

Teaching Evaluation

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I provide a recent evaluation for my teaching performance as a section lecturer for the Introduction to Security, Peace, and Conflict at the undergraduate level. The results draw on evaluations from twenty-seven students and the individual item scale ranges from 1 (very poor/very low) to 5 (excellent/very high). Table 1 shows that my scores place me in the high-performance category and the evaluations particularly extol me in the “analyzing ideas, arguments, and points of views” and “synthesizing and integrating knowledge” sections.

Table 1: Evaluation of The Class and The Instructor

This course has clearly defined student learning objectives	4.40
This course had clear expectations for assignments and other work	4.40
Overall, the lecture instructor was	4.80
This course helped me gain factual knowledge	4.60
This course helped me understand fundamental concepts and principles	4.60
This course helped me learn to apply knowledge and concepts to a specific situation or problem	4.60
This course helped me learn to analyze ideas, arguments, and points of view	5.00
This course helped me learn to synthesize and integrate knowledge	5.00
This course helped me learn to conduct inquiry through methods of the field	4.20
This course helped me learn to evaluate the merits of ideas and competing claims	4.25
This course helped me to effectively communicate ideas orally	4.60
This course had a welcoming and inclusive classroom environment	5.00
How much did you learn from this course	4.40

Students enrolled in my discussion sections also anonymously provided very positive written evaluations on my performance. I am listing all the comments below:

- “The section discussion is helpful in understanding the lecture material.”
- “This course did a great job at providing clarification on subject matters taught in the lecture by encouraging discussion between classmates and allowing us to pool our knowledge together to better understand the topics.”
- “Howard is great. Highly recommend taking the section with him. He does a great job of facilitating discussion and getting people talking in a constructive way. He challenges your ideas and encourages you to probe your own reasoning.”
- “Discussion section was very helpful in being able to ask questions and further discuss the topics from lecture. Howard was wonderful in answering questions and persuading us to think beyond what we know about the IR system.”
- “Howard is an excellent TA. He was always willing to help and wanted students to succeed.”
- “Howard is great. Funny and welcoming. However, the material can sometimes get difficult and grading is tough. But overall very interesting for someone interested in IR.”
- “Howard made the best out of a somewhat thankless task. His session was supposed to cover two lectures, repeat content, go more in-depth were the lectures were unclear, respond to

individual student requests, foster debate, and teach academic skills - within 50 minutes per week. He did a great job at this, always offering support and trying to find new ways to make the learning more pleasant and more productive.”

- “The discussion sections were my favorite.”
- “Speak up in discussion and debates.”
- “It [The discussion section] needs to be longer per class.”