

Instructor course sections

SIRS SUMMARY REPORT FOR: IAH 231A 001 (TERM: FS17)

- Instructor: CHRISTIAN LOTZ
- Number of students enrolled: 46
- Number of replies: 35
- Date generated: 12/27/2017 8:54:29 AM

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CUSTOM QUESTIONS	1	2	3	4	5
1 The instructor demonstrated a desire for students to learn, for example through class discussion, the design of the course, assignments, interaction with studen	65.7%	34.2%	0%	0%	0%
2 Students were encouraged to actively engage with course material, through the design of the course, assignments, class discussions, group activities, or other w	65.7%	31.4%	2.85%	0%	0%
3 The instructor showed tolerance and respect for students in, for example, face-to-face interactions, online discussions, or email.	50%	44.1%	5.88%	0%	0%
4 Students had the opportunity to communicate with the instructor online, such as on D2L, by email, or through other online methods.	48.5%	51.4%	0%	0%	0%
5 Expectations for assignments were clearly communicated.	45.7%	48.5%	5.71%	0%	0%
6 The instructor graded assignments in a way that was consistent with course objectives and without bias.	42.8%	54.2%	2.85%	0%	0%
7 Instructor feedback on my work helped me to identify or understand ways that I could improve.	34.2%	57.1%	5.71%	0%	2.85%
8 Students had the opportunity to speak with the instructor in office hours.	37.1%	54.2%	0%	0%	8.57%
10 The design of the course and assignments helped me to connect different concepts and themes throughout the course.	42.8%	54.2%	2.85%	0%	0%

CUSTOM QUESTIONS	1	2	3	4	5
11 Grading criteria or a grading policy were communicated to students in the syllabus or elsewhere.	51.4%	45.7%	2.85%	0%	0%
12 The instructor covered material related to the course objectives.	51.4%	48.5%	0%	0%	0%
13 The course was well organized.	45.7%	54.2%	0%	0%	0%
15 This course was intellectually challenging.	37.1%	54.2%	8.57%	0%	0%
16 I learned a great deal in this course.	42.8%	45.7%	8.57%	0%	2.85%
17 This course has increased my interest in the arts and humanities.	39.3%	39.3%	18.1%	3.03%	0%
18 Approximately how many times were you absent from class this semester?	51.4%	42.8%	5.71%	0%	
19 How often did you meet with your instructor outside of class to discuss matters related to this course?	2.85%	8.57%	0%	2.85%	85.7%
20 Learning about the arts and humanities enhances awareness and understanding of different cultures.	34.2%	60%	0%	2.85%	2.85%
21 Learning about the arts and humanities enhances awareness and understanding of diverse perspectives, experiences, and opinions.	42.8%	54.2%	2.85%	0%	0%
22 Learning about the arts and humanities enhances self-awareness and the ability to think critically about one's own arguments, perspectives, or biases.	52.9%	47.0%	0%	0%	0%
23 Learning about the arts and humanities helps students to be more effective citizens of the world.	37.1%	57.1%	5.71%	0%	0%
25 The course asked or expected students to take responsibility for their own learning.	50%	47.0%	2.94%	0%	0%
26 Course assignments asked me to demonstrate what I learned in the course.	42.8%	54.2%	2.85%	0%	0%
27 How often were you asked to engage in class discussions or writing assignments that included diverse perspectives (different races, religions, genders, politica	48.5%	34.2%	14.2%	2.85%	
28 How often were you asked to work on an assignment or activity that required integrating ideas or information from various sources?	31.4%	60%	5.71%	2.85%	

CUSTOM QUESTIONS	1	2	3	4	5
29 How often were you asked to try to better understand someone else's views by imagining how an issue looked from another perspective?	37.1%	42.8%	20%	0%	
30 How often were you asked to learn something or complete an activity/assignment that changed the way you understand an issue or concept?	37.1%	48.5%	14.2%	0%	
31 This course provided opportunities for students to learn from one another.	47.0%	50%	2.94%	0%	0%
32 The course, through assignments or other methods, encouraged students to develop their communication skills.	42.8%	51.4%	5.71%	0%	0%
33 The course, through assignments, readings, interaction with classmates, or other methods, helped students to be more open-minded about those with different pers	50%	47.0%	0%	0%	2.94%
35 How would you rate this course overall?	57.1%	34.2%	5.71%	2.85%	
36 How would you rate this instructor's performance overall?	74.2%	20%	5.71%	0%	
37 Each year, IAH recognizes teaching excellence in IAH courses with teaching awards for faculty and graduate teaching assistants. How would you rate this instruct	64.7%	26.4%	8.82%	0%	
39 What is your approximate GPA overall?	85.2%	14.7%	0%	0%	
40 What is your approximate grade in this course?	91.4%	8.57%	0%	0%	
41 What is your year in college?	2.85%	31.4%	51.4%	11.4%	2.85%
42 Which of the following BEST describes your major's category?	11.4%	34.2%	17.1%	37.1%	0%
43 What is your gender?	64.7%	35.2%	0%	0%	
44 What is your age?	0%	20.5%	73.5%	5.88%	0%

RESPONDERS' COMMENTS FOR IAH 231A 001 (FS17)

Question 9: What did your instructor do well in helping you to learn? For example, you might consider any course design; the instructor's willingness to help in office hours or over email; particular assignments, activities, or course materials such as readings; lectures, etc.

- Asked questions over the readings the next day, making sure we understood.
- Class discussion and the clarifying of the material covered in the readings was very helpful in my learning.
- Comments on assignments
- Dr. Lotz's discussions helped a lot of us to learn. They were engaging and full of life not the traditional teaching style. The notes were excellent.
- Ended up being one of my favorite classes all semester, usually a science class lover but Lotz made class interesting and valuable by having students getting something other than a grade out of this class. Very good professor
- Established a great connection with the students.
- he encouraged us to think deeper and engage
- He examined the readings with us, instead of leaving us to ourselves when trying to piece together hard concepts.
- He helped me learn to think deeply and create questions and helped me evaluate my life
- He picked on us to answer questions even if we weren't sure we were right and always made me feel comfortable even if I was wrong.
- He was always trying to engage everyone in the material... he was very passionate about the subject
- he was fun and passionate about the subject matter, often cracking jokes which helped make him seem relatable. the assignments were incredibly difficult. the topics we went over really made me think about life and i could tell Lotz's main goal was to make us think about the movies we watched, especially "the bridge" and "the lobster"
- He was very hands on and easily accessible. Made it easy to learn and correct your mistakes.
- He would go over questions the students had from the previous lecture before starting each day. He went back and covered the material. The course was designed well with group work and homework. The readings were reasonable and easy to follow.
- I enjoyed the response sheets. Showed what other students were thinking and allowed you to ask any questions.
- I liked the material that he chose to discuss, it was a good challenge.
- It was clear that the instructor was passionate about what we were learning which made it more interesting.
- movies
- My teacher had visual presentation that helped support his verbal lecture.
- Overall course design, ability to read critically
- Professor Lotz was a great professor. He was very passionate about both the material and our understanding of it. The reason was because he was so caring about our willingness to learn and wanted us to understand what he was teaching. Best IAH class I've had. really wonderful professor. He also chose very interesting reading materials. But even though it was very difficult to understand, he would always discuss in depth what we were learning and provide us with as much info about it as he could!
- Professor never made someone feel bad about the answer they chose to share. They could be completely wrong and he would still praise them; he made sure to analyze what they said and explain how it didn't quite relate and i really appreciate that as a student
- The class discussions stimulated a lot of questions from students and Dr. Lotz was able to explain them all and then also explain the lecture.
- The instructor showed films in the classroom, which I think is an effective way of teaching and good way to keep students interested in classes. Using film as a way to teach is good.
- The overall course design.
- This professor was very passionate about philosophy which made the class really fun. He made sure to mix up the types of things (fresh and gave everyone an opportunity to learn the way that they like to. He also strongly encouraged participation (most of the class) and had students worked together a lot which fostered engagement. I also love how he joked around with us and offer up responses - no one had "wrong" feedback, really.
- Whatever you put into this class is what you will get out. If you do nothing you would have learned nothing.
- willingness to explain material
- yea

Question 14: What would you suggest to enhance student learning in this course? These suggestions might be assignments for which clearer guidelines would have helped, but they could also be additional assignment materials, etc., that you think would be valuable for the objectives of the course.

- A group project
- clearer material
- easier explanations and content. sometimes hard to understand
- I dont think anything has to be changed. The only thing i didnt like about this class was the location. very far and in the bus uncomfortable.
- I liked the course
- I really liked everything about the way that this course was set up. I liked the texts, the online readings, the documentaries. homeworks were spaced out, and I actually liked the random assignments, which encouraged me to go to class even when
- I think group work really helps students learn and going over material again always helps.
- I think putting the grades online would have helped motivate me because I would know where I stand in the class.
- I think the layout worked. The topics may have been too heavy for my liking.
- I think, as with most IAH courses, too much reading material was demanded of students to cover. While they were all very interesting, understanding of the topics this course covered perhaps there would be a way to condense the readings.
- I would not suggest anything, I think it is very well structured.
- I would suggest for this course to have more structure. Majority of the class was just discussion and I'm not a discussion person
- less talking and we listen lecture
- Maybe providing some sort of chart to help compare the ideas of the different figures we discuss in class
- More group activities
- More group assignments, more PowerPoint slides to illustrate outline of chapters
- n/a
- NA
- No changes
- not as many powerpoint lectures, they're boring and don't effectively help students learn the material
- Nothing! Keep up the fantastic work
- Post Homework and assignments online (even after it was due), provide a break in the middle of class, and more interactive walls. The only rule he had was not to use electronics because then people would just slack off, which is 100% needed. I know I'm not taken seriously then I would be on my phone at least a tiny bit.
- Reading the course syllabus.
- sometimes we diverged from the topic, which is easy to do, understandably. but i wish we would've discussed more of the details of each chapter, as there was a good amount of assigned reading that i did, yet we didn't go over much of it specifically, but we
- The professor does a good job and teaches rather enthusiastically!
- This course was designed very well.
- yea

Question 24: What was one of the most interesting or significant things you learned about or did for this class interesting or significant to you?

- Class discussion was helpful.
- Family system.
- How obsessed societies are with having things, instead of truly enjoying life.
- How people struggle with mental illness
- I enjoyed talking about physician assisted suicide because it's something that's not talked about often, but I feel important to
- I invested a lot of time in the writing. I did the readings to make sure I understood the topic but the writing is what developed the classroom discussion.
- I liked learning about the being and having modes because it makes you think about how people just go through life in the world themselves intellectually or living passionately.
- I liked the professors ability to draw in documentaries and films to our discussion and unit topics
- I really liked thinking about being and nothingness and just the reality of that and the anxiety Tillich and Sartre talked about ideas about being in a social world, like Fromm's ideas. We feel like we want to be a part of something and try to subscribe to it but these are all just socially constructed. I was already interested in Arts and Humanities before this, as an Education major I've been able to take a philosophy course, as it didn't count for anything for my major. I appreciate this opportunity to study something

learn about! After taking this course, I try to question myself... why do I do what I do? Do I actually want to do this? Why is it better to have a better, more intentional and authentic life because of this class. Thank you! :)

- If I had to pick one thing the material on suicide and Camus's philosophy on the "meaning" of life were significant to me as quite a bit in life.
- Learning about the having vs being mode of living
- Learning what to value in life.
- n/a
- suicide, it was an uncomfortable subject but it really opens your eyes to different problems in the world
- That suicide needs to be addressed.
- The different views of life.
- The art of loving was a great book and i really learned a lot from it. It was significant because it was so relatable and made meanings.
- The aspects of suicide really intrigued me because suicide isn't openly talked about and it should be.
- The difference between the Being mode and the Having mode and what represents these things and the effects they have.
- The entire class was interesting and significant. Studying in this class and the arts and humanities is a great thing for all people. It provides awareness and provides an intellectual, nice environment to learn about ourselves as individuals, how our peers may think and understand our own views on life that we would otherwise may not have involved ourselves in thinking deeply about.
- The Humanistic teaching of Marx To Have or To Be, Erich Fromm
- the love book
- The most interesting thing i have learned is the "having" and "being" mode of life because it related to each persons individuality
- The section on loving and alienated love was very good. It was easy to relate to my life and made me think about my relationships
- the section on suicide and assisted death was the most fascinating to me, as it is really relevant to the current times and our
- thoughts about love and death
- Touched a lot on a topic most people don't want to which is suicide, opened many different ways of analyzing it, for me at least
- We learned that nothing is individual, and that even suicide is a social act and this was important because it helped explain the suicide or even just societies expectations and how society creates all of our wants and "needs".
- yes

Question 34: Please describe one or more specific assignments, activities, or readings/videos/course material about a topic.

- Again, the suicide portion of the class really helped me take in different perspectives on the topic. Anxiety as well
- All writing activities after the movie about the golden gate bridge and suicide.
- I found the minimalist documentary that we watched for our final very interesting.
- It all improved my way of thinking whether it changed my beliefs on something or enhanced it. This class is a great class and is prevalent at universities.
- Jessica Zitter's writings and short documentary made me think much differently about medically prolonging life.
- n/a
- One thing that I can now see differently is the concept of suicide. Before, I viewed suicide as wrong - either you were selfish or you were weak. While (of course) I don't advocate for suicide now, I can see it more objectively as a philosophical question of the right to not live if we then have debt to others, or is our personal freedom the most important? I can now pose this question and am able to see it from both sides.
- Our unit on suicide was very interesting. We watched a film called Wit. Made me think very differently on the perspective of suicide.
- Response papers about suicide.
- Suicide
- The difference between being and having.
- the documentaries we watched really highlighted other people's lives well
- The family analysis paper.
- The final exam take home essay was awesome for me to reflect on everything. I appreciate that we didn't have a multiple choice exam because we actually had time to reread the materials and think deeply on the books we read and documentaries we watched. In many of the other classes i take here at MSU with 600 people and 60 multiple choice exams that i forget the material after day.
- The golden gate bridge documentary made me think a lot about suicide

- The golden gate bridge suicide documentary.
- The Holden Gate Bridge movie, the Holocaust survivor documentary, the assisted suicide documentary.
- The Lobster movie made me think more about Fromms book about loving
- the movie on suicide on the golden gate bridge
- the movie the bridge and my thoughts on suicide
- The topics on physician assisted suicide and love made me reconsider a lot of my preconceived notions. The viewing aids
- There was an assignment on dying where you judged it on a scale and I did the same number before and after we watched change.
- videos
- We had film papers in which we had to write about the film we watched in class.
- We had in class activities on what Professor Lotz taught that day or whatever the HW was the day before.

Question 38: If you would nominate your course faculty or graduate teaching instructor for a teaching excel

- Engages students.
- Engaging, thoughtful, passionate
- Extremely enthusiastic about the content of the course, shows great interest in the development of individual students, encourage
- Great Fashion!
- he encouraged students to think deeper and go beyond what they have always known, it was difficult but overall very rewarding
- He is EXTREMELY passionate in what he teaches, and what he really wants is for the students to learn and love it as well. that everyone was engaging in the material. He is one of the best Professors that i've had so far at MSU. I wish all of my professors
- He is one of the most passionate professors I've had at MSU. He genuinely cares about students learning and doesn't care about paycheck. Unlike ALOT of professors here at MSU.
- He is so passionate about his students learning and is always willing to explain anything more in depth, he loves to talk and
- He is very intelligent overall and about this topic. He is enthusiastic about teaching, funny, and cares about his students.
- He loves to teach and really cares about his students learning the material.
- He never once made me feel unintelligent even when I answered questions completely wrong. He just wanted us to participate
- He was able to get me to truly enjoy writing and IAH sources that i previously did not have a liking for.
- He was very passionate, and it was obvious he worked hard to get us interested and to challenge ourselves.
- I would nominate Dr. Lotz for the teaching excellence award because he is a professor that teaches with a lot of passion and encourages students to learn. He has the ability to incorporate everyone in class discussion, even those who have never taken an arts class. He is an understanding person that impacted the way I view a lot of things in a positive way. I would definitely recommend Dr. Lotz
- I would nominate Professor Lotz for a teaching excellence award for enthusiastically teaching a course that may not be valued but I think for themselves and learn about life and the world around them rather than just learn information and 'prove' whether they know it. His course encourages thinking and understanding in the individual as the course material rather than outside information for the sake of a job or skill. The skill enhanced here is much more valuable than any other skill a person can develop: understanding life. Thank you Professor Lotz.
- I would nominate Professor Lotz for an award for his passion for the arts and humanities and for his drive for his students to learn.
- n/a
- NA
- Prof. Lotz really wanted us to enjoy the learning aspect of this class; he did not make everything about our grade and the topics and made us stand in their harsh light, really diving into the ideas surrounding life and death and being human. he worked on subjects and gave a lot of his brain to us students.
- Professor Lotz really has a passion for the humanities and made me really enjoy it as well. Sometimes IAH classes are dry and don't really care about what they learn. But having him as a professor made me really want to learn and be active in class. I had difficult readings but he was always happy to answer questions and relate everything we learned to real world scenarios. I had to say. I wish professor Lotz could be my professor for all of my classes because thus far, he has been the most effective stick in my brain and make me actually interested in the things that we talked about. Other professors could learn a thing or two from him.
- Worked hard to make sure students understand
- Yes. He was very passionate about the topic and always had an positive attitude.