

Summary of Evaluations for POL 307/AAS 308:  
Constitutional Law II: Civil Liberties & Civil Rights,  
Spring 2018

Instructor: Miles T. Armaly

## Student Comments

Below are *all* of the student comments available. A total of 60 students were enrolled across the two, cross-listed sections. 49 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?
  - Dr. Armaly is an amazing teacher who really cares about the subject that he teaches. He ensures that everyone can understand the material and allows people to visit him whenever we need help and has even extended his office hours so that he could help people. Also, he is funny and makes the class fun and interesting.
  - He's enthusiastic, funny, and a brilliant teacher.
  - Instructor always kept class interesting; very energetic and knowledgeable about the course.
  - Mr. ARMALY was very personable. He makes ,what could be a very monotonous subject, interesting and actually fun to learn about. I enjoyed coming to class. He is fair, understanding and funny. The class had great discussions and the material was easier to grasp.
  - Professor was very enthusiastic about the subject. It was taught with a clear progression through the incorporation of civil liberties and rights.
  - The course was very insightful and interesting
  - He is enthusiastic about the course and loves students who ask questions and engage.
  - Good class
  - He is a great instructor! He is able to teach all the materials that are needed while also having an atmosphere of entertainment and easier learning!
  - Nothing
  - awesome, funny.
  - Good material, lots of enthusiasm, not too many assignments
  - Very funny and interesting to listen to
  - Very humorous in lecture. Made the content very memorable.
2. What are some negative characteristics or weaknesses of the course and/or instructor?
  - I can find nothing negative about the class or the instructor.
  - Lecture format could get repetitive at times.
  - Literally nothing wrong with this teacher. Take him.
  - N/a

- NO negatives!
- None
- Sometimes it is hard to get a word in and build a relationship with him because he already has former students that he knew and they interject more frequently.
- Bad class
- Nothing
- none
- A lot of information on the exams- studying is not something that can be done with less than a week's notice. Also, we ran behind on schedule a lot.
- Requires a lot of memorization with less focus on conceptual understanding
- Sense of humor is hilarious, but may be a bit too much for certain people

3. What specific changes would you like to see made in the course?

- I have no suggestions
- I would not not change this class.
- Less quizzes, add another assignment such as a research paper.
- N/a
- No changes.
- None
- More opportunities to be given grades.
- Less slides
- Nothing
- Slow down a little when going over important information
- none
- More time for class discussion would help
- N/A
- None

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

- Deeper look into rights and liberties that affect us everyday and the situations surrounding them.
- He is one of the best teachers I've ever had! If you have the chance, TAKE HIM. He's funny, enthusiastic, and he knows his stuff!
- I enjoyed this class
- I would tell them that if they have a chance to take a class with Dr. Armaly, do it.

- If you just listen in class and complete the papers, you will be prepared for the exams. Its an easy A if you show up to class.
- Interesting
- Go to class. In class quizzes are given. Although he may not outright say it, he pays attention to your attendance and will help or dock you for it.
- Persuasive essay is not same as legal brief
- Extremely interesting class. Though there is no attendance policy, make sure that you go, plus he makes the class so fun!
- I really enjoyed this class. As long as you pay attention and participate, you'll be fine.
- If you have a chance to take this Professor do it. He was my favorite professor from undergrad.
- Nothin
- This is the best teacher for this course! Definitely should take!
- little hard grader on papers, but great professor.
- Fun class, he made a 9:00am actually enjoyable
- I would recommend this class to friends
- The professor is hilarious and very nice. Has a really cute hedgehog. The content isnt hard. Dont buy the book, you dont need it.

## Responses to Survey Items with Comparison Groups

Figure 1 displays student responses to 9 closed-ended survey items for my class, as well as the average response for instructors in the College of Liberal Arts. Each item appears along the y-axis. Plotting symbols display the percentage of students responding affirmatively to the corresponding prompt. Red triangles display scores for my class and black circles for the average college instructor. Because this class was cross-listed in Political Science and African-American Studies, and those evaluations were separated by course listing, I present a weighted average. 49 students evaluated my performance for this course; 19 were in POL, and the remaining 30 in AAS. The POL evaluations are weighted at 0.39 (19/49) and AAS at 0.61.



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

As can be seen, I outperform the average college instructor in all categories. Perhaps most notably, 93.9% of students classified my performance as “superior” or “excellent,” the most positive choices. This exceeds the average college instructor by around 14%.