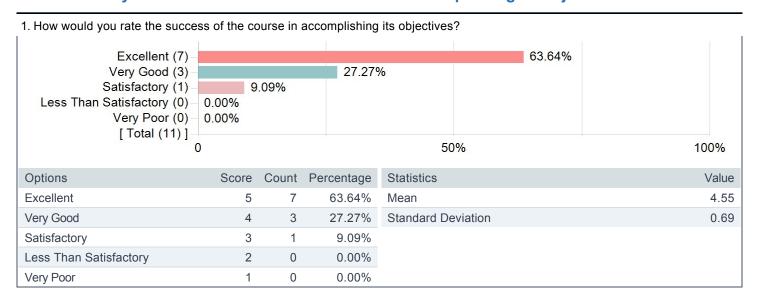


Individual Report - Sp21-EXP-0014-S-Experimental College - Jordan Kokot

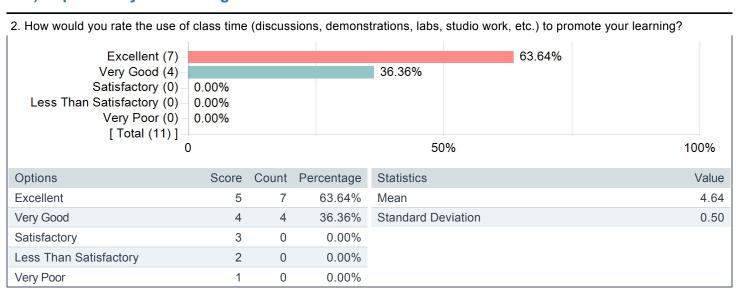
Project Title: Spring 2021 ExCollege Visiting Lecturer Course Evaluation

Courses Audience: 15 Responses Received: 11 Response Ratio: 73.33%

1. How would you rate the success of the course in accomplishing its objectives?

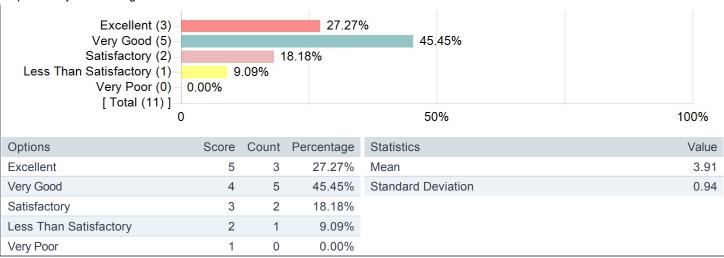


2. How would you rate the use of class time (discussions, demonstrations, labs, studio work, etc.) to promote your learning?



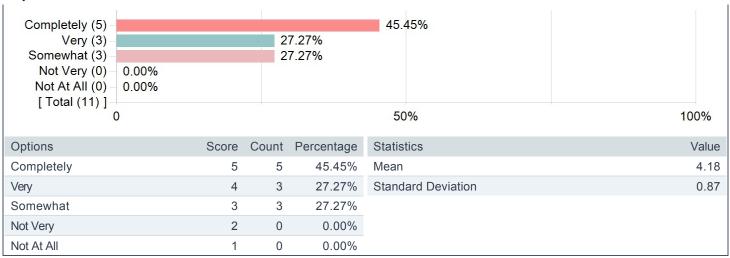
3. How would you rate the use of out-of-class activities (reading assignments, homework, papers, projects, studio art practice, etc.) to promote your learning?

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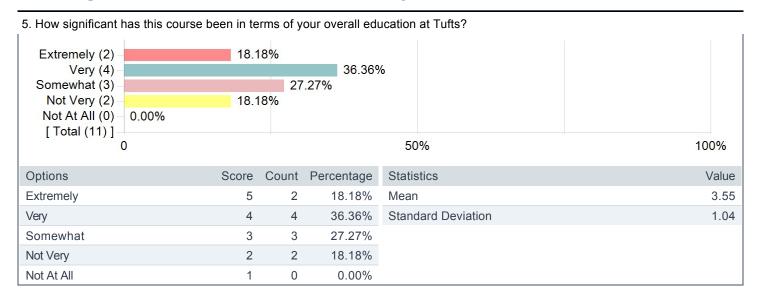


4. ExCollege courses are intended to be participatory and interactive in nature, not lecture format where the flow of information is one way - from instructor to student. How interactive was this course?

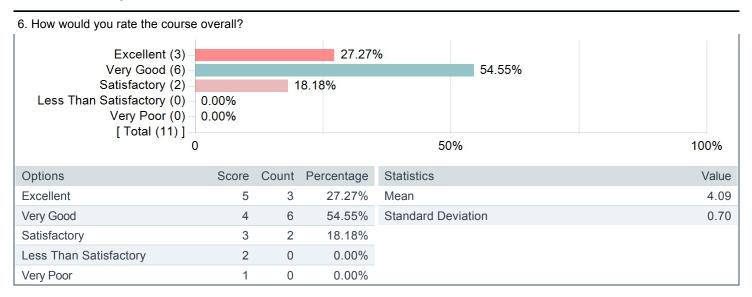
4. ExCollege courses are intended to be participatory and interactive in nature, not lecture format where the flow of information is one way - from instructor to student. How interactive was this course?



5. How significant has this course been in terms of your overall education at Tufts?



6. How would you rate the course overall?



7. In what ways has this course made you think differently or more deeply? Please provide examples.

Comments

I had not thought about technology from this pure philosophical perspective before and found that perspective really interesting.

The course just changed so many conceptions around technology and reality. many times I walked away from class with my mind blown.

The material covered was mostly pretty interesting.

It was very interesting integrating VR and philosophy.

Gave me a new outlook on VR and the philosophy of VR and technology in general.

This course radically changed the way I think about technology, virtual reality, and ethics in general. Before taking this course, I had never had the chance to dive into the technology used in virtual reality and the idea of it being ethical or unethical.

This course provided me knowledge about a facet of our current life that was very unfamiliar to me, and forced me to think philosophically about our current technologies.

Being in a Virtual Reality class has made me question our reality. From topics of Simulation Theory to Embodiment, this course made me a deeper thinker and a better writer.

The course gave me a lot of new perspectives on ethics and the ethics of technology which made me think very differently about these issues.

8. What aspects of this course worked best to facilitate your learning?

Comments

Very useful in class discussions. I thought the idea of having groups lead a discussion in their area worked well.

The best part of the class by far was the open discussions, that encouraged learning and discourse in the best ways.

The homework exercises walked me through the class nicely.

I think the readings were very interesting, especially the Kurzweil reading

Big group discussions. Shorter, less dense readings. Having breaks during long classes.

I think the readings were extremely helpful and the class discussions when we discussed the readings were the most helpful aspects of the course. I learned so much from my peers and Jordan, and I really enjoyed participating in class and discussing the concepts from the readings.

In class discussions did an excellent job at facilitating my learning.

At the end of the semester, we did a mini–conference where we had classmates present their research projects to others which really helped me further understand and learn about virtual reality.

The general style of the course was really good.

9. What suggestions do you have for improving this course?

Comments

I sometimes felt like me moved quickly enough that it was hard for me to remember details from previous classes. I'm not sure how much can be done about this given time constraints.

Well COVID allowing more utilization of the VR technology would be awesome. It is kind of why I took the class, and while it was not a bad class it was slightly TOO philosophical for my taste.

More time/effort on the final paper, rather than smushing it into the end of the course. Also less lecturing in class

I think that with COVID, classes have been less willing to talk during class, and when school returns to normal, the class will be great!

Giving more incremental assignments for the writing of the paper. For example, having 2 pages due one week, then two more, the next, etc.

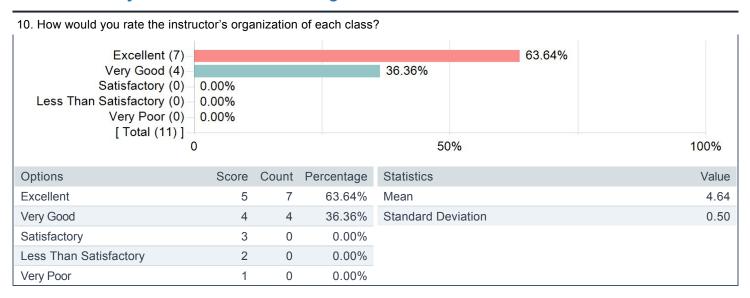
The assignments for the course were all clustered at the end, which was really frustrating because I think I would have spent much more time on them and succeeded in the class more if they were spread out. The final presentation and online media format of our research were due within 6 days of eachother. Though it feels like the "easy part," it takes more than the click of a button and is something I wish I could have had more time to devote to. Additionally, I think the fact that it's past the last class and I still have zero grades in the class is really frustrating. I understand that Jordan has a certain philosophy on grades but we're going to get a grade in the class eventually and I currently have no idea how I'm doing in this class.

None really, just a little more work than I expected.

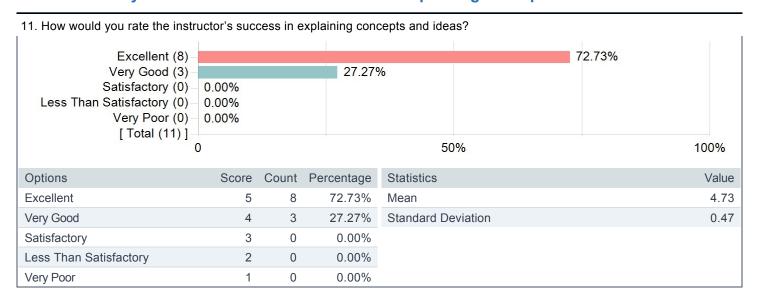
There were no immersive technologies for the class to use so many were unable to illustrate virtual reality experiences realistically in their essays because they did not have the first–hand experience.

Readings were a bit heavy at times.

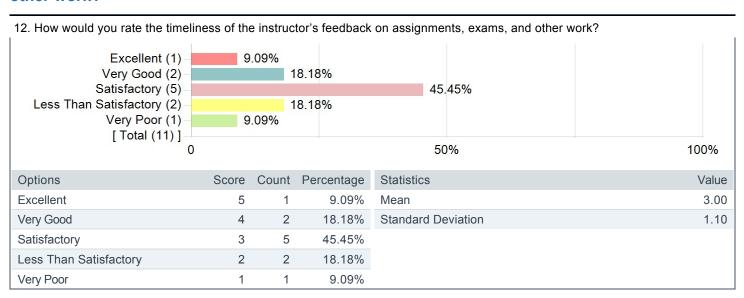
10. How would you rate the instructor's organization of each class?



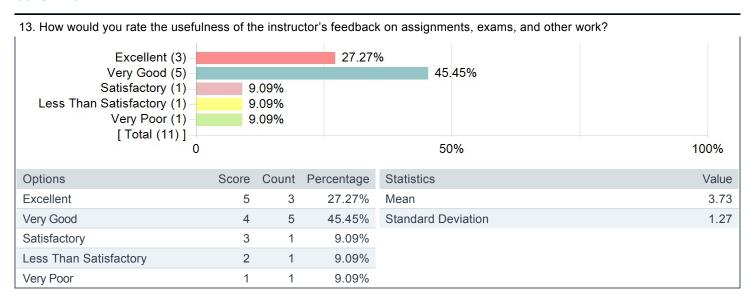
11. How would you rate the instructor's success in explaining concepts and ideas?



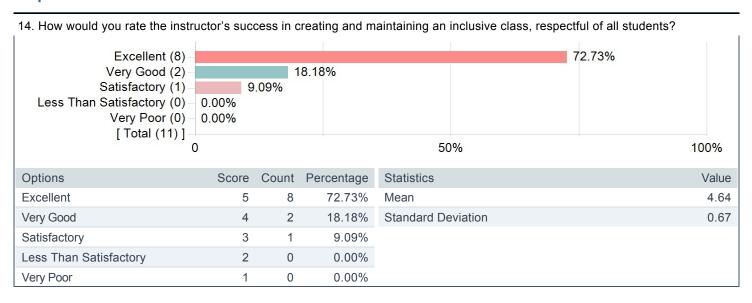
12. How would you rate the timeliness of the instructor's feedback on assignments, exams, and other work?



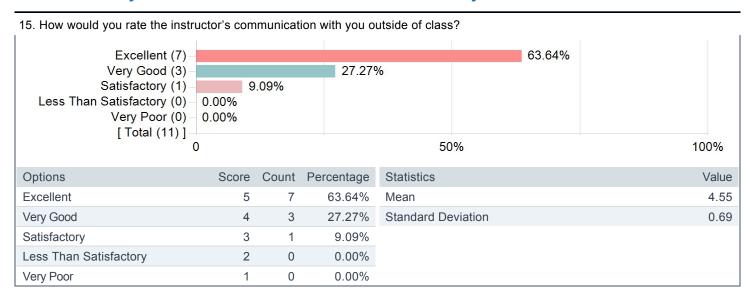
13. How would you rate the usefulness of the instructor's feedback on assignments, exams, and other work?



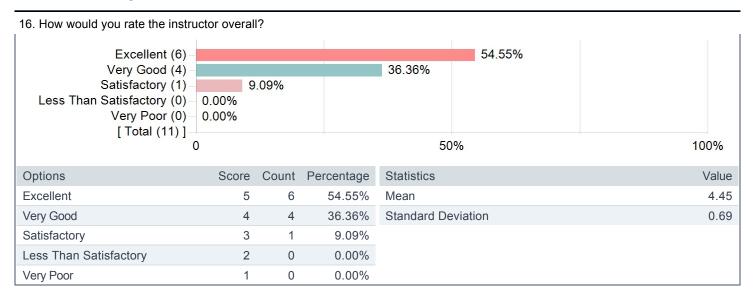
14. How would you rate the instructor's success in creating and maintaining an inclusive class, respectful of all students?



15. How would you rate the instructor's communication with you outside of class?



16. How would you rate the instructor overall?



17. Please provide any additional comments regarding the instructor.

Comments

He was engaging and was good at balancing explanations/lectures and interactive discussions.

Jordan is great. Engaging, patient, interesting, dynamic and just a good guy to be in class with. Sometimes I feel like he did get bogged down in the weeds of philosophy with some properly anal stuff that was not entirely relevant or easy to follow, but I do deeply admire his passion.

Feedback is so super important because it's the only way we as students learn! I have only gotten feedback for one assignment in the entire course and I didn't get any feedback on my paper before creating my poster. I have no idea how well I did and feedback would have been really useful! Other than that, I thought Jordan taught a fantastic class which pushed me academically and challenged me in a way that I didn't expect coming into the class. I learned a lot, I was challenged, and I really enjoyed it! Thanks Jordan!

He had a great syllabus and taught it well.

Great professor.

Jordan did an amazing job teaching the course. He is very good at leading discussion and getting students to participate, even on very difficult topics. He also clearly knows what he is talking about and is good at conveying information to students.