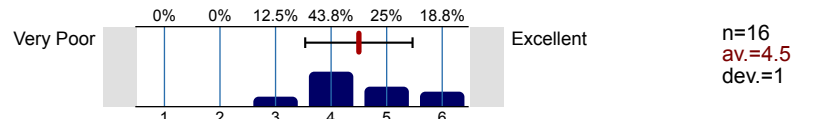
1.4) The value of the course in increasing your analytical or interpretive skills:



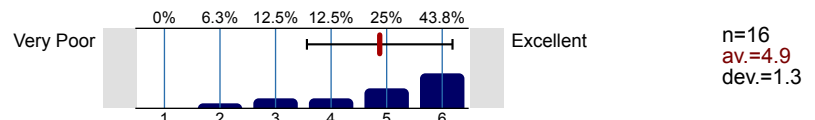
1.5) The extent to which this course stimulated your intellectual curiosity was:



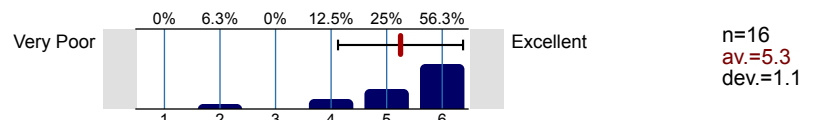
1.6) The value of the assigned work was:



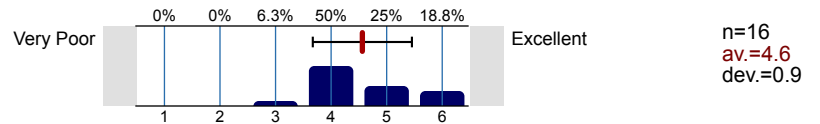
1.7) The instructor's ability to present the subject matter clearly was:



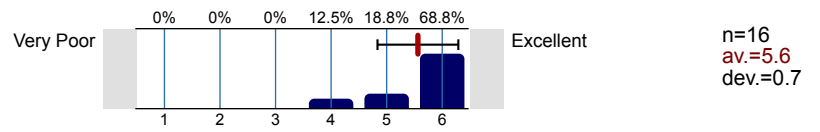
1.8) The instructor's answers to student's questions were:



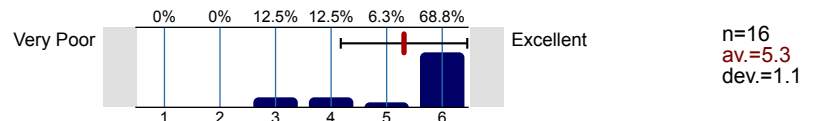
1.9) The evaluation methods (tests, papers, projects, performances, etc) were:



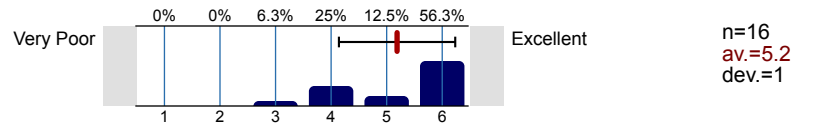
1.10) The value of the instructor's comments on tests, papers, projects, performances, etc were:



1.11) The availability of extra help when needed was:



1.12) The general, overall teaching ability of the instructor in the course was:



# Comments Report

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## 1. About the Course:

1.13) What aspects of the content of this course were especially good?

- Good class participation
- I really enjoyed the different topics we covered over the course of the semester. I thought the way it was broken up between sections was easy to follow and the content was very interesting
- I really liked the vast amount of content we covered. I feel like I learned a lot about philosophy.
- Learning about many philosophers in a brief semester, and reading Descartes more in depth.
- Learning about philosophy
- The breadth of the syllabus was wonderful; and the texts we read were, almost always, quite engaging. I've really grown to love this period of philosophy. Closer readings of Leibniz, Smith, and Kant were my favorite parts of the course.
- The conversation based days were very helpful.
- The professor's feedback in class and breakdown of the book and readings that we did were definitely the best part of the class.
- The student led approach to what themes we covered was fun and engaging. I particularly enjoyed the discussion on love and virtue and vice.
- The variety of philosophers and the depth with which we explored the texts.
- breath but not depth
- overall learning about new philosophers through our textbook was interesting

1.14) What aspects of the teaching of this course were especially good?

- He knew a lot
- I really enjoyed learning from my classmates.
- I think Professor Frierson is a wonderful teacher, he challenged me intellectually in ways I have never been challenged in other classes and I will take a lot of the skills he taught me about analytical writing with me to future courses.
- Prof. Frierson is a wonderful teacher: clear, engaging, an intense reader. He was especially lovely in tutorial mode, one-on-one, where he brought out the best in me and pushed me as a writer and thinker.
- Student engagement, catering to student interests, working outside the canon
- Students could structure the class, had a lot of freedom, many group discussions
- The Professor was always super excited and would be able to explain anything to anyone in a super engaging way.
- The help professor was able to give was super important. He would go from table to table and help each person with the breakdown of the text even if we all interpreted it a completely different way.
- The teachers ability to clearly explain ideas and arguments of particular philosophers or philosophies was always helpful. Also, the teachers ability to be firm with students when it came to things like grammatical errors in their writing, or arguments or ideas that weren't quite on the path the professor believed to be the correct path, while also being supportive of the general message or sentiment that was trying to be made, contributed to a healthy environment of honest critiques and better understandings.
- Vast topics in philosophy
- feedback on assignments
- patience and humor in the classroom

1.15) What changes could be made to improve the teaching or content of this course?

- Actual curriculum would be helpful, which I realize was the point of the course but it made it hard to feel confident in the material that was

being taught/ I was teaching.

- Giving students a better idea of what kind of material each textbook theme would really be covering, or maybe just more time to decide, especially giving students time to decide when they are away from their other classmates. I felt like having to make decisions while in the room with my other classmates likely led me to make decisions that might've been biased by social connections/interactions, so that I might not have actually been choosing the topic that I felt most intrigued by, but also the topic that I noticed other people that I, at the time, thought would be better to work with were choosing. There's no saying whether another group would've been better, but I think I could've benefitted from time away from my classmates to think about what I was truly interested in, such a system may also involve a more random assignment into groups, such that people aren't consciously choosing the people they want to work with, rather the material they are interested in.
- Having the professor give an overview at the beginning of the semester of all the philosophers we may read and how they relate to one another. Introduction to basics of philosophy.
- I do think the organization of the course led to a few situations in which the "blind were leading the blind," so to speak. However, whenever Prof. Frierson stepped in, he brought us back on track. I think the course was generally much better when he taught directly, as opposed to when the students were given the responsibility of teaching.
- I would put the assigned papers on canvas so each student could see them more clearly. They are on the link that is on canvas but so is everything else and there are times when students just want to know what to get done.
- I'm not sure, he changes it every year so you could ask him.
- None
- The grading scale is pretty hard to understand and breakdown into a normal grading period. However, we could ask for clarification and he would help break it down into a letter grade. Also, the fact that we email all of the work to him makes it super difficult to calculate the grade in the class since it would not be updated into Canvas. So, we go the whole year not knowing what our grade in the class is.
- There are some wrinkles that need to be ironed out in having students teach. There also was a pretty high workload with overlapping assignments that were difficult to balance with other classes and extracurriculars.
- While I loved the subject matter and content, I was not at all a fan of the way students were "teaching" very long sections of class time. I would have gotten much more out of Professor Frierson teaching me the material, rather than my peers. While there were aspects of the group projects that were good and enjoyable, it seemed like a lot of work for everyone involved and I do believe I have learned less than I would have otherwise learned. There are aspects of working with this kind of material that are incredibly challenging to learn and understand, and having my peers attempt to make me understand the readings was not very beneficial as oftentimes, they were also struggling with it.
- more lecture and less student driven material
- perhaps give more clarity on things being assigned listen on the syllabus

#### <sup>1.16)</sup> Additional Comments

- I didn't love teaching a lesson. I didn't know a lot about philosophy or reading philosophy which made teaching philosophy really intimidating and uncomfortable.
- I personally loved the class, it made me think a lot
- Thank you! This was my favourite class this semester, I learned so much and because it was my first exposure to Modern Euro Phil, I view that time period as having lots of women who made huge contributions.
- thanks for a great semester!