

Teaching Evaluations

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Course:	Overall, I would rate this course as:*	Overall, I would rate this instructor as:*
Introduction to International Relations	4.8	4.9
Global Green Politics	4.8	4.9
Intro To Environmental Policy - Honors	5.0	5.0
Introduction to Environmental Policy - Distance Learning	4.5	4.6
Introduction to Environmental Policy	4.8	4.9
Introduction to Public Policy	4.6	4.7
Communicating Technical Information	4.8	4.9
Fundamentals of Public Speaking	4.7	4.9
Global Politics: Human Rights and Justice**	4.9	4.9
	<p>*Total average for course taught over all semesters out of possible maximum of 5.0. **This course was taught for Johns Hopkins' Center for Talented Youth</p>	

Select Student Comments:

- The project was the best thing I've done at Purdue so far and I wish more classes incorporated outside involvement. I honestly learned a lot and valued it as a truly well taught class.
- She did a wonderful job with the course and I learned a lot more than any class...Everything was laid out plainly and tied into everything else, allowing the student to make connections and further enforce complete understanding of the topics.
- She allows discussions in class so we can develop ideas for ourselves rather than regurgitating anything she tells us. She tries to show us all sides of a situation so we can take an objective view at the problem to find the best solution.
- One of the best instructors I've ever had. She made material that was previously unappealing and turned it into something that is interesting and understandable.

- I really liked how I was engaged during class and given opportunities to apply material to relevant topics in today's world.
- Laura's lectures were well executed...reinforcing topics within the reading and adding insight which only comes from having experience in the field; this later point makes the difference between a good class and a great class.
- One class and I could tell that I had been placed in the right one. It's obvious that she wants her students to learn, and is willing to change up teaching methods if it better suits the class (such as opening discussion for a day).
- The instructor was good at explaining the materials related to the subject clearly and I liked the instructor's structure of the course of having free, open discussion and class activities in order to help us understand the material better and apply it to some examples outside of class.
- Laura used many different class formats, from lecture, to group work in class, to movies and guest speakers. I enjoyed the different approaches. She was interested in the material and really wanted us to understand and enjoy her class.
- The class activities and class interaction were great! The instructor put a good twist on learning the material and helped motivate students to learn.
- She's very good at bringing the students closer together as a whole. She builds connections and friendships with people and encourages everyone to "spread their wings" a little.
- She was very unbiased and good at playing devil's advocate, and breaking down our preconceived biases to build ourselves up again.
- Instead of just feeding us information she allowed us to think and lectures were always open for discussion.
- Laura always explained things differently if I didn't understand something. She made class interesting and challenging with debates that have no correct answer and films that intrigued me to want to learn more.
- I felt more "sense of community" in her class than I did on my hall floor!

Select Faculty Mentor and Academic Dean Classroom Observations:

- One of your greatest strengths is your questioning technique. You are able to distill student comments and generate further questions to drive the discussion forward and/or redirect the discussion.
- There were a few students who seemed a bit reticent to speak though you actively drew them into the conversation several times through the method of going around the room and also by drawing attention to their occasional volunteering to speak. I really like that you validate student answers and provide supportive feedback when appropriate.
- I noted one of the students expressed gratitude for what she's been exposed to and learning in the last week and I'm sure that sentiment would be shared by many.
- Laura received some very good questions from her students who were remarkably alive and curious. She handled them deftly and knew her material well.
- She has excellent ways of keeping students on their toes.
- Laura is doing an excellent job in the classroom. I told her we give all the tough courses to our grad students. She demonstrated why.