

Summary of Evaluations for POL 305: Judicial Behavior, Spring 2018

Instructor: Miles T. Armaly

Student Comments

Below are *all* of the student comments available. 59 students were enrolled in this section. 45 completed evaluations. As can be seen, few students completed open ended responses.

1. What are some positive characteristics or strengths of the course and/or instructor?
 - Awesome teacher
 - Great enthusiasm towards the topic. answered all your questions in a timely manner
 - I absolutely loved this class and the teacher. I learned more than in any other class
 - Interesting topic
 - Lectures
 - Miles is a great professor and always makes the material fun and engaging.
 - He is really good at lecturing, and keeps the class engaged.
 - His lectures are always very interesting. He keeps you engaged with his vibrant personality.
 - Very funny, very involved in the class.
 - straight forward grading
 - The topics were interesting
2. What are some negative characteristics or weaknesses of the course and/or instructor?
 - Class lecture was a little dragged out and long
 - Kind of complicated subject
 - None
 - if you dont go to class youll be confused
 - none
 - Grades papers very hard.
 - I question his measure of "participation."
 - None - he is tough on grading, but a good teacher.
 - none
 - He was a hard grader and didn't really give fair grades on the papers
3. What specific changes would you like to see made in the course?
 - None
 - Nothing

- none
- Be more specific about what you mean by "participation."
- Better explanation of requirements for papers.
- None
- none
- Longer papers, the papers had to be too short, but were on extremely dense topics

4. What do you want other students to know about your experience in this class?

- Go to class
- Great class!! Strongly recommend!
- Great teacher, cool guy.
- Interesting course involving political science
- Professor Armaly is one of the best professors in the political science department. This course was different than most I have taken because it was very engaging and discussion based. The information covered in this class helped me in my other classes because Professor Armaly helps you understand the material. Make sure you participate and start on the research papers early because he can tell when you started it the night before and will not be afraid to tell you that it is terrible.
- Show up to class and put effort into the papers!
- Be amazing at writing
- Great class! Armaly's lectures are always interesting and interactive, so I highly encourage you to attend them if you enroll in one of his courses.
- I thought the instructor was really good. Judicial behavior is not so much my cup of tea so I probably didn't enjoy it as much as the other students did, as many of them want to go to law school. I was just in there to get credit for my minor. If you want to go to law school, this class is for you.
- all papers no tests
- It was hard

Responses to Survey Items with Comparison Groups

Figure 1 displays student responses to 8 closed-ended survey items for my class, as well as the average response for instructors in the College of Liberal Arts.¹ Each item appears along the y-axis. Plotting symbols display the percentage of students responding

¹One common closed-ended question – the appropriateness of exams for the course – is omitted here, as no exams were given in the course.

affirmatively to the corresponding prompt. Red triangles display scores for my class and black circles for the average college instructor.

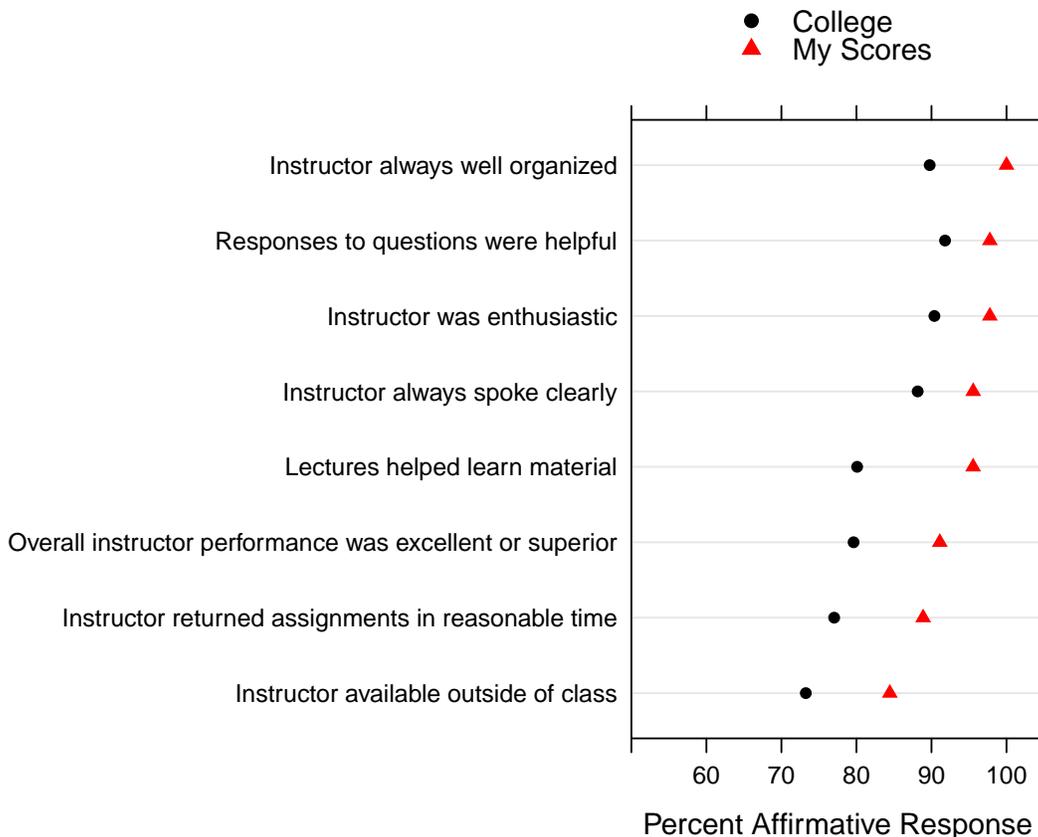


Figure 1: Percentage of students responding affirmatively to evaluation items, with comparisons to average department and college values.

As can be seen, I outperform both the average college instructor in all categories. Perhaps most notably, 91.11% of students classified my performance as “superior” or “excellent,” the most positive choices. This exceeds the average college instructor by around 12%.