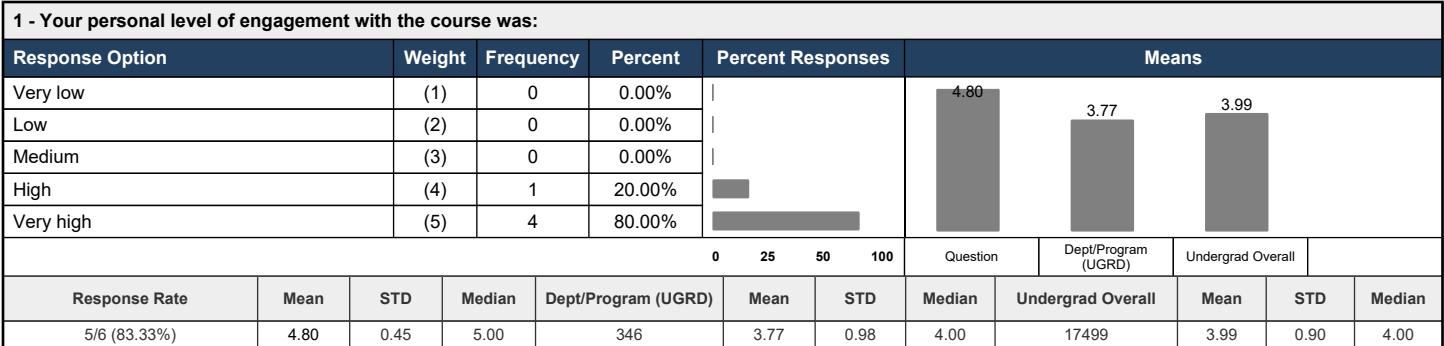


Duke University - Course Evaluations

Undergraduate Course Evaluations - Fall 2025

Course: POLSCI-290-01: SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLSCI.POLSCI-290-01.
Instructor: Allison Anoll *

Response Rate: 5/6 (83.33 %)



2 - What knowledge, methods, skills, insights, or ways of thinking did you develop in this course? Please describe three specific things you learned.

Response Rate	4/6 (66.67%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I completely reflected on what it means to participate, why I feel its important to participate and why I have the beliefs that I have. This course engaged in academic literature and concept maps, which helped me develop new skills. In other classes, I have not had to map out physically and connect concepts, and it was honestly super helpful and a good skill to have. Additionally, being able to articulate these connections and explain why the concepts go together was a great skill in presentation and understanding the material. This class made me also engage with academic literature and become more comfortable with it overall. I learned how to effectively consolidate course readings, themes, and case studies in ways that allow me to authentically engage with the curse material in ways that professors had never enabled for me before. I learned how to effectively engage in politics. I learned a lot about political participation amongst American citizens. Concept maps: learning how to visually organize class knowledge Argumental defense: lectures always weaved in time for questions and opinion which helped make class material relevant Participation and representation theory: concepts regarding civic duty, theory of change and group participatory patterns 	

3 - Reflecting on the overall learning environment of this class, in what ways did the instructor(s) and the structure or components of the course facilitate your learning? Are there specific course components or methods of instruction you'd keep for future years?

Response Rate	4/6 (66.67%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I loved the presentations for the participatory act. I found it so interesting to see what other people were doing. The instructor did a great job making the literature less intimidating by carving out which parts were important and not making us read parts that were not important to the lesson. Additionally picking literature that was potentially in contradiction with each other was helpful to get the full side of the story. Additionally, combining lecture and group work, and other media sources in class kept class engaging and I enjoyed it. I appreciated the lecture style nature of this class while still promoting group discussion. I also liked how intentional every reading, activity, and assignment felt, it really made me excited to do the work knowing exactly why I was doing it. I thoroughly enjoyed the concept maps and frankly spent as much time on them as an assigned essay and crystallized the readings and class concepts in my mind much more this way. The participatory act was so innovative: Surprisingly, I had yet to take a political science class that fostered my civic engagement within my community. The readings were especially chosen and crafted for every lecture and never felt like I was reading with minimally important material. Everything about this class was intentional and I could tell Dr. Anoll spent much time on how to make students care about political participation and representation. 	

4 - What might improve the course? Are there specific course components or methods of instruction you'd change for future years? Did anything in particular impede a positive learning environment?

Response Rate	4/6 (66.67%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing I thought it was well run. I liked it being small too. I cannot think of what would improve the course. Nothing I loved it! Nothing. The class was great and I looked forward to it every week, even as a senior taking it at 8:30 AM in LSRC. 	

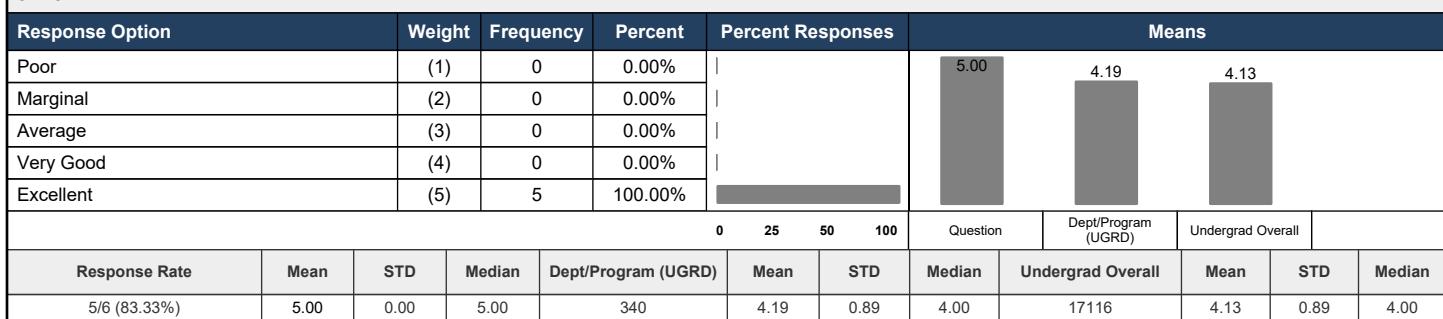
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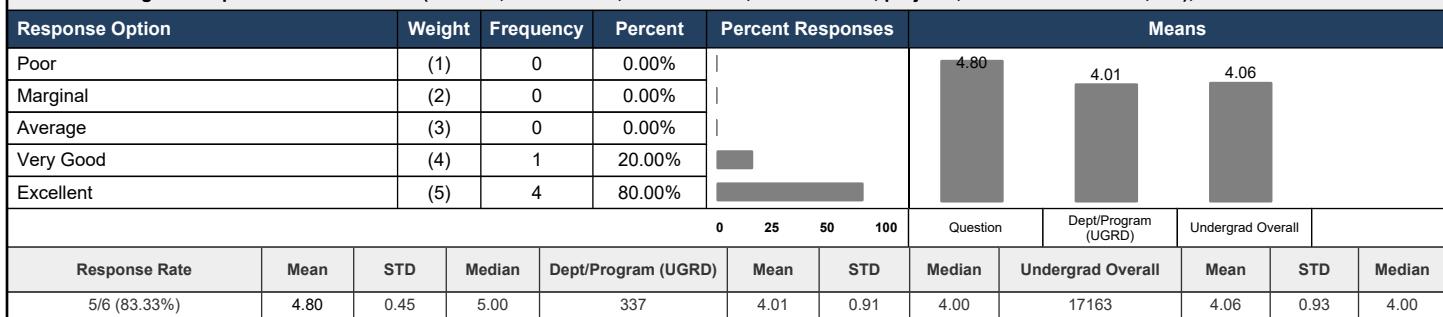
5 - The course was intellectually stimulating. It made me think in new ways, encouraged me to adopt different points of view, or challenged me to develop new skills.



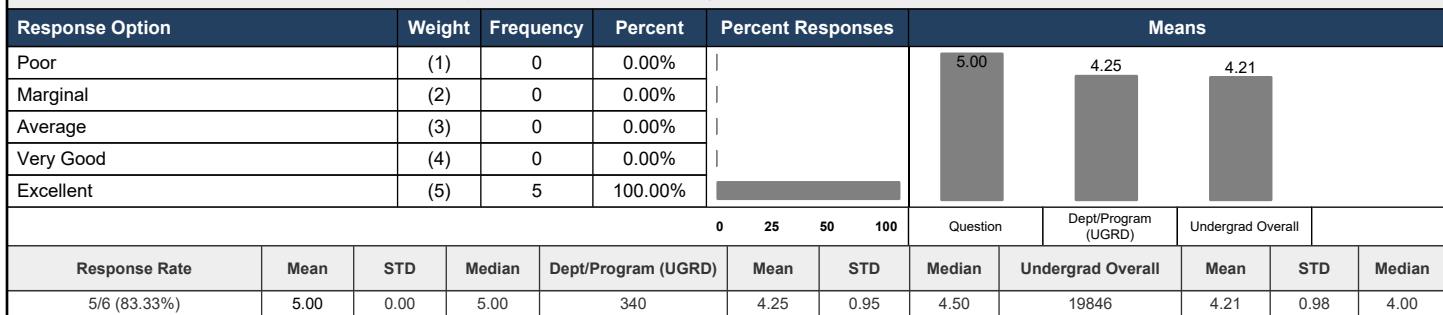
6 - What made this class stimulating or how could it be more intellectually stimulating if it wasn't?

Response Rate	3/6 (50%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As I have said above, the literature that was chosen, topics, and variation in teaching style kept the course extremley engaging. This class was very stimulating because all the course material felt relevant yet equally long-standing throughout time. Dr. Anoll is a gem!! She is so knowledgeable, kind and engaging!! I am very glad she is at Duke, she is the type of professor that creates a class I will look back on for years. Every component and graded assignment aligned perfectly with learning goals and took up a balanced amount of time. I actually really enjoyed the tech-free, pen-and-paper environment: this amongst other learning strategies helped me quickly learn material. 	

7 - Considering all components of the course (lectures, discussions, sections/labs, assessments, projects, course environment, etc), overall the course was



8 - Based on the effectiveness of instruction (clarity, expertise, enthusiasm, rigor, support, inspiration, etc), overall the instructor, Allison Anoll, was -



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9 - Based on the effectiveness of instruction (clarity, expertise, enthusiasm, rigor, support, inspiration, etc), overall the teaching assistant, , was											
Response Option		Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means					
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			3.86		4.25			
Marginal	(2)	0	0.00%								
Average	(3)	0	0.00%								
Very good	(4)	0	0.00%								
Excellent	(5)	0	0.00%								
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%								
		0 25 50 100				Question	Dept/Program (UGRD)	Undergrad Overall			
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Dept/Program (UGRD)	Mean	STD	Median	Undergrad Overall	Mean	STD	Median
0/6 (0.00%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	447	3.86	1.15	4.00	8714	4.25	0.95	5.00

10 - In what ways did the teaching assistant(s) facilitate your learning and what might have helped even more? Include any constructive comments you'd like to share with here.									
Response Rate	0/6 (0%)								

11 - What would you like to say about this course to a student who is considering taking it in the future?									
Response Rate	4/6 (66.67%)								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great course makes you think. Also, has the perfect amount of work. Never overwhelming always stimulating. Take the class! I highly recommend taking it, do the readings and really engage with the course material and try to pick a participatory act that is niche and stimulating for you! Take it!! The class makes you introspect on your civic duty and guides in you in strategizing how you can be an active community member. This class is especially relevant today, even if you have no interest in going into politics. 									

12 - The course was difficult.											
Response Option		Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means					
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%			2.60		3.56			
Disagree	(2)	3	60.00%								
Neither agree nor disagree	(3)	1	20.00%								
Agree	(4)	1	20.00%								
Strongly agree	(5)	0	0.00%								
		0 25 50 100				Question	Dept/Program (UGRD)	Undergrad Overall			
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Dept/Program (UGRD)	Mean	STD	Median	Undergrad Overall	Mean	STD	Median
5/6 (83.33%)	2.60	0.89	2.00	341	3.56	0.94	4.00	17221	3.19	1.12	3.00

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