

Duke University - Course Evaluations

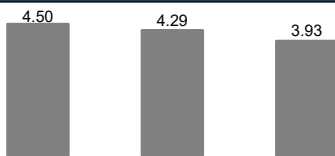
Undergraduate Course Evaluations - Spring 2024

Course: ENGLISH-90S-03: SPECIAL TOPICS IN LITERATURE.ENGLISH-90S-03.

Instructor: Mike Kleyman *

Response Rate: 14/15 (93.33 %)

1 - Your personal level of engagement with the course was:

Response Option		Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses		Means								
Very low		(1)	0	0.00%											
Low		(2)	0	0.00%											
Medium		(3)	1	7.14%											
High		(4)	5	35.71%											
Very high		(5)	8	57.14%											
						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	
14/15 (93.33%)		4.50	0.65	5.00	233		4.29	0.72	4.00	15694		3.93	0.92	4.00	

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	14/15 (93.33%)
• I developed skills in discussion and close reading. I also feel my writing improved greatly over the course of the class. • I learned the conventions of detective fiction, how to improve my writing, and distinct periods of detective fiction. • Critical reading, critical writing, analysis skills • I learned a lot in this course, specifically about what a detective story entails, the history of detective stories, and how to analyze films. • Actually improved my writing, watched and read things I wouldn't have considered on my own, and learned how to interpret film. • I learned how to read critically, watch critically, and write critically. • 1. close reading skills 2. ability to dissect, interpret, and talk about films beyond just the plot and dialogue 3. an appreciation for the depth of detective fiction beyond just the classic detective fiction books and movies • I feel like this course has made me a better surveyor of text and film while also making me a much more confident and competent writer. I have gotten better at close reading, crafting a paper, and consuming media. • I learned so much in this course, because of Mike and the content he taught. I developed a new appreciation for films and learned how to analyze them through visual language as well as the actual plot. I learned how to rethink a text in terms of both what I thought it meant and what the book wanted me to think it meant. I also learned how to have meaningful discussion about complicated texts and learned that not everything has a straightforward message but that it's important to walk away with a few. Lastly, Mike has taught me a lot about writing and how to develop my writing style without letting go of my personality in my writing. I really learned how to not take things so seriously in a paper while also effectively arguing an intellectual point. • Critical thinking skills and figuring out how to close read a text were definitely key aspects of this class. I also learned a lot more about how to analyze movies than I have before. • I learned about the different ages of detective fiction, starting from the Golden Age and continuing until contemporary works. I learned about how to do close readings and how to use them to defend arguments in writing. Lastly, I learned about how to analyze films, specifically by looking beyond dialogue and focusing on shots, cuts, sounds, etc. • 1. I learned how to watch a movie and analyze elements of a film and write about it 2. I learned how to effectively close read 3. I learned about how to read detective stories and understand the dynamics within the story • How to write a college essay - not just about themes but also arguing about what a text/film is doing Learned about how detective fiction has evolved over time (from more rigid genre conventions to more flexible story structures) Big L literature - art makes you reconsider your life (ideally, maybe) • - close readings of texts and movies - terminology related to film studies - different eras of detective fiction (golden age, postmodernism, etc.)	

Duke University - Course Evaluations

Undergraduate Course Evaluations - Spring 2024

Course: ENGLISH-90S-03: SPECIAL TOPICS IN LITERATURE.ENGLISH-90S-03.
Instructor: Mike Kleyman *
Response Rate: 14/15 (93.33 %)

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	14/15 (93.33%)
---------------	----------------

- Everyone was engaged in discussion and came to class with an understanding of the text. I think removing electronics from the classroom and grading partially based on discussion participation allowed the discussions to be very useful.
- I really enjoyed the in class discussion.
- I really liked the open form discussions and interactivity of the class.
- I liked that the class was group discussion based and that Mike facilitated the conversation. I've had professors in the past who enjoy awkward silences and refuse to speak, but I appreciated that when the conversation slowed, Mike changed the direction of the conversation or introduced a new idea.
- Very easy to participate in discussions (guiding questions, group work, we were able to bring things that we wanted to discuss to the table)
- I enjoyed the seminar/discussion format of the class because we all got to share our thoughts and opinions without the fear of being wrong, often because there was no right answer.
- Very engaging content and discussions. I really enjoyed the schedule of material and how it works chronologically through the genre of detective fiction. I also really enjoyed how there was a wide range of content: short stories, books, movies, etc.
- Mike is a great teacher and creates a great environment for people to feel comfortable speaking in. He has great prompts for discussion and I love the style of the class.
- Mike did an amazing job facilitating conversation in this class through group discussion, partner work, and open ended prompts. We never sat awkwardly silent in class and he created a space that felt welcoming and non-judgmental in a way that made me want to contribute to class discussion. Definitely keep the classroom environment and discussion posts.
- I really liked how our class was truly structured as a seminar and we could input our own voices and opinions. I think the weekly written participation to make sure that we are following the material from the class was a good way to engage with both my peers and also make sure that I understood the text as well. These low-stakes assignments helped make the course feel more accessible, especially at times when I did not fully understand the material. I also enjoyed the balance between films and texts.
- I liked how office hours were offered every week because it made it very easy to ask questions when necessary. I also liked how the readings/films before class were manageable time-wise because this ensured that I completed them each week.
- Mike was very good at leading discussion- I loved that there was always a little lecture at the beginning of class to provide the necessary background information to fully understand the course content and the class was very discussion based. Mike was great at encouraging everyone to share their points of view - he asked good follow up questions to force people to consider why they formed their opinion and how their opinion influenced the overall understanding of the book or movie. Mike also created a classroom that was very welcoming to open discourse about the class content. He is also super helpful if you go to office hours to talk something through
- The discussion-based environment of the class made it very engaging, and the discussion posts were a really good way to try to flex out your ideas about a text before class. I really liked that it was just based on completion, and it freed me to be more flexible (mainly ended up being normal analysis, but also just impressions which I think is important too)
- I liked the discussion-based aspects of the class, and would keep this for future years. I also liked the mix of novels and films.

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	14/15 (93.33%)
---------------	----------------

- I don't think there are any specific things that could improve the course.
- Less worksheets.
- Grading was pretty harsh, at least on the first essay, and some of the readings were boring, but everything else was fine.
- Reading a longer book across the span of two classes was a little fast. I am a slower reader, so one more class period to break it up would be appreciated.
- Maybe add in another small writing piece just so we can get tips on our writing before midterm/final papers.
- I think the course was mostly fine as it was. Maybe the class could get involved in choosing the texts a little bit more, and maybe we could all give our personal takes at the end of each class.
- It would have been nice to change up the groups we were working with during class -- some of the groups were very talkative whereas others weren't and I would have loved a chance to speak with everyone in the class in a smaller setting.
- I feel like nothing really impeded my environment - KEEP TECH FREE POLICY
- A few more serious writing assignments throughout the semester would've been helpful in developing my writing skills and understanding Mike as a professor and a grader.
- I think one thing that might improve the course might be to add more essays to the course to lower the weight of the final essays/midterms. I feel like the weighting of the final to be over 50% of my grade is a lot of pressure, but it is also nice to have less essays to write so pros/cons both ways.
- I would have liked a mix of reading and film-watching throughout the semester. It felt like the first half was more reading heavy, and the second half was more film heavy, so I would have preferred more of a balance.
- I thoroughly enjoyed this class; it was probably my favorite class this semester. One thing that I think could be altered for future years would be the formation of groups for discussion. Since class discussion is such a core part of this class and the small group discussions really helped me form my theories and understand the content better, I was normally discussing with the same people every class. I just think that encouraging different groups for group discussion could be good for developing new points of view and allowing us as students to interact with everyone in the class.
- Crying of Lot 49. I think it has some interesting things, but the book should take at least 2 class sessions if you keep it. Didn't like having to read all of it over spring break.
- I think it could be useful to spend 2 class periods on certain films, especially Cure and Mulholland Drive. I also think having part of a class before each assignment (midterm, final paper) is due to talk more about the expectations surrounding the paper could be helpful, that maybe could include different examples of what bad and good writing, close readings, and introductions and conclusions look like. Since there were only two papers, we didn't really get much exposure to feedback from our writing.

Duke University - Course Evaluations

Undergraduate Course Evaluations - Spring 2024

Course: ENGLISH-90S-03: SPECIAL TOPICS IN LITERATURE.ENGLISH-90S-03.
Instructor: Mike Kleynman *
Response Rate: 14/15 (93.33 %)

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.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%								
Marginal	(2)	0	0.00%								
Average	(3)	1	7.14%	■							
Very Good	(4)	4	28.57%	■							
Excellent	(5)	9	64.29%	■							
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
14/15 (93.33%)	4.57	0.65	5.00	233	4.49	0.71	5.00	15619	4.11	0.91	4.00

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

Response Rate	14/15 (93.33%)
- Engagement in lectures and a wide array of texts allowed this class to be intellectually stimulating. - I thought the discussion was facilitated very well. - Small group discussion, engagement with content, etc - The group discussions were great and brought about so many ideas I hadn't thought about before. - Honestly not that I can think of. - I think the wide variety of texts and movies made me rethink the way I read and watch content. - I really enjoyed the content in this class and I also felt that the teacher was really good at organizing discussions so that we talked about specific parts of the film and connected the different texts that we engaged with over the entire semester. - I loved hearing everyone's opinion on different texts and being able to become a better speaker with my own opinions. - Our class discussions and Mike's opening questions before each one made the class very intellectually stimulating. He also pushed us to go out of our comfort zone with a wide range of movies and texts which pushed me to grow as a student. - I think this was honestly one of my most intellectually stimulating classes and by far a favorite, I would say maybe make sure that the pacing is okay and there aren't too many long/dense texts in one week and to space them out (overall pretty good job with this, hated the Borges and Crying of Lot 49 though!) - This class was stimulating because it exposed me to a lot of works I had never heard about before. I also liked learning how to analyze films. I also liked the "no computer" rule because computers are so distracting. - The class content and discussion made the course intellectually stimulating because we watched and read and variety of movies and books. Our discussions were always dynamic and Mike did a great job of encouraging conversation so we got the most out of the course - NA - Discussion based, interesting readings and films	

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

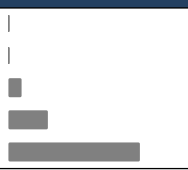
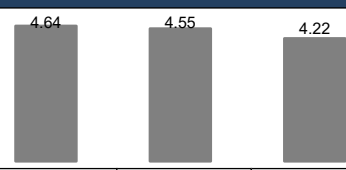
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%								
Marginal	(2)	0	0.00%								
Average	(3)	1	7.14%	■							
Very Good	(4)	4	28.57%	■							
Excellent	(5)	9	64.29%	■							
0 25 50 100					Question	Dept/Program (UGRD)	Undergrad Overall				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Dept/Program (UGRD)	Mean	STD	Median	Undergrad Overall	Mean	STD	Median
14/15 (93.33%)	4.57	0.65	5.00	234	4.42	0.70	5.00	15615	4.05	0.94	4.00

Duke University - Course Evaluations

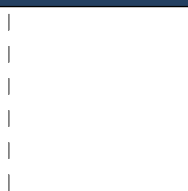
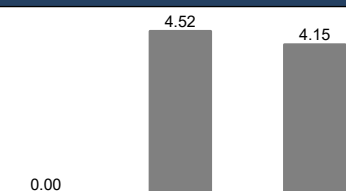
Undergraduate Course Evaluations - Spring 2024

Course: ENGLISH-90S-03: SPECIAL TOPICS IN LITERATURE.ENGLISH-90S-03.
Instructor: Mike Kleynman *
Response Rate: 14/15 (93.33 %)

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

Response Option		Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means								
Poor		(1)	0	0.00%			4.64		4.55		4.22			
Marginal		(2)	0	0.00%										
Average		(3)	1	7.14%										
Very Good		(4)	3	21.43%										
Excellent		(5)	10	71.43%										
					02550100	Question	Dept/Program (UGRD)		Undergrad Overall					
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	Dept/Program (UGRD)		Mean	STD	Median	Undergrad Overall		Mean	STD	Median
14/15 (93.33%)		4.64	0.63	5.00	245		4.55	0.71	5.00	17581		4.22	1.00	5.00

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%							
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
0/15 (0.00%)		0.00	0.00	0.00	79		4.52	0.68	5.00	10889	4.15	0.98	4.00

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	0/15 (0%)
---------------	-----------

11 - What would you like to say about this course to a student who is considering taking it in the future?

Response Rate	13/15 (86.67%)
---------------	----------------

- I highly recommend this course. I greatly enjoyed the instructor and the readings and movies that we were assigned. The workload apart from readings was relatively minimal.
- Have fun with it
- Definitely take this class! Mike is a great teacher and the topic is very interesting. There is a great mix of readings (short stories, novels) and films too and the discussions are always very interesting. I would highly recommend.
- Make sure you are open-minded when watching things, because you may enjoy it more than you would originally think!
- I would say be ready to read and come to class willing to talk, or else it will be pretty boring. The two papers are not too bad, but make sure to get a head start on them.
- Take it! It is very interesting and engaging and fun!
- Really buy in to the reading and the movies because they are worth your time.
- Take this class. No questions asked.
- Take the course! Such a fun way to immerse yourself in a new genre
- TAKE THIS COURSE! I really enjoyed the material, the discussion-style of the class, and the instructor was great at preparing for each class, and keeping us engaged throughout.
- I would 100% take this class! The content is super interesting and Mike is such an engaging and thoughtful instructor. I truly felt like I learned a lot about analyzing content, especially movies, and I think I developed as a writer in this course. One of my favorites this year.
- If you are interested in detective fiction, mystery, books, stories, or really anything you should take this course. Mike is a GOAT. Don't treat the essays like normal high school essays and you'll do fine
- It was an interesting class that allowed exposure to different types of films and novels related to detective stories.

Duke University - Course Evaluations

Undergraduate Course Evaluations - Spring 2024

Course: ENGLISH-90S-03: SPECIAL TOPICS IN LITERATURE.ENGLISH-90S-03.

Instructor: Mike Kleyman *

Response Rate: 14/15 (93.33 %)

12 - The course was difficult.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%								
Disagree	(2)	6	42.86%								
Neither agree nor disagree	(3)	6	42.86%								
Agree	(4)	2	14.29%								
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
14/15 (93.33%)	2.71	0.73	3.00	233	2.89	0.90	3.00	15615	3.19	1.09	3.00

13 - How many hours in a typical week did you spend on this course (outside of class meetings)?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
1	(1)	0	0.00%								
2	(2)	1	7.14%								
3	(3)	1	7.14%								
4	(4)	5	35.71%								
5	(5)	3	21.43%								
6	(6)	4	28.57%								
7	(7)	0	0.00%								
8	(8)	0	0.00%								
9	(9)	0	0.00%								
10+	(10)	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
14/15 (93.33%)	4.57	1.22	4.50	234	4.18	1.71	4.00	15636	4.31	2.36	4.00