

## Teaching Evaluation Summaries

Miami University conducts evaluations at the end of each semester for each of its courses. Evaluations are a series of statements which ask students to rate how strongly they agree. Results are presented numerically from 0 to 4, with 4 representing “Strongly Agree” and 0 representing “Strongly Disagree.” Below is a sample of the results from three recent courses I have conducted for the Department of English. Additionally, I have provided a range of written responses to present my teaching from my students’ perspective. Upon request, I will gladly supply complete sets of evaluations.

Question	English 225: Rhetorics of Murder  Spring 2016	English 225: Rhetorics of Privilege  Fall 2015	English 111: Composition and Rhetoric in Public Argument  Fall 2014
<b>Upon reflection, this instructor is an effective teacher. (4 = “Strongly Agree”)</b>	<b>3.58</b>	<b>3.41</b>	<b>3.71</b>
Course assignments and activities advanced my analytical and/or creative abilities. (4 = “Strongly Agree”)	3.68	3.12	3.23
Course assignments and activities helped me explore diverse and/or new perspectives. (4 = “Strongly Agree”)	3.84	3.47	3.35
I strengthened my reading and/or writing ability over the course of this class. (4 = “Strongly Agree”)	3.53	3.29	3.29
The course was well organized. (4 = “Strongly Agree”)	3.32	3.18	3.53
The instructor presents content clearly and understandably. (4 = “Strongly Agree”)	3.47	3.29	3.77

Question	English 225: Rhetorics of Murder  Spring 2016	English 225: Rhetorics of Privilege  Fall 2015	English 111: Composition and Rhetoric in Public Argument  Fall 2014
The graded work fairly tests the course content. (4 = "Strongly Agree")	3.58	3.47	3.71
The course was intellectually challenging. (4 = "Strongly Agree")	3.32	3.00	3.06
My instructor welcomed students' questions. (4 = "Strongly Agree")	3.74	3.35	3.77
My instructor offered opportunities for active participation to understand course content. (4 = "Strongly Agree")	3.58	3.35	3.41
My instructor demonstrated concern for student learning. (4 = "Strongly Agree")	3.58	3.35	3.35
In this course I learned to analyze complex problems or think about complex issues. (4 = "Strongly Agree")	3.63	3.23	3.23
My appreciation for this topic has increased as a result of this course. (4 = "Strongly Agree")	3.58	3.31	3.00
I have gained an understanding of this material. (4 = "Strongly Agree")	3.72	3.23	3.29

## **Student Written Responses**

In this sample, I include both positive and negative responses to offer the most complete picture of my teaching. I am always working towards improvement as an instructor, which I believe requires openness to student criticism.

### **English 225: Rhetorics of Murder (Spring 2016)**

"Strengths included a friendly atmosphere for discussion, an engaging topic with an engaging professor to accompany it, and fair expectations of students. The weakness of the course being the in class lectures didn't exactly match the assignments."

"I wouldn't really change anything. I liked how there was a theme of the class, because it made it so much more interesting. By talking about murder and the different roles that rhetoric plays in the media, I felt as if we were able to talk more in depth about how it actually works and how it affects our everyday lives. If we were to have talked in broad terms about rhetoric, it would not only have been less interesting, but it wouldn't have applied to our lives and thus wouldn't have been as understandable."

"The strength of this course were the lectures we had about the course topic of murder. Personally, I thought the weakness was the grading style. The grading was kind of harsh for the amount of time I put into 2 of the papers and the grades I received back for them."

"The strengths of this course were the assessment of rhetoric regarding murder in the media. This unusual topic made me think and write in a completely different way and therefore enhanced my creativity in writing. The weaknesses of this course would be the minimal amount of group work."

### **English 225: Rhetorics of Privilege (Fall 2015)**

"Strengths - Implementing my own opinion in what I'm writing to make an argument. Weaknesses - Analyzing the exact argument the author is making. As in, boiling it down to one single sentence"

"There were many strengths to this class. I enjoyed the in-class discussions immensely and I loved having the freedom to choose most of the topics for my essays. The instructor is very passionate about what he teaches, I believe this is what helped me engage myself fully in the material."

"Weaknesses: didn't have a lot of discussion about specific writing techniques. Strengths: instead, it focused mostly on new and relevant topics to be writing about. It taught me how to have an opinion on a lot of topics I didn't know I really cared about before."

“Class discussion over articles brought into class was definitely enjoyable; the fact that we did this, rather than simply reading from a textbook, allowed very free discussion of many sides of a topic. The fact that we were able to choose a sort-of focal topic for the semester that we would be basing most of our papers and research on was also a positive experience, and I think it really benefited English majors who will probably continue into independent research later.”

**English 111: Composition and Rhetoric in Public Argument (Fall 2014)**

“It gives the student a well understanding to rhetoric elements and its uses. Due the fact that it focuses so much on rhetoric, we don't learn much of anything else.”

“I learned a lot about rhetoric. Everything was made clear and it was easy to understand. My writing from the first project was like it came from a completely different person compared to my writing at the end of the year. Can't find any weaknesses.”

“A strength of this course was learning to write in various formats. I think that this improved my range of writing abilities. Another strength was the peer editing because it allowed me to see what I am doing right/wrong and what I can improve on. A weakness of this course is that it sometimes feels like the professor doesn't give enough feedback on rough drafts.”

“I learned a lot about rhetoric. Everything was made clear and it was easy to understand. My writing from the first project was like it came from a completely different person compared to my writing at the end of the year. Can't find any weaknesses.”