

## Student Rating of Teaching Effectiveness

Instructor Report

Enrollment numbers are acquired before the end of the semester andmay differ from the final figure.

**Reporting Date:** 5/7/2022 12:06 PM **Semester:** 2021/22 SP **Instructor ID:** cxs5517 **Instructor:** Smith, Colin

Term: 2221 Session: 1 Campus: UP College: LA

Course ID	Course Title	Section	Instruction Mode	Students	Responses	Response Rate
2221126921	PHIL132- Bioethics	002	P	34	29	85.3%

## University Items

<b>A1</b>	Are you taking this course as an elective?			Yes: 20 N	o: 5 I do	n't know: (	0 N: 25	Percent	Yes: 8	80.0%	Ď	
<b>A2</b>	What grade do you expect to earn in this course?		1	A: 23 / 92.0% B: 2 / 8.0%		/ 8.0%	C or lower: 0 / 0.0%					
	Lo	Lowest Rating		Average Rating		Highest Rating						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	N	Mo	ode Median	
A3	Rate how well this course increased your understanding of the course topics.	0/ 0%	0/ 0%	0/ 0%	0/ 0%	2/ 7%	3/10%	24/83%	29	7	7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
A4	Rate how well the instructor promoted a meaningful learning experience for you.	0/ 0%	0/ 0%	0/ 0%	0/ 0%	1/ 3%	5/17%	23/79%	29	7	7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7

## University Open Ended Items

**Open 1** What aspects of this course helped you learn?

The readings, notes, and discussions were all extremely helpful for learning the information in the course.

I really enjoyed the presentations because they allowed us to learn about different topics in different ways than just from our professor. Also, Dr. Smith was a great professor as he taught the material and emphasized the importance of everyone's opinions and sharing ideas.

Class Discussion was very beneficial and allowed me to learn a lot about my opinions on ethics and adapt my way of thinking accordingly.

Focused truly on helping us understand content and made sure we wouldn't be bogged by unnecessary and copious assignments. He prioritized us leading and discussing the content and only had a few key assignments through the semester. In this low pressure, collaborative environment I feel like I learned quite easily.

The weekly presentations really allowed me to focus on the material, and be able to better understand it. I also think the case studies allowed me to see real-world examples of the material we discuss in class.

The active discussions that took place in between topics, which allowed open discussion in the classroom.

I cannot express how much Dr. Smith impacted my learning this semester. I had a very challenging semester with health and family and he was beyond understanding which made me feel that I could go to him for help on those things. He also made the learning environment in the classroom, amazing, for lack of better words. He engaged every single student and was extremely charismatic. All that aside, he is also an incredible professor and completely captivates his classroom with every lecture. I loved the format of his class and I was excited to attend it and learn more about the material he presented. His projects/assignments over the semester were perfect in teaching his students as well as making the course material fun and stand out. Couldn't express enough how grateful I am for taking this course and having professor Smith!

I thought the course was structured well and lectures were interesting. I think the presentations were a good way of learning the material and furthering more interesting discussion between the students.

All the discussions! This is a great class!! Colin is awesomeFor anyone who wants to go into healthcare will benefit from this class. It's relevance makes you realize that gen eds are important.

I enjoyed the case studies because they helped me to gain a better understanding of the topics discussed. I also enjoyed the weekly student group reviews as they helped me to go over the material again provided further discussion of where the topics would be applicable. Lastly, I appreciate that there were no quizzes during the semester as it allowed me to focus more on the content rather than worrying about how to ace a quiz.

Dr. Smith's quick feedback was very helpful through out the course. He also used very good examples to help us understand philosophical perspectives.

I enjoyed the discussions in classes. Colin ensured that everyone's points were valid and respected. I looked forward to hearing everyone's thoughts

The open ended discussions really helped me learn and understand more about the topics

Dr. Colin Smith exemplifies what it means to be a phenomenal professor. He is well read and incredible insightful about all of the topics he covers. The extra

dedication he gives to intersectionality within concepts is commendable. Not lost is the personal connection Dr. Colin Smith took the time to develop with each student. As a professor, he displayed mastery in establishing himself as a faculty member that truly cared about his students and the problems that they may be facing.

The lecture aspect helped me learn, as well as the weekly presentations. I also liked how there were not many assignments.

There were weekly presentations that aided in learning. Dr. Smith is a pivotal part of the philosophy department teaching bioethics. He is a great professor that always highlights student learning.

Lectures only made with the key information rather than overloading the notes

I thought the conversation and the case studies were all very engaging. I have learned more in this class than most of the classes I have taken at Penn State. I would definitely recommend this class to others.

The instructor was so great. He explained all the topics well and the variety of topics accommodate the recent bioethical issue.

Class presentations and case studies are helpful review. Informative powerpoints to clarify confusing readings.

Pretty much all aspects I really liked the slides O feel like they encapsulated the important information and didn't say too much or too little that helped me succeed in this course.

I think this class was very well structured and is set up so the student can succeed and instead of setting the student up for failure. I think the course material was very good and meaningful.

I liked the presentations because it was a good way to review the information and reinforced what we learned in the class the day before.

I was very pleased with every aspect of this course. In terms of content, I think that it was split up in a way that allowed for new philosophy students to understand philosophical discussion. Further, I think that the actual course setup of reading AND discussion allowed for me to truly remember and process the content.

I thoroughly enjoyed this class. Each lecture was engaging and thought-provoking. I enjoyed the course content and Professor Smith made the content understandable and fun to learn about (even for the depressing topics). He was also approachable and helpful throughout the semester. I also enjoyed the student presentations. Though simple, they were a great way to start class to break up lectures. They also were helpful reminders of the previous content.

The discussions and presentations

I enjoyed this class due to the environment that was established for us. There was always a good debate and this improved my understanding of the material.

The presentations and discussions as well as the research papers.

**Open 2** What changes to this course could improve your learning?

N/A

n/a

More discussion on Covid during the stopping global disease discussion.

I would be happy to take another class with him. He is a good instructor. Really.

Having more real-world examples to apply the knowledge from class. Be much more specific on the contents of the paper and what we need to write about within our assignments.

If anything maybe sections going over abortion.

I would recommend shortening the paper that goes along with the presentations or cutting it completely. I think focusing on the presentations will cause students to put in more effort across sections.

There isn't anything I would change.

None!

I think the weight of assignments could be more spread out. Only having a few assignments make up my grade is daunting. Possibly using discussion posts instead of group presentations could be more beneficial.

I would make the final exam the week before finals because I am a senior and really don't want to take this.

More grades in the class would be nice, as there are very few graded assignments that end up counting a lot.

Nothing! it's great!!

Some changes could involve making the exams less writing-based. Although this is an important part of a philosophy class, it added more stress to the exam and the busy weeks that the exams took place.

I think maybe if there was a day where students could vote on topics to choose one they want to discuss that is not part of the course curriculum because that would be interesting.

This may be a silly comment but when Dr. Colin presents he sometimes rewrites word for word whats on his slides onto the chalk board and I find it very redundant. It would be one thing if he wanted to keep a key piece of information on the chalk board while he scrolls through the slides but he often erases it after he advances the slides so I find no point for the chalk board. I also would not make this class attendance mandatory. I find it a bit weird that as a college student my professor is taking roll call it feels like I am back in elementary school.

The only thing I would recommend to add to this course are some additional minor assignments to contribute more to the overall grade instead of just two major assignments and two exams.

The only changes that I would improve is to make sure that the participation grade does not affect the overall grade too much.

I think that essay guidelines may be somewhat vague, so more guidance would be helpful for those.

Honestly the class is set up perfectly. I would just revise some of the material to be more relevant to modern times. There is a lot that has changed from the COVID

pandemic alone that has implications for bioethics as it pertains to global disease.

Nothing really

No changes are necessary. The format of grading in the course was ideal and expectations were effectively communicated. Dr. Smith's textbook choice was also a great one.

I would get rid of participation grading because some people like myself are more quiet and learn better by listening. I feel like sometimes it is unnecessary pressure to talk for a grade.

Only thing I did not like was the large amount of writing on the exams. However, I still would not change that. I would recommend this class to any person. Thanks for a great semester!

nothing.

No changes