



University of Connecticut

Student Evaluation of Teaching Fall 2019

Individual Report for PP-5340-H72-HRTFD-Intro to Public Policy & Mgmt

Instructor: **Douglas Spencer** (SET Primary Instructor)

Response Table

Raters	Students
Responded	17
Invited	19
Response Ratio	89%

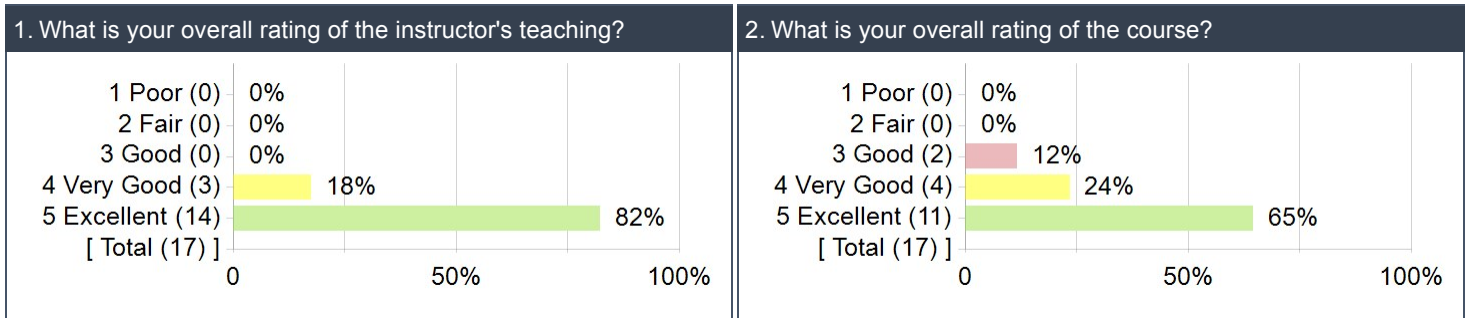
What is your overall rating of Douglas Spencer's teaching?

Question	Course		Department (PP-Course Level 5000-FEIN)		School (CLAS-Course Level 5000-FEIN)		University (Course Level 5000-FEIN)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
What is your overall rating of the instructor's teaching?	4.8	5.0	4.1	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.3

What is your overall rating of the course?

Question	Course		Department (PP-Course Level 5000-FEIN)		School (CLAS-Course Level 5000-FEIN)		University (Course Level 5000-FEIN)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
What is your overall rating of the course?	4.5	5.0	3.9	4.2	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.0

Overall Rating



Section 1. Summary

Please respond to the following questions about instructor Douglas Spencer:

Question	Course		Department (PP-Course Level 5000-FEIN)		School (CLAS-Course Level 5000-FEIN)		University (Course Level 5000-FEIN)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
The instructor presented the course material clearly.	5.0	5.0	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The instructor was well prepared for class.	4.9	5.0	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.6
The instructor responded to questions adequately.	5.0	5.0	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.6
The instructor stimulated interest in the subject.	4.9	5.0	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.6
The instructor showed interest in helping students learn.	5.0	5.0	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.7
The instructor gave clear assignments.	4.8	5.0	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.5
The instructor was accessible to students.	4.5	5.0	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.6
The instructor gave useful feedback on my performance.	5.0	5.0	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.4
The instructor returned graded work in a reasonable amount of time.	5.0	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.5
The instructor used class time effectively.	4.8	5.0	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The instructor treated all students with respect.	4.9	5.0	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.8
The instructor graded fairly.	4.9	5.0	4.5	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.6
The instructor's teaching methods promoted student learning.	4.9	5.0	4.2	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5

Please respond to the following questions about the course:

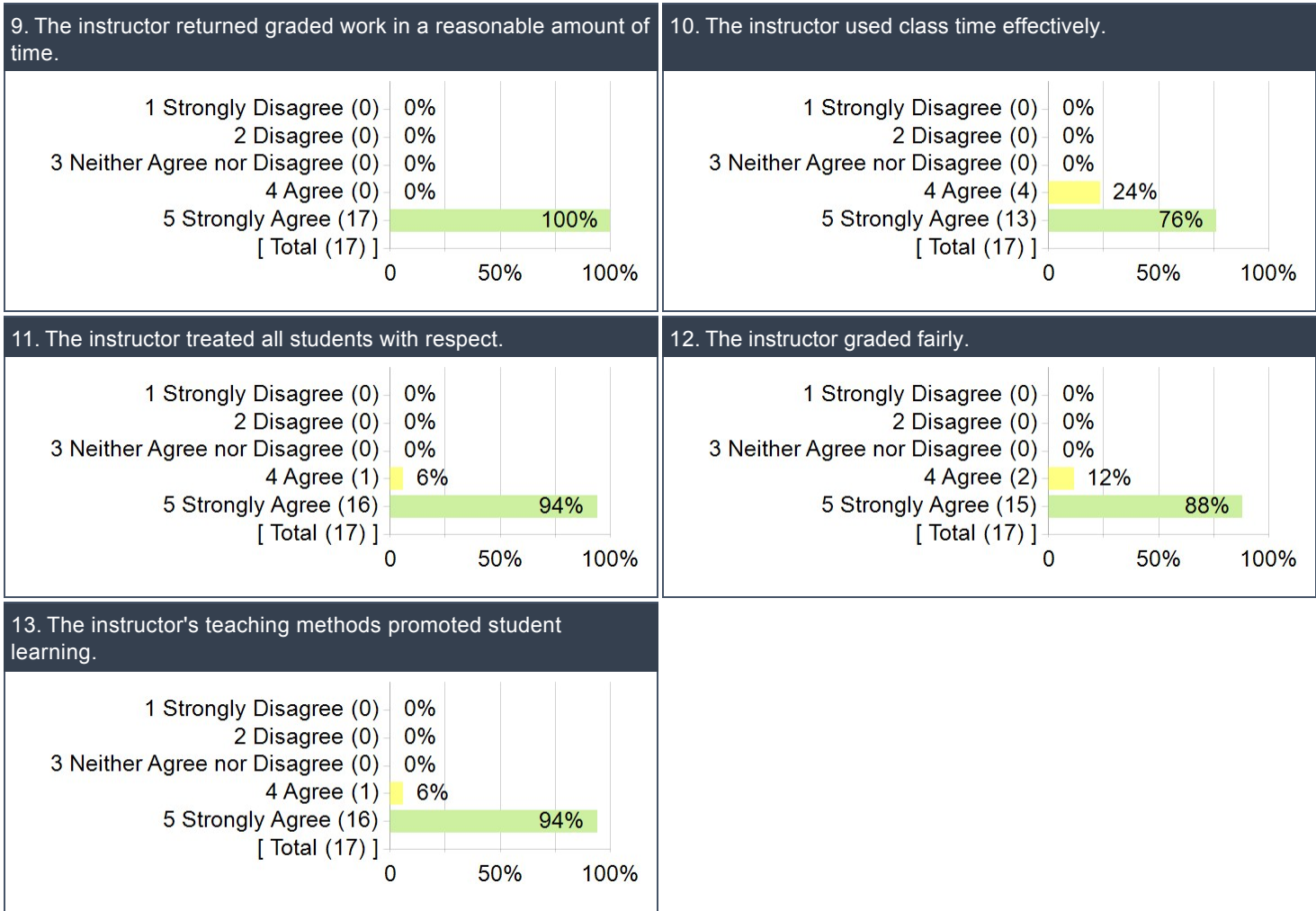
Question	Course		Department (PP-Course Level 5000-FEIN)		School (CLAS-Course Level 5000-FEIN)		University (Course Level 5000-FEIN)	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
The methods of evaluating student learning seemed appropriate.	4.8	5.0	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.4
The course content was well organized.	4.7	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The course objectives were clear.	4.8	5.0	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.5
The course objectives were met.	4.8	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5
The course materials made a valuable contribution.	4.8	5.0	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.5
The pace of the course seemed appropriate.	4.8	5.0	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.4

Section 2. Questions About the Instructor

Please respond to the following questions about instructor Douglas Spencer:

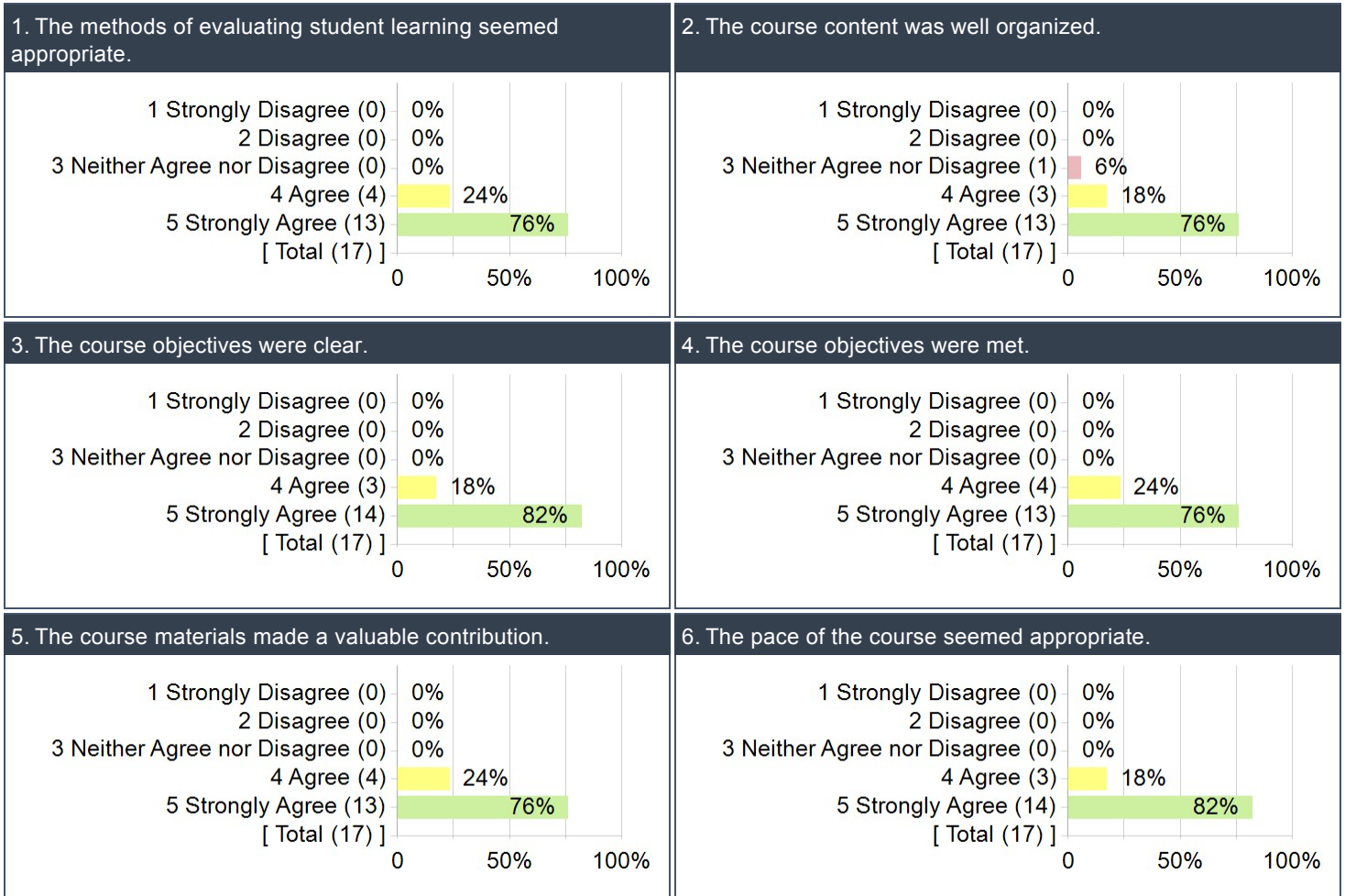


Please respond to the following questions about instructor Douglas Spencer: (continued)



Section 3. Questions About the Course

Please respond to the following questions about the course:



Section 4. Student Information

What is your Academic Level?

What is your academic level?		
Options	Count	Percentage
Freshman	0	0%
Sophomore	0	0%
Junior	0	0%
Senior	0	0%
Graduate	16	94%
Other	1	6%

What is your expected grade in this course?

What is your expected grade in this course?		
Options	Count	Percentage
A	13	76%
B	4	24%
C	0	0%
D	0	0%
F	0	0%
Pass	0	0%
Fail	0	0%
Other	0	0%

What is your cumulative average (GPA)?

What is your cumulative average (GPA)?		
Options	Count	Percentage
3.5 and above	8	100%
3.0-3.4	0	0%
2.5-2.9	0	0%
2.0-2.4	0	0%
< 2.0	0	0%

How many times did you miss this class?

How many times did you miss this class?		
Options	Count	Percentage
0-2	17	100%
3-4	0	0%
5-6	0	0%
> 6	0	0%

Section 4. Student Information (continued)

On average, how many hours a week did you spend outside of class preparing for this course?

On average, how many hours a week did you spend outside of class preparing for this course?		
Options	Count	Percentage
0	0	0%
1-3	12	71%
4-6	4	24%
7-9	1	6%
10-14	0	0%
15+	0	0%

Which best describes this course for you?

Which best describes this course for you?		
Options	Count	Percentage
Requirement for my major	17	100%
General Education Requirement	0	0%
Other Requirement	0	0%
Elective	0	0%
Elective for my major	0	0%

My desire to take this course was:

My desire to take this course was:		
Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	5	29%
More than most courses	6	35%
About the same as most courses	6	35%
Less than most courses	0	0%
Much less than most courses	0	0%

For me, the level of difficulty of the course content was:

For me, the level of difficulty of the course content was:		
Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	0	0%
More than most courses	0	0%
About the same as most courses	10	59%
Less than most courses	7	41%
Much less than most courses	0	0%

Section 4. Student Information (continued)

Overall, how much do you feel you've learned in this course?

Overall, how much do you feel you've learned in this course?		
Options	Count	Percentage
Much more than most courses	6	35%
More than most courses	7	41%
About the same as most courses	3	18%
Less than most courses	1	6%
Much less than most courses	0	0%

Section 5. Comments

What was the most positive aspect of the way in which this instructor taught this course?

Comments
Doug Spencer was clearly passionate about the different topics which he instructed us on. His own excitement and interest in the subject helped motivate students to speak more.
Professor Spencer gave excellent feedback on each of our memos. We had a chance to improve our writing because of it. We knew what to be expected out of a good memo.
My favorite class of the semester! I feel like I learned so much from this course and I think it was a good way to be introduced to the field. This course I think really allowed me to develop my writing skills and I feel like everything I learned in this course is applicable to the real world. I'm really lucky to have had Doug as my professor for this intro course.
Prof. Spencer brings a great deal of perspective to class discussions. This helps to draw out the key questions and considerations in complex public policy issues.
Very passionate about the material!
Professor Spencer is a very passionate and energetic teacher. He is engaging and likes to involve everyone.
You can tell they have a law background. Teaches in a very engaging way, using examples and thought provoking questions to stimulate learning. Very adept at responding to students' questions.
Peer reviewed work, clear class objectives, and speakers.
Professor Spencer did a great job incorporating current events into the class.
The instructor was energetic and engaging in class. The ways in which he gave feedback were also really helpful
I loved the feedback on memos.
The lectures were very engaging. The professor is a great educator and person. He is invested in teaching his students and preparing them for the world.
Stimulating interest in the subject and being enthusiastic about the material
The open discussions were beneficial. The instructor was enthusiastic and promoted student involvement. There were not many notes during the class, but the instructor lead many group discussions that taught valuable lessons in the area of public policy and public administration.
Well Organized and well prepared. clear and on point.

What can this instructor do to improve teaching effectiveness in the classroom?

Comments
When guest speakers are brought in, there should be a 45 minute – 1 hour lecture by the professors before the speaker presents, specifically on the topic. This would prepare students to view the speakers presentation through different lenses and in the context of different problems.
I really liked all the aspects of that course.
I think the only recommendation I would have is to go over the second memo. I felt like there was no class time spent going over the context and the objective of the memo. Other than that, an amazing professor.
Nothing
I felt like we missed out on learning more about the criminal justice system. I think we talked about Impeachment that class and then did peer review of a PMM. I would have valued the professor's instruction on that topic given their background.
More in class group activities and prepping questions as a class before speakers
N/A
some of the guest speakers were not great
More emphasis on the readings. Or accountability in completing the readings.
Too many consecutive guest speakers. Could not focus when someone talks for an hour at once.
I liked the joint class presentations but more individual instruction would have been nice
More assignments, even if they are smaller assignments. It seemed like we had a memo due every two or three weeks. Maybe a small assignment that surrounded a reading, like write a one-paragraph summary of the assigned reading.

Please write any comments you have about the course or course materials.

Comments
Doug Spencer did a great job of recognizing when students had something to say but were not sure if they wanted to raise their hand and speak or disagree. He would read facial cues and body language and pose questions in a way that promoted speaking freely.
We could have worked on the study cases a little bit more.
Course readings were interesting and accessible
All reading material and handouts were relevant. I really enjoyed the assignment, writing memo's. Definitely a different style of writing, more direct.
Very engaging. Great feedback PMMs.
Course materials were easily accessible
Well-organized material. The lectures we're engaging and interesting.
Professor Spencer did an excellent job of making the material practical. He also was extremely engaging during class.
the readings were very helpful
N/A
this was my favorite course this semester :)
Overall, I learned more than usual in this course. This is one of my first MPA courses it was an enjoyable experience.

For courses with laboratory and/or discussion sections: were the laboratory/discussion sections helpful to your learning?

Comments
NA
N/A
N/A
n/a
N/A