

Serena DeStefani

## Teaching Evaluations

### **Introduction to Psychology**

(undergraduate TA)

Teaching evaluations

### **Cognition Lab**

(graduate instructor)

Teaching evaluations

### **Quantitative Methods in Psychology**

(graduate instructor)

Teaching evaluations

Emails from students

### **Expository Writing**

(graduate instructor)

Teaching evaluations

Teaching Observation Notes

Folder review

# Introduction to Psychology

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Course:             | <b>THE SCIENCE OF PSYCHOLOGY (PSYCW1001_001_2013_1)</b>                           |
| Evaluation:         | <b>A&amp;S Course Evaluations: 1 Instructor and 3 TA Form PSYCH (spring 2013)</b> |
| Dates:              | <b>April 30, 2013 - May 10, 2013</b>  |
| No. of Respondents: | 81  |
| No. of Students:    | 156   |

**TA Effectiveness - Serena De Stefani**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <b>1: TA's availability for assistance outside of class</b> | n = 14   |
| Poor  | 0% (0)   |
| Fair  | 7% (1)   |
| Good  | 0% (0)   |
| Very Good   | 36% (5)  |
| Excellent   | 57% (8)  |
| Not Applicable  | 0% (0)   |
| <b>2: TA's ability to help clarify course material</b>      | n = 14   |
| Poor  | 0% (0)   |
| Fair  | 7% (1)   |
| Good  | 7% (1)   |
| Very Good   | 14% (2)  |
| Excellent   | 64% (9)  |
| Not Applicable  | 7% (1)   |
| <b>3: TA's responsiveness to student questions</b>          | n = 14   |
| Poor  | 0% (0)   |
| Fair  | 7% (1)   |
| Good  | 7% (1)   |
| Very Good   | 14% (2)  |
| Excellent   | 71% (10) |
| Not Applicable  | 0% (0)   |
| <b>4: TA's respect for students</b>                         | n = 14   |
| Poor  | 0% (0)   |
| Fair  | 7% (1)   |
| Good  | 7% (1)   |
| Very Good   | 7% (1)   |

Excellent  79% (11)

Not Applicable  0%(0)

5: **TA's feedback on assignments and examinations**

n = 14

Poor  0%(0)

Fair  7%(1)

Good  0% (0)

Very Good  14% (2)

Excellent  79% (11)

Not Applicable  0%(0)

6: **TA's ability to communicate effectively with students**

n = 14

Poor  0%(0)

Fair  7%(1)

Good  0% (0)

Very Good  21% (3)

Excellent  71% (10)

Not Applicable  0%(0)

7: **Overall effectiveness of the TA**

n = 14

Poor  0%(0)

Fair  7%(1)

Good  0% (0)

Very Good  29% (4)

Excellent  64% (9)

Not Applicable  0%(0)

Report: **Comments**

Course: **THE SCIENCE OF PSYCHOLOGY (PSYCW1001\_001\_2013\_1)**

Evaluation: **A&S Course Evaluations: 1 Instructor and 3 TA Form PSYCH (spring 2013)**

Dates: **April 30, 2013 - May 10, 2013**

No. of Respondents: 81

No. of Students: 156

Percent Completed: **52%**

**Please comment on TA effectiveness and how it could be improved - Serena De Stefani**

1. very willing to help.
2. Serena is a wonderful TA! She knows her subject matter very well and is very well-versed in subject matter.
3. Very nice and very helpful yet demanded a lot from us. It was good
4. Great
5. Serena was a great help when I had questions about my papers, and she always provided great feedback.
6. Please write better questions. Be more like Dan, and less like Isaac.

7. She was the best TA.

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8. Serena was a very helpful TA. She made time for students and was always eager to help. I enjoyed every interaction I had with her.

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# Cognition Lab

**Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**  
(Online Survey)

| DeStefani S.<br>Fall 2016,<br>01:830:306:90 –<br>Cognition Lab<br>(index #05454)<br>Enrollment= 18,<br>Responses= 11<br><br>Part A: University-<br>wide Questions: | Student Responses       |   |   |   |                      |                | Weighted Means |        |       |      |
|--|-------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------|----------------|----------------|--------|-------|------|
|  | Strong<br>Disagree<br>1 |   |   |   | Strong<br>Agree<br>5 | No<br>response | Section        | Course | Level | Dept |
| 1 The instructor was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 2 | 9                    | 0              | 4.82           | 4.33   | 4.45  | 4.52 |
| 2 The instructor responded effectively to student comments and questions   | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11                   | 0              | 5.00           | 4.58   | 4.40  | 4.49 |
| 3 The instructor generated interest in the course material   | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 1 | 10                   | 0              | 4.91           | 4.35   | 4.27  | 4.41 |
| 4 The instructor had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 1 | 10                   | 0              | 4.91           | 4.53   | 4.47  | 4.55 |
| 5 The instructor assigned grades fairly  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8                    | 1              | 4.80           | 4.31   | 4.45  | 4.54 |
| 6 The instructional methods encouraged student learning  | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 2 | 8                    | 0              | 4.64           | 4.13   | 4.13  | 4.26 |
| 7 I learned a great deal in this course  | 0                       | 0 | 2 | 1 | 8                    | 0              | 4.55           | 4.10   | 4.18  | 4.30 |
| 8 I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course   | 0                       | 0 | 5 | 1 | 5                    | 0              | 4.00           | 3.75   | 4.03  | 4.02 |
|  | <b>Poor</b>             |   |   |   | <b>Excellent</b>     |                |                |        |       |      |
| 9 I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor as:  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 2 | 9                    | 0              | 4.82           | 4.23   | 4.16  | 4.30 |
| 10 I rate the overall quality of the course as:  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 2 | 9                    | 0              | 4.82           | 4.05   | 4.13  | 4.27 |

**What do you like best about this course?:**

"She was great with responding and helping"

"I enjoyed the clarity of the instructor."

"The professor's willingness to help. "

"I liked that it was a hybrid course. It was nice to have the option of "meeting" in the chat room without leaving your room"

"I enjoyed the online chats the most. This allowed me to fully partake in conversation from the comfort of my room, especially this year where I have been so sick. Also, the professor did a great job by providing office hours to cater to any questions or problems we might have. Best of both worlds!"

"The assignments were all interesting and fun"

"Some of the experiments were very interesting, and it was nice to actually take part in studies that we have discussed in other courses"

"I loved that we were able to revise our assignments in order to improve our grade."

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**If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?:**

"Be more prepared with assigning the assignments on the dates she was supposed to"

"Nothing. Everything was very organized."

"Assign more fun experiments to do "

"I would make the in class meetings a little bit longer maybe like an hour long to go over everything more in depth. I would also make the due date for assignments maybe on Sunday at 11:55. I felt like 7 was an inconvenient time"

"I would maybe add another in - person class rather than just having two."

"N/A"

"Nothing"

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**In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?:**

"She was great explaining things that students didn't understand"

"The instructor introduced us to various activities on psychology2 and to various skills on excel."

"Encouraged us to read more and think outside the box. "

"Yes she really helped with my writing and analytical skills"

"It has shown me that I am more than capable of learning on my own in some regard. I was always scared an online class would leave me stranded with little to no help and I thrive in an in-class setting, but this course had enough weekly assignments where I was busy but not overwhelmed. But I think that was due to the teacher's abilities and the straightforward syllabus."

"Her passion for the course made me very interested in the assignments and in learning."

"Deepened understanding of how research in cognition actually works, as well as how to write academically"

"She taught me how nice it is to not procrastinate. The final project being split over a couple weeks was really helpful and kept me from waiting until the last minute to start."

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**Other comments or suggestions:**

“When using words in a more intellectual manor she did not seem to understand as well.”

“I really appreciated the clarity of the instructor and the way she encouraged questions!”

“Overall this was a pretty interesting course. Some of the projects took a long time to complete but they weren't impossible.”

“She has been a wonderful prof i would highly recommend her to my friends”

“NA”

“Great professor”

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**Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**  
(Online Survey - Sakai)

| DeStefani S.<br>Spring 2017,<br>01:830:306:92 –<br>Cognition Lab<br>(index #14791)<br>Enrollment= 19,<br>Responses= 12<br><br>Part A: University-<br>wide Questions: | Student Responses       |   |   |   |                      |                | Weighted Means |        |       |      |
|--|-------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------|----------------|----------------|--------|-------|------|
|  | Strong<br>Disagree<br>1 |   |   |   | Strong<br>Agree<br>5 | No<br>response | Section        | Course | Level | Dept |
| 1 The instructor was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 1 | 11                   | 0              | 4.92           | 4.79   | 4.52  | 4.53 |
| 2 The instructor responded effectively to student comments and questions   | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 1 | 11                   | 0              | 4.92           | 4.79   | 4.45  | 4.46 |
| 3 The instructor generated interest in the course material   | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 2 | 10                   | 0              | 4.83           | 4.53   | 4.37  | 4.36 |
| 4 The instructor had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 1 | 11                   | 0              | 4.92           | 4.74   | 4.54  | 4.53 |
| 5 The instructor assigned grades fairly  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 1 | 11                   | 0              | 4.92           | 4.71   | 4.47  | 4.48 |
| 6 The instructional methods encouraged student learning  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 1 | 11                   | 0              | 4.92           | 4.76   | 4.23  | 4.24 |
| 7 I learned a great deal in this course  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 3 | 9                    | 0              | 4.75           | 4.59   | 4.26  | 4.28 |
| 8 I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course   | 1                       | 0 | 0 | 4 | 7                    | 0              | 4.33           | 4.06   | 4.08  | 4.01 |
|  | <b>Poor</b>             |   |   |   | <b>Excellent</b>     |                |                |        |       |      |
| 9 I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor as:  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 1 | 11                   | 0              | 4.92           | 4.74   | 4.25  | 4.27 |
| 10 I rate the overall quality of the course as:  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 2 | 10                   | 0              | 4.83           | 4.45   | 4.21  | 4.22 |

**What do you like best about this course?:**

"I loved the instructor!"

"I learned a great deal of information in this class. I really liked learning about VSTM and the stroop task."

"I loved the professor and how helpful and understanding she was. She provided us with so many great resources. I felt like each assignment prepared me well for my final report and that it was spaced out very well."

"The Lab taught me the basics of research paper writing. We used simple softwares for experiments which made it less complicated. Thus, it was very interesting."

"I really enjoyed the convenience of the online program and the practical application skills I was taught throughout!"

"It was online with consistent deadlines, so we were able to work at our own pace. The professor also set up the final project so that each week we worked on it a little at a time, so we weren't completely overwhelmed at the end of the semester."

"The class was online and had exactly the amount of work needed for the amount of credits."

"The professor "

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**If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?:**

"I wouldn't do anything differently"

"I love that it is a lab and Serena was very helpful. I would not have changed it."

"I don't think I would do anything differently."

"n/a"

"Nothing I think the course is well"

"Nothing"

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**In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?:**

"The professor has taught me when to perform certain statistical analysis. She was extremely helpful, always answered my emails and was very detailed when something needed to be changed. I learned a great deal of information in this class."

"I definitely have a lot more practical skills that I am able to apply to the real world research I do!"

"The professor was always helpful in the online chat room. She effectively answered any questions I had, and always recapped the assignment details to make sure we completely understood what was expected of us. She provided plenty of resources to assist us on our assignments."

"This instructor gave time for revisiting assignments and was always willing to help."

"I learned a lot about lab "

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**Other comments or suggestions::**

"Prof. De Stefani is so nice and helpful. I would encourage anyone to take a class with her, as she answers our questions immediately, she always makes sure we understand the topic well and she is so clear. I will use what I have learned in this course, for research, in the future. One of the best professors I have had!"

"Great professor! Truly enjoyable course and learned more through this lab than I felt like I did in my actual Cognition course. I was

hesitant about it being an online course, but now I feel that the structure of this online course is more productive than being in-class.”

“It was very easy because the instructions of the assignments were detailed”

“n/a”

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**Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**

(Online Survey - Sakai)

| DeStefani S.<br>serena d<br>Fall 2017,<br>01:830:306:94 —<br>Cognition Lab<br>(index #16064)<br>Enrollment= 19,<br>Responses= 10<br><br>Part A: University-<br>wide Questions: | Student Responses       |   |   |   |                      |                | Weighted Means |        |       |      |
|--|-------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------|----------------|----------------|--------|-------|------|
|  | Strong<br>Disagree<br>1 |   |   |   | Strong<br>Agree<br>5 | No<br>response | Section        | Course | Level | Dept |
| 1 The instructor was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner  | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 3 | 6                    | 0              | 4.50           | 4.52   | 4.40  | 4.44 |
| 2 The instructor responded effectively to student comments and questions   | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 3 | 7                    | 0              | 4.70           | 4.48   | 4.32  | 4.39 |
| 3 The instructor generated interest in the course material   | 0                       | 0 | 2 | 3 | 5                    | 0              | 4.30           | 4.34   | 4.34  | 4.39 |
| 4 The instructor had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 3 | 7                    | 0              | 4.70           | 4.55   | 4.42  | 4.48 |
| 5 The instructor assigned grades fairly  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8                    | 0              | 4.80           | 4.66   | 4.40  | 4.46 |
| 6 The instructional methods encouraged student learning  | 0                       | 0 | 2 | 2 | 6                    | 0              | 4.40           | 4.34   | 4.14  | 4.22 |
| 7 I learned a great deal in this course  | 0                       | 0 | 2 | 2 | 6                    | 0              | 4.40           | 4.31   | 4.22  | 4.26 |
| 8 I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course   | 0                       | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2                    | 0              | 3.60           | 3.93   | 4.08  | 4.04 |
|  | <b>Poor</b>             |   |   |   | <b>Excellent</b>     |                |                |        |       |      |
| 9 I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor as:  | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 3 | 6                    | 0              | 4.50           | 4.41   | 4.13  | 4.21 |
| 10 I rate the overall quality of the course as:  | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 4 | 5                    | 0              | 4.40           | 4.41   | 4.12  | 4.19 |

**What do you like best about this course?:**

"It was very chill. I wasn't too stressed about it which is great."

"The professor demonstrated the material in a very organized manner."

"I liked how the course was online and how the instructor was very helpful."

"I liked that although it was online, there were at least 2 in class meetings."

"Though it was online, it was conducive to learning, thereby saving time"

"I like how its an online class and we can set our own pace as long as we meet the due dates. I typically spent 1-2 hours a week on assignments."

"You ultimately get to do your own research, which I found very interesting"

"The material taught, and having to opportunity to run experiments. The professor did a good job with outlining the experiments and giving the resources that were necessary to complete the lab."

**If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?:**

"Nothing"

"I would make it a requirement to participate in at least one person's final project because it was very hard to get participants even when extra credit was offered."

"N/A"

"I spent about 4 hours a week on this course, and felt that the workload was a bit much for a 1 credit course."

"I would personally post all of the labs a week before the due date. Sometimes we only had 2-3 days to complete labs and i barely had time but if it was posted earlier I could have completed it no problem."

"nothing"

"I would assign the weekly assignments earlier. Sometimes we only had 2-3 days to complete all the work, and I would have benefitted from more time"

"I spent about 3 hours a week on average for homework, but once the final project arrived the extra attention required moved it upwards of 5. Although I probably could have paid less care and completed it faster, I still felt this may have been a bit too intensive at the end of the course near finals. Perhaps the syllabus might be rearranged for more consistent time investments and a final project that begins earlier to allow more time."

"I wish it was not online, I do not benefit from online classes, hard to communicate with Professor this way and understand the expectations of the class. It was time consuming with the overall experiments and hard to understand if the experiment was not laid out, especially if there were many parts to the lab. Hard to follow"

**In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?:**

"She has taught me to learn to teach and write a paper in a simplified manner that isn't too difficult."

"I became more knowledgeable in the PsychoPy program. As well as researching psychology topics."

"It had taught me to be a better scientific writer."

"She gave detailed comments and allowed us to resubmit our work with corrections"

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**Other comments or suggestions:**

“Some of the directions of the labs were a little confusing.”

“The professor met with me on multiple occasions for extra help. Her patience and assistance was much appreciated!”

“I spent about 3 hours per week in this class which I think is fair for one credit.”

“Some weeks I spent about 5 hours doing the work if it was hard, but usually it was reasonable”

“Course was fun! Definitely a unique lab format and I enjoyed it.”

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**Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**

(Online Survey - Sakai)

| De Stefani Serena<br>sd911<br>Spring 2018,<br>01:830:306:93 —<br>Cognition Lab<br>(index #13466)<br>Enrollment= 19,<br>Responses= 11<br><br>Part A: University-<br>wide Questions: | Student Responses       |   |   |   |                      | Weighted Means |         |        |       |      |
|--|-------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------|----------------|---------|--------|-------|------|
|  | Strong<br>Disagree<br>1 |   |   |   | Strong<br>Agree<br>5 | No<br>response | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
| 1 The instructor was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 4 | 7                    | 0              | 4.64    | 4.60   | 4.58  | 4.52 |
| 2 The instructor responded effectively to student comments and questions   | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 3 | 8                    | 0              | 4.73    | 4.68   | 4.54  | 4.47 |
| 3 The instructor generated interest in the course material   | 0                       | 1 | 1 | 3 | 6                    | 0              | 4.27    | 4.15   | 4.42  | 4.38 |
| 4 The instructor had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material  | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 2 | 8                    | 0              | 4.64    | 4.69   | 4.60  | 4.53 |
| 5 The instructor assigned grades fairly  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 3 | 8                    | 0              | 4.73    | 4.73   | 4.55  | 4.50 |
| 6 The instructional methods encouraged student learning  | 0                       | 0 | 2 | 3 | 6                    | 0              | 4.36    | 4.44   | 4.30  | 4.27 |
| 7 I learned a great deal in this course  | 0                       | 2 | 3 | 0 | 6                    | 0              | 3.91    | 4.00   | 4.33  | 4.31 |
| 8 I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course   | 0                       | 1 | 2 | 6 | 2                    | 0              | 3.82    | 3.73   | 4.15  | 4.04 |
|  | <b>Poor</b>             |   |   |   | <b>Excellent</b>     |                |         |        |       |      |
| 9 I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor as:  | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 2 | 8                    | 0              | 4.64    | 4.54   | 4.33  | 4.30 |
| 10 I rate the overall quality of the course as:  | 0                       | 0 | 2 | 4 | 5                    | 0              | 4.27    | 4.27   | 4.30  | 4.26 |

**What do you like best about this course?:**

“Serena made it easy to succeed while still learning a great deal about the topic”

“I enjoyed running the experiments”

“The assignments were clear and straightforward with a plenty of assistance from the professor.”

“The final project which allowed us to construct and carry out our own experiments”

“how it met online ”

“I like that we have the ability to resubmit our work after receiving feedback on it. It helps me to be able to correct and better my work.”

“I like the fact that we it was online for the most part”

“The very detailed power points and instructions! And always quick to respond and help. It is definitely unnecessary to be in person for this class every time, so this was perfect. ”

“I liked the format of this course the best. It was not too demanding, however, I really think that I learned a great deal from it. Allowed resubmissions was also a great aspect because it was some of the students first time learning how to construct a lab report in APA. ”

**If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?:**

“Nothing”

“Perhaps additional resources to supplement the material? Just for people more interested in exploring each lab.”

“Maybe a little more structure or at least guidelines for the final project- difficult to finalize an experimental when you don't know what PsychoPy allows”

“nothing”

“I would eliminate in class meetings altogether. The first meeting was fine, but the second one was not needed.”

“maybe a file with some frequently asked questions...I feel like the same questions were being asked all semester”

“Nothing.”

“If i was teaching this course, I would add more videos (eg. TedTalks) to help students who are visual learners understand the material more fully. ”

**In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?:**

“The instructor was good at clarifying the different material.”

“The course involved a final project that required a unique idea from us which was a nice touch after redoing previous experiments.”

“Serena is super approachable and always willing to help!”

“it helped me learn how to write a lab report ”

“Serena always makes sure to encourage me to try things on my own before having her give me any help. She does give me the resources that I need in order to succeed.”

“n/a”

“It has greatly helped my knowledge of running labs and lab journals.”

“This course was the first lab that I have taken at Rutgers, and I was nervous to take it due to my lack of experience in writing a lab report, especially in APA format. However, this course really educated me in learning these aspects and has encouraged the intellectual growth necessary for my career path (Psychology).”

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**Other comments or suggestions:**

“Serena is so helpful! She is always there to answer emails and to give help when needed. I highly suggest that other students take this lab with her as the professor!”

“n/a”

“Thank you for a great semester.”

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**Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**

(Online Survey - Sakai)

| De Stefani Serena<br>sd911<br>Fall 2018,<br>01:830:306:94 —<br>Cognition Lab<br>(index #14074)<br>Enrollment= 12,<br>Responses= 9<br><br>Part A: University-<br>wide Questions: | Student Responses       |   |   |   |                      |                | Weighted Means |        |       |      |
|---|-------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------|----------------|----------------|--------|-------|------|
|   | Strong<br>Disagree<br>1 |   |   |   | Strong<br>Agree<br>5 | No<br>response | Section        | Course | Level | Dept |
| 1 The instructor was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner   | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4                    | 1              | 4.38           | 4.37   | 4.51  | 4.54 |
| 2 The instructor responded effectively to student comments and questions  | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 1 | 7                    | 0              | 4.67           | 4.64   | 4.41  | 4.49 |
| 3 The instructor generated interest in the course material  | 0                       | 0 | 2 | 1 | 6                    | 0              | 4.44           | 4.26   | 4.36  | 4.47 |
| 4 The instructor had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material   | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9                    | 0              | 5.00           | 4.76   | 4.50  | 4.56 |
| 5 The instructor assigned grades fairly   | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9                    | 0              | 5.00           | 4.64   | 4.46  | 4.55 |
| 6 The instructional methods encouraged student learning   | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 1 | 8                    | 0              | 4.89           | 4.52   | 4.18  | 4.32 |
| 7 I learned a great deal in this course   | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 4 | 4                    | 0              | 4.33           | 4.21   | 4.26  | 4.36 |
| 8 I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course  | 1                       | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3                    | 0              | 3.44           | 3.62   | 4.14  | 4.10 |
|   | <b>Poor</b>             |   |   |   | <b>Excellent</b>     |                |                |        |       |      |
| 9 I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor as:   | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 4 | 5                    | 0              | 4.56           | 4.48   | 4.21  | 4.33 |
| 10 I rate the overall quality of the course as:   | 0                       | 0 | 3 | 2 | 4                    | 0              | 4.11           | 4.20   | 4.18  | 4.31 |

**What do you like best about this course?:**

"The instructor was extremely helpful."

"I liked that it was online and very independent."

"A great way to learn about research in psychology and the practical applications of it."

"I liked the idea of an online lecture. Found it quite useful to be able to login from anywhere and participate in class. I also liked how the course was designed."

"I liked how it felt the same as being in class despite the class being online. The material for the class was presented well and doubts were solved fairly quickly."

"The experiments are so interesting. And the professor offers professional suggestions even makes them better."

"It's mostly online."

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**If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?:**

"I would be more thorough with explaining the assignments and directions."

"Nothing!"

"Offer it entirely online."

"Nothing really."

"None"

"Maybe the deadline of the assignment right after Thanksgiving would be delayed a little bit."

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**In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?:**

"Honestly this course did not challenge me."

"She helped me work through my issues with computers, and was always willing to meet with me. Very helpful and encouraging when most professors at Rutgers don't do this."

"I delved further into the process of scientific studies."

"It has made me more aware of my writing."

"Of course. The instructor gave me valuable advice and patience, which I really appreciate."

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**Other comments or suggestions::**

"The instructor truly has made this course great."

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**Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**  
(Online Survey - Sakai)

| De Stefani Serena<br>sd911<br>Spring 2019,<br>01:830:306:93 —<br>Cognition Lab<br>(index #12284)<br>Enrollment= 20,<br>Responses= 12<br><br>Part A: University-<br>wide Questions: | Student Responses       |   |   |   |                      |                | Weighted Means |        |       |      |
|--|-------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------|----------------|----------------|--------|-------|------|
|  | Strong<br>Disagree<br>1 |   |   |   | Strong<br>Agree<br>5 | No<br>response | Section        | Course | Level | Dept |
| 1 The instructor was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 2 | 10                   | 0              | 4.83           | 4.43   | 4.44  | 4.50 |
| 2 The instructor responded effectively to student comments and questions   | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 3 | 9                    | 0              | 4.75           | 4.48   | 4.44  | 4.49 |
| 3 The instructor generated interest in the course material   | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 5 | 6                    | 0              | 4.42           | 4.33   | 4.32  | 4.41 |
| 4 The instructor had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 2 | 10                   | 0              | 4.83           | 4.58   | 4.54  | 4.56 |
| 5 The instructor assigned grades fairly  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 4 | 8                    | 0              | 4.67           | 4.40   | 4.51  | 4.51 |
| 6 The instructional methods encouraged student learning  | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 5 | 6                    | 0              | 4.42           | 4.30   | 4.18  | 4.28 |
| 7 I learned a great deal in this course  | 0                       | 1 | 0 | 6 | 5                    | 0              | 4.25           | 4.08   | 4.23  | 4.31 |
| 8 I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course   | 0                       | 2 | 3 | 2 | 4                    | 1              | 3.73           | 3.79   | 4.13  | 4.06 |
|  | <b>Poor</b>             |   |   |   | <b>Excellent</b>     |                |                |        |       |      |
| 9 I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor as:  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 5 | 7                    | 0              | 4.58           | 4.30   | 4.20  | 4.29 |
| 10 I rate the overall quality of the course as:  | 0                       | 1 | 0 | 7 | 4                    | 0              | 4.17           | 4.03   | 4.15  | 4.23 |

**What do you like best about this course?:**

"I liked how we learned what is involved in creating and analyzing actual psychology experiments."

"Serena was really amazing at always making sure to help whenever I had a concern or question. She always made herself available and was extremely patient."

"I really enjoyed having Serena as an instructor. She was open to helping all of the students and really made the lab enjoyable. She answered all of her emails in a timely fashion and was willing to help the student complete the labs correctly. While writing my final paper, she emailed me and asked me if I needed any help. She is really interested in the success of the students and I think that is an important characteristic of an instructor."

"the online aspect"

"The class was well organized and Serena was a very helpful instructor."

"The online Aspect of it."

"Meeting on zoom was very helpful and fit in easier with my day"

"Running various experiments over the course of the semester was fun!"

"I enjoy the independent nature of this course. Although quite challenging at times, I found that pushing through and viewing the finalized product to be quite rewarding."

**If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?:**

"I would be more clear and timely with project instructions."

"I would not do anything different."

"nothing"

"I think it is really hard to make a lab course online, and I think it would be better in person"

"Nothing much, she did a great job."

"Explain psychopy a little better and have more in person meetings"

"Give more time to complete assignments"

"\_"

"If I was teaching this class, I would prefer to have an instructor with an assistant who helps with addressing student questions. Also perhaps more than 3 days to complete an assignment because on top of other workloads it was quite difficult to accomplish assignments in that timeframe."

**In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?:**

"Yes, I really enjoyed the experiments we completed in this class and Serena made it so easy to understand how to use Psychopy software (which was completely foreign to me). I learned a lot in this class and really enjoyed it."

"NA"

"having us make our own experiments"

"She was a fair grader and always gave useful tips and corrections on the assignments. She was also very active in responding to

questions and emails.”

“The experiments talked about and performed were very interesting and the ability to understand lab reports and put them together helped.”

“I learned a new skill, i.e., how to write a lab report.”

“I have learned a great deal about how to conduct research and create hypotheses.”

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**Other comments or suggestions:**

“NA”

“zoom is better than the chatroom”

“Great job!”

“n/a”

“\_”

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## Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating

Fall 2019

### De Stefani, Serena - SD911

Cognition Lab - 01:830:306:94

Survey Form: \*Standard SIRS

Enrollment: 12

Responses Received: 7

#### University-wide Instructor Questions

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|  | SD | D | N | A | SA | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|----|---|---|---|----|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| The instructor Serena De Stefani was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner.               | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7  | 7    | 5.00    | 4.62   | 4.59  | 4.51 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani responded effectively to student comments and questions.                                | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6  | 7    | 4.86    | 4.55   | 4.56  | 4.47 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani generated interest in the course material.  | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6  | 7    | 4.86    | 4.31   | 4.54  | 4.44 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material. | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7  | 7    | 5.00    | 4.76   | 4.62  | 4.55 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani assigned grades fairly.   | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6  | 7    | 4.86    | 4.69   | 4.60  | 4.57 |
| The instructional methods of Serena De Stefani encouraged student learning.  | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6  | 7    | 4.86    | 4.41   | 4.42  | 4.33 |

#### Teaching Effectiveness

**Weight of responses:** 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|   | P | F | A | G | E | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor Serena De Stefani as: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7    | 5.00    | 4.52   | 4.45  | 4.34 |

## University-wide Course Questions

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|   | SD | D | N | A | SA | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---|----|---|---|---|----|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| I learned a great deal in this course.  | 0  | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3  | 6    | 4.50    | 4.25   | 4.41  | 4.31 |
| I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course. | 0  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3  | 6    | 4.00    | 3.71   | 4.22  | 4.11 |

## Course Quality

**Weight of responses:** 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|  | P | F | A | G | E | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| I rate the overall quality of the course as: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 6    | 4.67    | 4.21   | 4.40  | 4.29 |

## What do you like best about this course?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments   |
|--|
| The gradual writing of the paper   |
| i liked the experiments we created and tested each other on  |
| The professor is very kind   |
| It was online and short which was exactly what was needed because I spent a lot of time doing the work myself which gave me room for independence. |

## If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments  |
|---|
| not much  |
| nothing, Professor De Stefani did a great job at teaching this course |
| I thought this course was taught very efficiently.                    |

## In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor Serena De Stefani encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?

These comments are unique to the instructor Serena De Stefani.

| Comments   |
|--|
| supported our ideas for research and aided us individually as to how we could create our projects  |
| the material we learned helped me in better understanding how to construct an experiment and write a report on it  |
| Serena has inspired me to work in the field of research with her aptitude and optimism. I can sense her passion towards the field which really influences me to enjoy the course and the class. Serena helped me a lot this semester as I was a beginner to computers, and I was able to really learn from her simple, organized explanations. |

**Other comments or suggestions:**

These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments          |
|-------------------|
| loved this class! |
| n/a               |



## Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating

Spring 2020

Half of semester taught remotely due to Covid-19

### De Stefani, Serena - SD911

Cognition Lab - 01:830:306:01

Survey Form: \*Standard SIRS

Enrollment: 12

Responses Received: 10

The Student Instructional Ratings Surveys should be considered within the context of the global health emergency of Spring 2020. The considerable changes in instructional and pedagogical formats necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic imply that caution should be exercised when comparing these results to other instructors or terms. The course, level, and department means reflect the current circumstance and are still provided to allow a comparative measure within the conditions of the semester.

Rutgers University has decided that instructors have flexibility in choosing how or whether to include the Spring 2020 SIRS results in promotion and rehiring materials. Details may vary by campus, rank, or position; please confer with your department chair for more information.

### University-wide Questions on Move to Remote Learning Due to Covid-19 Response

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|   | SD | D | N | A | SA | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---|----|---|---|---|----|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| Despite the abrupt change to remote instruction due to the Covid-19 disruption, the instructor Serena De Stefani offered an effective learning experience in this course. | 0  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 7  | 10   | 4.60    | 4.74   | 4.28  | 4.32 |

**Note:** A low numerical rating for this question indicates the students do not perceive a negative impact on their learning.

|  | SD | D | N | A | SA | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|----|---|---|---|----|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| The move to remote instruction, due to the Covid-19 response, adversely impacted my learning in this course. | 2  | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2  | 10   | 2.80    | 2.06   | 3.16  | 3.16 |

**NOTE:** Students indicate that "the move to remote instruction" had a negative impact on their learning (2.80), which is greater than in the other lab sections (2.06). One reason could be that in Spring 2020, this lab section (along with another) was held in person, although all other lab sections were still held online, resulting in less disruption at the start of the pandemic.

## University-wide Instructor Questions

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|  | SD | D | N | A | SA | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|----|---|---|---|----|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| The instructor Serena De Stefani was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner.               | 0  | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5  | 10   | 4.50    | 4.62   | 4.45  | 4.50 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani responded effectively to student comments and questions.                                | 0  | 0 | 1 | 3 | 6  | 10   | 4.50    | 4.68   | 4.39  | 4.45 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani generated interest in the course material.  | 0  | 1 | 0 | 4 | 5  | 10   | 4.30    | 4.32   | 4.38  | 4.44 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material. | 0  | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8  | 10   | 4.80    | 4.76   | 4.49  | 4.54 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani assigned grades fairly.   | 0  | 0 | 0 | 4 | 6  | 10   | 4.60    | 4.59   | 4.46  | 4.50 |
| The instructional methods of Serena De Stefani encouraged student learning.  | 0  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 6  | 10   | 4.30    | 4.44   | 4.25  | 4.33 |

## Teaching Effectiveness

**Weight of responses:** 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|   | P | F | A | G | E | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor Serena De Stefani as: | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 9    | 4.44    | 4.64   | 4.29  | 4.37 |

## University-wide Course Questions

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|   | SD | D | N | A | SA | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---|----|---|---|---|----|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| I learned a great deal in this course.  | 0  | 1 | 0 | 7 | 2  | 10   | 4.00    | 4.32   | 4.24  | 4.29 |
| I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course. | 0  | 0 | 3 | 4 | 3  | 10   | 4.00    | 3.67   | 4.11  | 4.08 |

## Course Quality

**Weight of responses:** 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|  | P | F | A | G | E | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| I rate the overall quality of the course as: | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 9    | 4.11    | 4.45   | 4.25  | 4.32 |

## What do you like best about this course?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments  |
|---|
| I like how straightforward everything was.  |
| I enjoyed learning about the real life applications of psychology research and learning how to conduct my own research. |

### If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

#### Comments

I would ensure that I provided the students with enough time to complete projects but uploading at the same times consistently.

I would make the guidelines more clear in the first few classes. Things became clearer as the semester went on but things were a little confusing at first

### In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor Serena De Stefani encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?

These comments are unique to the instructor Serena De Stefani.

#### Comments

She included videos that aided in explaining the lab processes while we were working on them. I feel like that helped engage my interest in learning more about the processes within the work.

Ms. De Stefani was a wonderful instructor who is clearly very passionate about the field of psychology. Her interest in what she teaches makes it very engaging for the rest of the class. She is extremely helpful and patient if students have trouble and is a very fair grader.

### Other comments or suggestions:

These comments are intended for all instructors.

#### Comments

I know this course was previously online and has recently become an in-person class, however I believe it was equally as effective and engaging in both settings, so I think it would be a successful course in either format.

# Quantitative Methods in Psychology

**Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**

(Online Survey - Sakai)

| De Stefani Serena<br>Summer 2017,<br>01:830:200:H1 —<br>QUANTITATIVE<br>METHODS IN<br>PSYCHOLOGY<br>(index #00834)<br>Enrollment= 26,<br>Responses= 12<br><br>Part A: University-<br>wide Questions: | Student Responses       |   |   |   |                      | Weighted Means |         |        |       |      |
|--|-------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------|----------------|---------|--------|-------|------|
|  | Strong<br>Disagree<br>1 |   |   |   | Strong<br>Agree<br>5 | No<br>response | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
| 1. The instructor was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner.  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 4 | 8                    | 0              | 4.67    | 4.79   | 4.72  | 4.67 |
| 2. The instructor responded effectively to student comments and questions.   | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 2 | 9                    | 0              | 4.67    | 4.61   | 4.57  | 4.59 |
| 3. The instructor generated interest in the course material.   | 0                       | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8                    | 1              | 4.45    | 4.57   | 4.53  | 4.57 |
| 4. The instructor had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material.  | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 1 | 10                   | 0              | 4.75    | 4.60   | 4.58  | 4.66 |
| 5. The instructor assigned grades fairly.  | 0                       | 0 | 0 | 4 | 8                    | 0              | 4.67    | 4.70   | 4.67  | 4.66 |
| 6. The instructional methods encouraged student learning.  | 1                       | 1 | 0 | 4 | 6                    | 0              | 4.08    | 4.39   | 4.35  | 4.54 |
| 7. I learned a great deal in this course.  | 0                       | 1 | 1 | 3 | 7                    | 0              | 4.33    | 4.56   | 4.54  | 4.52 |
| 8. I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course.   | 1                       | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3                    | 1              | 3.27    | 3.04   | 3.20  | 3.95 |
|  | <b>Poor</b>             |   |   |   | <b>Excellent</b>     |                |         |        |       |      |
| 9. I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor as:   | 1                       | 0 | 0 | 5 | 6                    | 0              | 4.25    | 4.54   | 4.51  | 4.52 |
| 10. I rate the overall quality of the course as:   | 0                       | 1 | 1 | 4 | 6                    | 0              | 4.25    | 4.53   | 4.49  | 4.48 |

**What do you like best about this course?:**

"I like that we got a reasonable amount of work to do at home. "

"She's very nice and approachable compared to killianski, she is so much better."

"the instructor "

"Professor DeStefani really broke down the material so it was easy to understand. She is very helpful and truly wants everyone to succeed."

"Gave me insight on the basics of statistics and the instructor helped with that growth."

"Interesting material. "

"I like that she grades very fairly and that she always has a positive energy when teaching."

"I enjoyed learning the material itself and learning about statistics"

**If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?:**

"I felt that the slides reflected the textbook too much. All of the examples given were in the textbook, so I would have tried giving different examples. Possibly examples that are more challenging than those in the textbook. "

"More in class problem solving "

"N/A"

"N/A"

"more in class examples "

"Put a lot more weight on the calculations and give more examples, spend less time with terminology. "

"I would make the course more interactive and come up with new ways to make learning the material fun."

"I might find an alternative to R, because I had some trouble with the program"

**In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?:**

"I have a better understanding of statistics, which I can further apply in other psychology classes. "

"N/A"

"I understand all the material much better and the homework assignments are very helpful in preparing for the exam."

"has given me a tool of interpreting and using data for future career."

"N/a"

"She, unlike many professors, explains the material very well. Many of the math professors at Rutgers explain things in really confusing ways and seem annoyed if you ask too many questions. She does not do this, but always has a positive and helpful attitude."

"I've learned a lot about how to analyze statistics"

**Other comments or suggestions::**

"She's wonderful, I love her. She deserves a raise. "

“N/A”

“N/a”

“Slides are a guide, not a script. If my lecture is just the slides, it is ineffective and can be done just by myself.”

“Some of the hw/midterm questions seemed ambiguous to me, I think it'd help if those questions had clearer answers. Other than that I think everything was really fair and taught me a lot.”

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**Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**  
(Online Survey - Sakai)

| De Stefani Serena<br>sd911<br>Summer 2018,<br>01:830:200:H1 —<br>QNTTV MTHDS IN<br>PSYCH (index<br>#00749)<br>Enrollment= 20,<br>Responses= 11<br><br>Part A: University-<br>wide Questions: | Student Responses       |   |   |   |                      |                | Weighted Means |        |       |      |
|--|-------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------|----------------|----------------|--------|-------|------|
|  | Strong<br>Disagree<br>1 |   |   |   | Strong<br>Agree<br>5 | No<br>response | Section        | Course | Level | Dept |
| 1 The instructor was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner  | 0                       | 1 | 2 | 2 | 6                    | 0              | 4.18           | 4.78   | 4.65  | 4.65 |
| 2 The instructor responded effectively to student comments and questions   | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 3 | 7                    | 0              | 4.55           | 4.78   | 4.69  | 4.66 |
| 3 The instructor generated interest in the course material   | 0                       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5                    | 0              | 4.09           | 4.76   | 4.62  | 4.58 |
| 4 The instructor had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material  | 0                       | 1 | 0 | 1 | 9                    | 0              | 4.64           | 4.86   | 4.76  | 4.73 |
| 5 The instructor assigned grades fairly  | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 0 | 10                   | 0              | 4.82           | 4.80   | 4.71  | 4.68 |
| 6 The instructional methods encouraged student learning  | 0                       | 0 | 1 | 3 | 7                    | 0              | 4.55           | 4.80   | 4.65  | 4.54 |
| 7 I learned a great deal in this course  | 0                       | 0 | 4 | 2 | 5                    | 0              | 4.09           | 4.62   | 4.49  | 4.53 |
| 8 I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course   | 3                       | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3                    | 0              | 3.27           | 2.96   | 2.94  | 4.06 |
|  | <b>Poor</b>             |   |   |   | <b>Excellent</b>     |                |                |        |       |      |
| 9 I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor as:  | 0                       | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5                    | 0              | 4.18           | 4.74   | 4.62  | 4.54 |
| 10 I rate the overall quality of the course as:  | 0                       | 0 | 4 | 3 | 4                    | 0              | 4.00           | 4.62   | 4.51  | 4.51 |

**What do you like best about this course?:**

"It was challenging but the professor was patient with the students and really cared about teaching us the material."

"learning about statistics, how easy math can show you a lot about data"

"Not a lot of assignments so it was easier to focus on the material."

"She tried to be helpful and was very fair in grading."

"Professor was very sweet and went a very good pace."

"Professor De Stefani was very invested in her students' education. She offered many opportunities to reach out to her if you did not understand the course material. In addition, she gave many useful in class examples."

"The method she used to present the course."

"I connected this course to future Psychology experiments. I truly learned how Statistics is related to Psychology."

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**If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?:**

"This is not an easy course to teach so there are very little things that I would do differently like engage the students more."

"homework pertaining more to the questions/problems we have seen in class."

"I would do less explanation on slides and do more in class examples."

"Use less Sakai for the homework"

"I can honestly say that I would not do anything differently. Professor De Stefani fulfilled all the requirements of a great professor: she was interested in the material, invested in her students, and gave clear lectures."

"I will do the same because she is perfect."

"N/A"

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**In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?:**

"In the future I want to be involved in more research opportunities so this course provided the foundation for that and helped encouraged my overall intellectual growth as a student."

"always open to question taking and is helpful to any student who doesn't understand the material"

"The instructor helps with assignments after class and provides office hours."

"To learn about the ways in which we can apply statistics in the real world."

"I now have a better understanding of statistics and their applications in research. I now understand what it takes for a finding to be statistically significant. In addition to a more comprehensive understanding of statistics, I am much more knowledgeable about experimental design."

"The professor taught everything in a way that was easy for a student who hasn't taken a Math course in years. She was so patient and kind. I appreciate her."

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**Other comments or suggestions:**

“Course is fast pace and could use more in depth explanation to theories and formulas in class through examples.”

“As I said before, I feel that her use of examples and daily review helped all students in this course.”

“I hope she continue to teach because she was very great and explained clearly.”

“N/a”

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## **Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**

Summer 2020

### **De Stefani, Serena - SD911**

Quantitativemethods In Psychology - 01:830:200:H2

Survey Form: \*Standard SIRS

Enrollment: 28

Responses Received: 20

## University-wide Instructor Questions

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|  | SD | D | N | A  | SA | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|----|---|---|----|----|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| The instructor Serena De Stefani was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner.               | 0  | 0 | 2 | 12 | 5  | 19   | 4.16    | 4.46   | 4.37  | 4.60 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani responded effectively to student comments and questions.                                | 0  | 0 | 1 | 7  | 11 | 19   | 4.53    | 4.52   | 4.49  | 4.60 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani generated interest in the course material.  | 0  | 0 | 2 | 9  | 8  | 19   | 4.32    | 4.51   | 4.47  | 4.56 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material. | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1  | 18 | 19   | 4.95    | 4.80   | 4.75  | 4.70 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani assigned grades fairly.   | 0  | 0 | 0 | 1  | 18 | 19   | 4.95    | 4.82   | 4.71  | 4.61 |
| The instructional methods of Serena De Stefani encouraged student learning.  | 0  | 0 | 3 | 7  | 9  | 19   | 4.32    | 4.43   | 4.30  | 4.44 |

## Teaching Effectiveness

**Weight of responses:** 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|   | P | F | A | G | E | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor Serena De Stefani as: | 0 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 19   | 4.11    | 4.39   | 4.29  | 4.48 |

## University-wide Course Questions

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|   | SD | D | N | A  | SA | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---|----|---|---|----|----|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| I learned a great deal in this course.  | 0  | 0 | 2 | 12 | 5  | 19   | 4.16    | 4.37   | 4.35  | 4.44 |
| I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course. | 1  | 6 | 8 | 3  | 0  | 18   | 2.72    | 2.92   | 2.97  | 4.00 |

## Course Quality

**Weight of responses:** 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|  | P | F | A | G | E | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| I rate the overall quality of the course as: | 0 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 19   | 3.95    | 4.30   | 4.23  | 4.44 |

## What do you like best about this course?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments  |
|---|
| I liked the structure of the course.  |
| The fact that statistics can be applied in our everyday lives and the skills that I learned in this course can stay with me for a long time.  |
| I liked how fairly the professor graded assignments. She understood that we are living through a crazy time, and that reflected her grading methods. In doing so, this made me want to work harder in this class.     |
| the review in the beginning   |
| Workload was just about right   |
| It was very structured and the expectations were clearly outlined.  |
| Overall fairness of the course  |
| I think the course does a good job laying out exactly what is expected of the student and doesn't throw anything at the student that isn't on the syllabus or discussed in lecture, it felt very structured and fair. |
| Flexibility   |
| the attentiveness of the professor  |
| She gave us many opportunities to help our grade in the class overall, and was understanding when we had difficulty with questions and/or assignments.  |

## If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments   |
|--|
| I would spend less time on the first half (material before the midterm) of the course since the second half (material after the midterm) is more challenging and this would allow us to have more time to understand it.   |
| Sometimes, the instructor was a bit unsure on how to tackle a problem so it'll be good if she knew what she was going to say and knew how to say it in a way that doesn't show unease to the students.   |
| not have so many assignments from different websites.  |
| I would probably assign more reading   |
| I would not to the R assignments   |
| Quizzes weekly to make sure students are staying engaged in the material.  |
| I maybe would have done the first half of the course a bit faster and the second half a bit slower because it is harder material and I feel it was a lot more to handle then the first part.   |
| More breaks– it is easy to zone out or lose interest in a 2.5 hour lecture.  |
| I think maybe providing some extra examples, that aren't from readings that we had to do the night before, would aid in comprehending the material a bit better, so we could get two different perspectives on a topic, rather than one two times.   |
| Lecturing  |
| I would not do anything differently.   |
| There was an excessive focus on coding that was not explicitly listed on the course description. From my understanding, other classes for this course did not have any coding assignments, and I would have been more likely to have chosen a different class as I was not expecting to have such a highly coding-based course for Quantitative Methods. |

## In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor Serena De Stefani encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?

These comments are unique to the instructor Serena De Stefani.

| Comments  |
|---|
| Learned a ton because I had no prior knowledge of this subject before   |
| She has encouraged my intellectual growth by helping me apply statistics to everyday life. I am now able to think about things in ways I have never thought about before.   |
| Very kind teacher, always tried to help a student if they had a question  |
| She has been unbelievably responsive and helpful in every way possible for such difficult subject matter.   |
| Professor De Stefani's application of statistics to real life and use of real world application scenarios made learning more interesting and relevant.  |
| Serena De Stefani made sure to try and equip us with not just the bare minimum knowledge for the course, but was adamant about making sure we got exposure and experience with other relevant parts of statistics, like coding with R, and other courses that could be found online, and encouraged us to become better statisticians by partaking in these courses and such. |
| Professor De Stefani is clearly very passionate about Statistics and the material she teaches. It can push students to want to understand the material better, as she does.   |
| Whenever I needed help the professor helped me at whenever time and was very understanding  |
| She was always able to answer any questions asked and was always willing to assist when needed.   |

## Other comments or suggestions:

These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments   |
|--|
| n/a  |
| Really cares about the students!   |
| Very good course   |
| I feel that my professor handled this class in a sufficient and organized manner, despite the challenges we faced with everything being online. However, a 2.5 hour lecture seemed a little lengthy. If there is any way to shorten the class, even by 30 minutes, I think that would be beneficial to the students so they do not lose interest while learning. |
| The nature of the course being online due to COVID led to some unavoidable burdens, such as test formats which did not allow for moving back and forth between questions and coding projects that had to be done independently.  |
| Professor was very understanding of situations. Professor went out of her way to help students.  |

## Questions Created by Instructor

Was it helpful to have your own copy of the textbook? Or do you think Perusall would have been enough?

| Comments   |
|--|
| I do think it was helpful to have my own copy of the textbook but it wasn't totally necessary.   |
| It was helpful to get my own copy.   |
| Perusall was enough  |
| I strongly believe the textbook was better than Perusall   |
| perusall was enough.   |
| Perusall was definitely enough.  |
| prusall was enough   |
| Perusall   |
| I think Perusall was sufficient.   |
| I think perusall would have been enough  |
| I used perusall for the assignments, but I used the textbook to study for the exams  |
| Perusall would have been enough – I rented the textbook and did not use it.  |
| The perusall I think is more than enough to get by, There really wasn't a time where I needed to access the physical textbook, as anything important was already in the perusall. Maybe for studying purposes a physical book would be better, but the professor provided us with adequate material I think so it wasn't ever an issue |
| I think perusall would have been enough  |
| I think it depends on students if they learn better with a physical copy or online instead. It was nice having my own copy but I feel like if I only had Perusall, I still would have learned the material the same.   |
| I think Perusall would have been enough and it would save students money instead of having to buy/rent the textbook.   |
| yes, my own copy of the textbook was helpful. i do not think perusall would have been enough, i actually did not care for perusall   |
| I think Perusall would have been enough.   |
| Personally, I would have preferred to strickly use a textbook as Perusall assignments were overwhelming and often unnecessary. It was nice, however, to have an online version of the text that did not come at a cost to students.  |

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Thu 5/7/2020 2:24 PM

To: Serena De Stefani <serena.destefani@rutgers.edu>

Dear Serena,

I hope you and your family are doing well during this extraordinary time!

I am happy to say that I am going to Stanford University in the Fall! To prepare for the upcoming school year, I am currently filling out transfer credit requests for the college classes I took during high school, like your Quantitative Methods in Psychology course! The process requires that I attach a syllabus for each course. Would you happen to have the syllabi for that course? I seem to have misplaced mine.

I also would like to thank you for being an amazing mentor and professor! Your class and genuine passion for statistics and science inspires me to this day! I will miss you and your class dearly!

I look forward to hearing from you and continue to wish the best for you and your family!

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

## Re: Sports analytics resources

[REDACTED]

Sun 8/19/2018 10:56 PM

To: Serena De Stefani <serena.destefani@rutgers.edu>

Hi Professor De Stefani,

Thank you so much for getting back to me so quickly and providing me with such helpful information about pursuing my interest in sports analytics. I just wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed Quantitative Methods and thought you did an excellent job presenting the material. I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer and for a successful fall semester.

All the best,

[REDACTED]

## Request for a letter of recommendation for graduate school

[REDACTED]  
Wed 1/2/2019 8:17 PM

To: Serena De Stefani <serena.destefani@rutgers.edu>

Dear Professor DeStefani,

My name is [REDACTED] and I have previously taken your Quantitative Methods 8:30:200:H1 Course this past summer semester at Rutgers University. It was one of the most valuable courses I have taken during my time here at Rutgers. Before entering the course, I was very uncomfortable about taking a statistics course and I believed I would not do well. However, you inspired me to do my best and taught me that even statistics can be understood easily and learned painlessly unlike I expected. After completing your class, I have decided to take my education to the next step and I am now applying to Rutgers University School of Social Work to pursue a career as a Social Worker.

Since your class and your inspirational teaching impacted me so positively I was wondering if you would be willing to write a recommendation for my application. If you are interested in doing so and would like to discuss more or in person please feel free to let me know. I greatly appreciate you taking the time to do so. Thank you and I look forward from hearing back from you soon.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

(No subject)

[REDACTED]  
Mon 3/11/2019 10:05 AM

To: Serena De Stefani <serena.destefani@rutgers.edu>

Dear Professor DeStefani,

I am writing to express my gratitude for your time and consideration in support of my academic endeavors. Your perspective and encouragement mean a great deal to me. You went the extra mile to assist me in regard to my graduate school application. I would like to thank you for all that you have done, and I am truly privileged to have had your assistance.

I am happy to inform you I have been accepted into the Rutgers University School of Social Work MSW Program and I have accepted my offer of admission. I truly appreciate the time, effort and sincerity you have devoted in writing a letter on my behalf, and I am more than eager to start this next chapter of my life.

Thanks again Professor!

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

## Extra Credit Assignment 3

[REDACTED]  
Fri 8/14/2020 5:14 AM

To: Serena De Stefani <serena.destefani@rutgers.edu>

 1 attachments (25 KB)

How Heritability Misleads About Race Statistics Paper.docx;

Hello Professor De Stefani,

I'm terribly sorry for the late submission but I hope you'll still accept my paper. Thank you for all the effort you made for our betterment! I was happy to take Statistics under your guidance.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

## R Assignment 3 (Extra Credit)

[REDACTED]  
Thu 8/13/2020 4:22 AM

To: Serena De Stefani <serena.destefani@rutgers.edu>

Good Morning!

I've attached the PDF of R Assignment 3 for Extra Credit!

I just wanted to say that I really enjoyed the class and I am very grateful to have had you as a professor! Thank you for your time and for a great semester!

Thank you again and stay safe,  
[REDACTED]



SERENA DE STEFANI <sd911@scarletmail.rutgers.edu>

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## Quantitative Methods

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Fri, Aug 14, 2020 at 4:20 PM

[REDACTED]  
To: Serena De Stefani <sd911@scarletmail.rutgers.edu>

Hi Professor De Stefani,

I just wanted to send a quick email to say thank you for this semester! I was worried at first since the course was over the summer and more fast-paced, was online, and because I've never taken a Statistics course before; but, it was a pleasure! It was definitely a new and different experience but I've learned a lot, so thank you and I hope all is well with you!

[REDACTED]

# Expository Writing



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**Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**  
Fall 2020

**De Stefani, Serena - SD911**

Expository Writing I - 01:355:101:FJ  
Survey Form: SAS Writing Program

Enrollment: 21

Responses Received: 20

## Special University-wide Questions for Fall 2020

Due to the challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic, three additional questions were added to the Fall 2020 survey.

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|  | SD | D | N | A  | SA | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|----|---|---|----|----|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| Given the content and level of the course, the course workload was manageable.   | 0  | 0 | 1 | 16 | 3  | 20   | 4.10    | 3.96   | 3.99  | 4.01 |
| The course site used for this course, whether in Canvas, Sakai, or Blackboard, was well organized.                     | 0  | 0 | 5 | 9  | 6  | 20   | 4.05    | 4.39   | 4.39  | 4.38 |
| The instructions given for assignments, exams, quizzes, and other course activities were clear and easy to understand. | 0  | 1 | 2 | 10 | 7  | 20   | 4.15    | 4.20   | 4.22  | 4.23 |

## University-wide Instructor Questions

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|  | SD | D | N | A  | SA | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|----|---|---|----|----|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| The instructor Serena De Stefani was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner.               | 0  | 0 | 1 | 8  | 11 | 20   | 4.50    | 4.53   | 4.51  | 4.51 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani responded effectively to student comments and questions.                                | 0  | 0 | 0 | 8  | 12 | 20   | 4.60    | 4.55   | 4.52  | 4.53 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani generated interest in the course material.  | 0  | 0 | 1 | 10 | 9  | 20   | 4.40    | 4.35   | 4.35  | 4.37 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material. | 0  | 0 | 0 | 8  | 12 | 20   | 4.60    | 4.63   | 4.60  | 4.61 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani assigned grades fairly.   | 0  | 1 | 2 | 9  | 8  | 20   | 4.20    | 4.21   | 4.22  | 4.24 |
| The instructional methods of Serena De Stefani encouraged student learning.  | 0  | 0 | 3 | 9  | 8  | 20   | 4.25    | 4.31   | 4.31  | 4.33 |

## Teaching Effectiveness

**Weight of responses:** 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|   | P | F | A | G | E  | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor Serena De Stefani as: | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 10 | 20   | 4.40    | 4.38   | 4.37  | 4.39 |

## University-wide Course Questions

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|   | SD | D | N | A  | SA | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---|----|---|---|----|----|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| I learned a great deal in this course.  | 1  | 0 | 2 | 10 | 6  | 19   | 4.05    | 4.05   | 4.06  | 4.09 |
| I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course. | 2  | 7 | 7 | 4  | 0  | 20   | 2.65    | 2.86   | 2.95  | 3.06 |

## Course Quality

**Weight of responses:** 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|  | P | F | A | G  | E | Resp | Section     | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|---|---|---|----|---|------|-------------|--------|-------|------|
| I rate the overall quality of the course as: | 1 | 0 | 1 | 14 | 4 | 20   | <b>4.00</b> | 4.01   | 4.04  | 4.08 |

## What do you like best about this course?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments   |
|--|
| I really enjoyed that we did break out rooms and class discussions. This made me better understand the material and feel as though I was actually in class. This also allowed me to collaborate with students and meet the people in my classes. |
| I liked how involved it was, even though it was online   |
| I liked the reading and class discussions the best, as Professor De Stefani provided though-provoking questions and material as well as encouraging intellectual conversation and thought.   |
| I like the discussion posts they increase my understanding of the material.  |
| Nothing  |
| I liked about this course is that we were given a fair amount of time to do the essays.  |
| I like the fact that there was a general direction from the prompt and readings whilst also having the freedom to write about your own views on the matter based on the readings.  |
| The material we read was actually really interesting. My favorite was Foer and Armstrong, and my least favorite was Ho   |
| The activities in class to help extend the capabilities of our papers. Especially the one where we revised our topic sentences and linked the quotes using key terms.  |
| I learn so many different perspectives about so many different things about our modern society.  |
| It really challenges your writing style and forces you to think outside the box.   |
| The flexibility and help from the instructor   |

## If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments  |
|---|
| I would be more clear on the instructions for the essays and exactly what I was expecting from the students in their writing. Oftentimes it was difficult to understand what the professor was looking for. |
| I would give sample papers, so the students have an idea/spark to help them with their paper  |
| I would provide clearer instructions regarding assignments, as well as the due dates, since the assignments are not always posted on Canvas immediately.  |
| Nothing   |
| I would essays have meaningful subjects instead of being purely conjective  |
| I would've liked more time with the professor to discuss my progress with my essays.  |
| IN my opinion, there were a couple of the readings that were a little bit boring but other than that, I felt like the course was taught pretty well.  |
| nothing   |
| I would organize the content a little better on canvas. Sometimes I would find it difficult to find old papers like Tolentino's and Foers.  |
| I don't think I'd do anything differently   |
| I would maybe remove the peer reviews because often times I did not find them useful in editing my essay.   |
| Nothing   |

## In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor Serena De Stefani encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?

These comments are unique to the instructor Serena De Stefani.

| Comments   |
|--|
| Professor De Stefani encouraged our growth by encouraging us to think outside of the box and complicate our ideas. This helped strengthen my writing and become more interested in what we were reading.   |
| I would just say Im more confident in my writing and I'm used to writing long papers now   |
| The course has shown me a better understanding of analyzing and making connections.  |
| She has helped me learn how to organize my writing more effectively, as well as stimulate my analytical thinking skills.   |
| Helped my writing skills a lot   |
| This course and the professor had a big impact on my writing skill. Now I feel like I am a better writer and well be prepared for future courses.  |
| the comments made on my essays really helped me understand how to write in a concise and clear manner.   |
| She challenged our thoughts for paper ideas. My own personal example would be for our 1st paper that we wrote, where it was not my best, but she provided a ton of feedback that helped me understand that prompt much better.   |
| I feel like Mrs. Stefani had helped me make more progress as a writer in 3 months than all of high school has over the course of 4 years. I think the way she explained how to convey ideas was so different and more effective than any high school teacher.            |
| The course has made me a much better writer than before. At first, I found the format of the analytical essay very hard to cope with but as the semester went on, it became much easier. Instructor Serena De Stefani's feedback definitely helped a lot in this matter. |
| Allowed me to understand the analysis of the material in a deeper context.   |

## Other comments or suggestions:

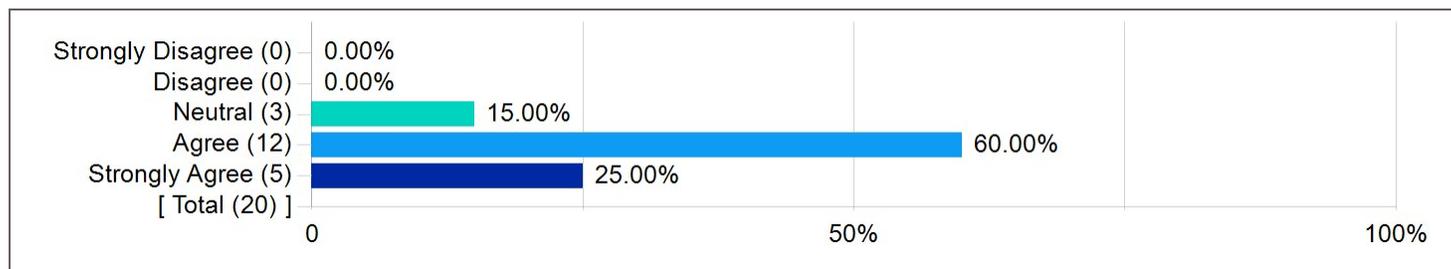
These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments  |
|---|
| I thought this course was interesting and taught well |
| none  |

## Questions added for: SAS Writing Program

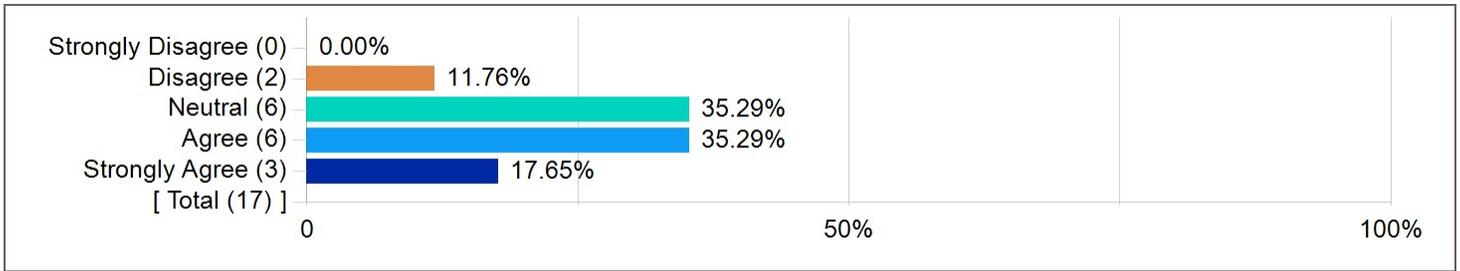
**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

## The assignments for this course explained the reading and writing tasks in a helpful way



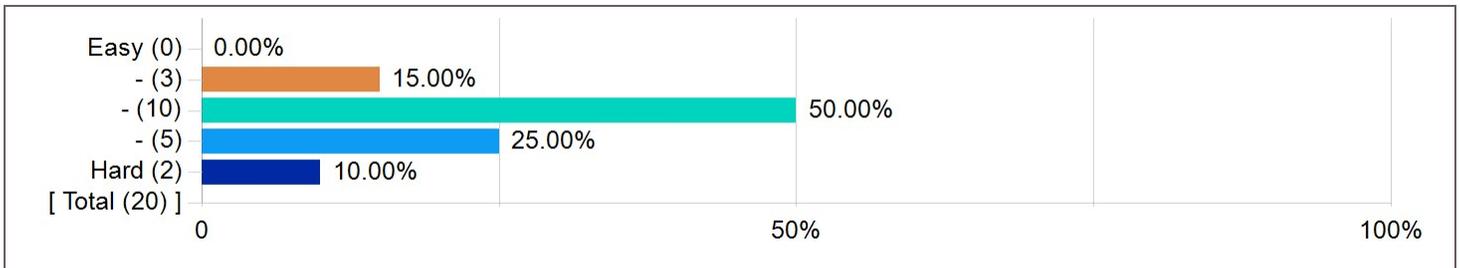
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.10    | 4.12   | 4.14  | 4.16 |

**The group work in the course improved my performance**



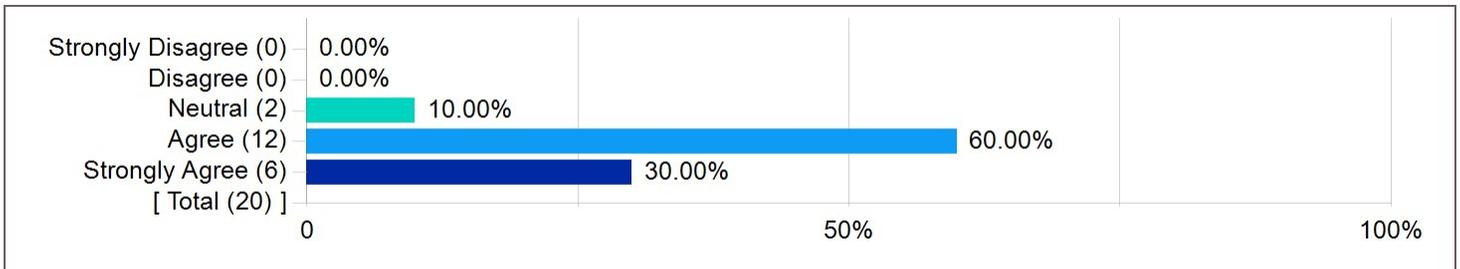
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 3.59    | 3.75   | 3.77  | 3.77 |

**How would you rate the difficulty of the assignments?**



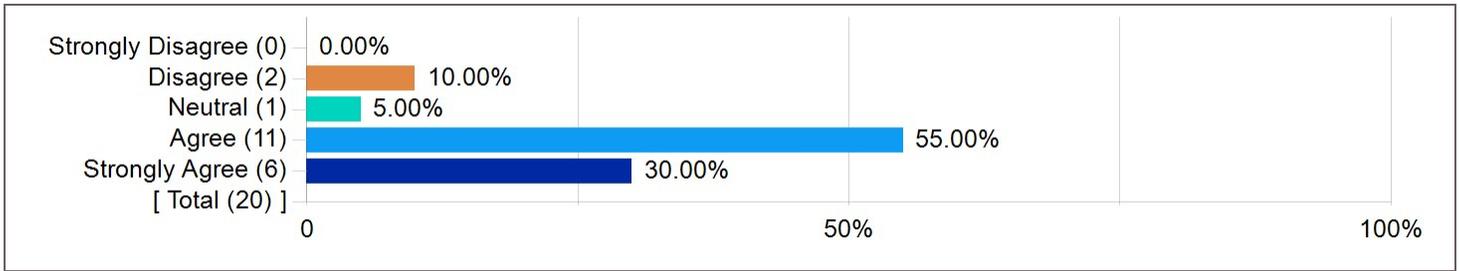
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 3.30    | 3.86   | 3.78  | 3.73 |

**The instructor Serena De Stefani explained objectives and requirements of the course clearly**



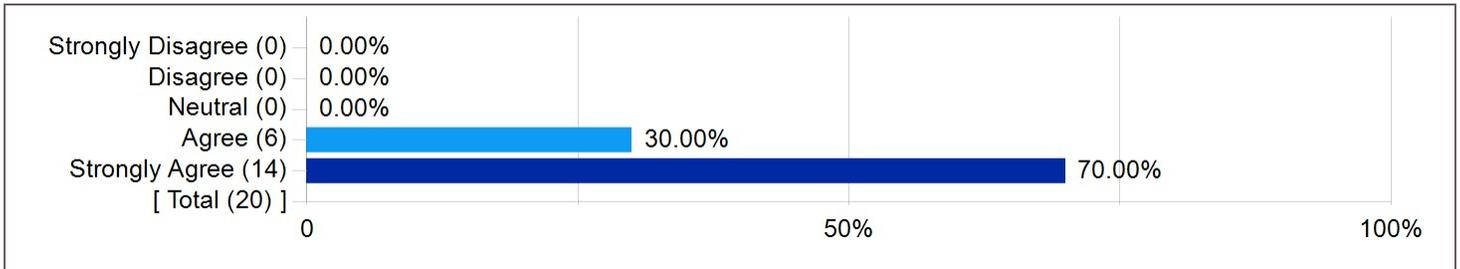
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.20    | 4.32   | 4.31  | 4.31 |

**The instructor Serena De Stefani returned written work promptly and made helpful written comments on papers**



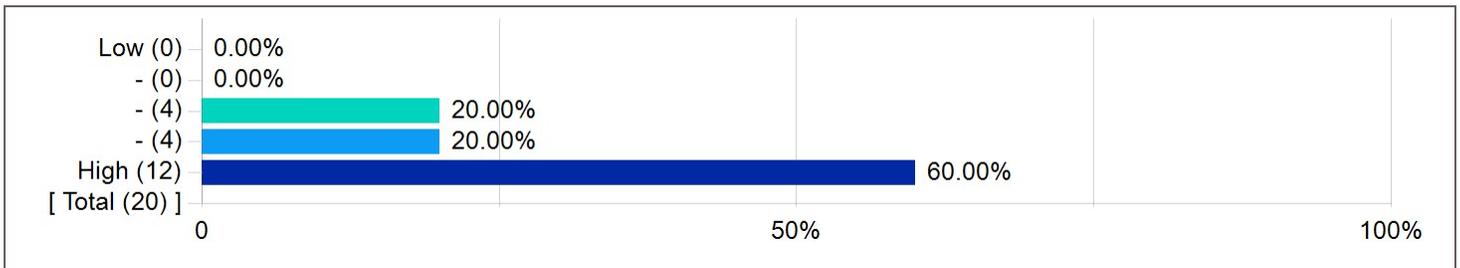
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.05    | 4.28   | 4.27  | 4.30 |

**The instructor Serena De Stefani was respectful of all students regardless of their race, gender, age, etc**



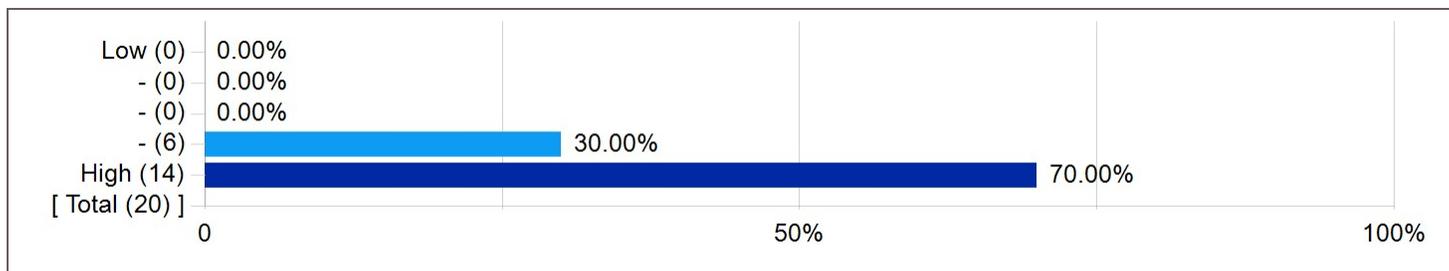
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.70    | 4.80   | 4.78  | 4.78 |

**How would you rate instructor's (Serena De Stefani) ability and willingness to help students outside of class?**



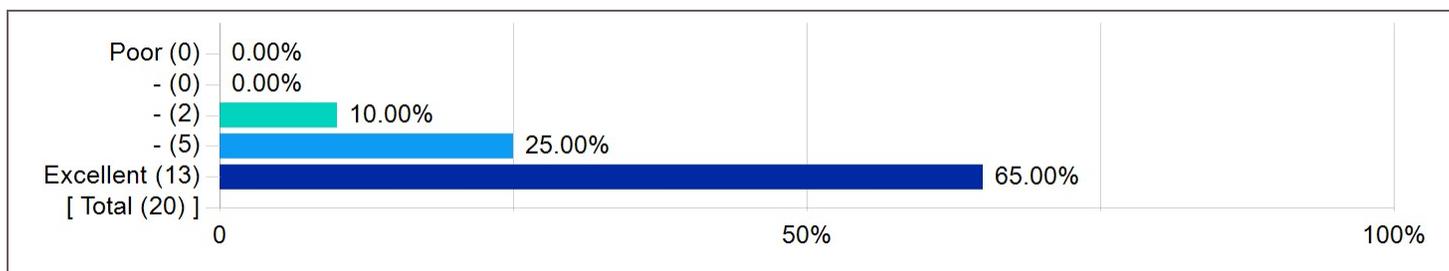
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.40    | 4.67   | 4.64  | 4.65 |

**How would you rate your instructor's (Serena De Stefani) enthusiasm for the subject of the course?**



| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.70    | 4.68   | 4.65  | 4.66 |

**How would you rate the instructor's (Serena De Stefani) ability to involve all students in classroom discussions?**



| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.55    | 4.38   | 4.39  | 4.41 |



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**Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**  
Fall 2020

**De Stefani, Serena - SD911**  
Expository Writing I - 01:355:101:FX  
Survey Form: SAS Writing Program

Enrollment: 22  
Responses Received: 16

## Special University-wide Questions for Fall 2020

Due to the challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic, three additional questions were added to the Fall 2020 survey.

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|  | SD | D | N | A | SA | Resp | Section     | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|----|---|---|---|----|------|-------------|--------|-------|------|
| Given the content and level of the course, the course workload was manageable.   | 0  | 2 | 2 | 8 | 4  | 16   | <b>3.88</b> | 3.96   | 3.99  | 4.01 |
| The course site used for this course, whether in Canvas, Sakai, or Blackboard, was well organized.                     | 0  | 1 | 1 | 9 | 5  | 16   | <b>4.13</b> | 4.39   | 4.39  | 4.38 |
| The instructions given for assignments, exams, quizzes, and other course activities were clear and easy to understand. | 0  | 1 | 2 | 8 | 5  | 16   | <b>4.06</b> | 4.20   | 4.22  | 4.23 |

## University-wide Instructor Questions

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|  | SD | D | N | A  | SA | Resp | Section     | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|----|---|---|----|----|------|-------------|--------|-------|------|
| The instructor Serena De Stefani was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner.               | 0  | 0 | 0 | 10 | 6  | 16   | <b>4.38</b> | 4.53   | 4.51  | 4.51 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani responded effectively to student comments and questions.                                | 0  | 0 | 0 | 8  | 8  | 16   | <b>4.50</b> | 4.55   | 4.52  | 4.53 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani generated interest in the course material.  | 0  | 0 | 2 | 8  | 6  | 16   | <b>4.25</b> | 4.35   | 4.35  | 4.37 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material. | 0  | 0 | 0 | 4  | 12 | 16   | <b>4.75</b> | 4.63   | 4.60  | 4.61 |
| The instructor Serena De Stefani assigned grades fairly.   | 0  | 0 | 1 | 6  | 9  | 16   | <b>4.50</b> | 4.21   | 4.22  | 4.24 |
| The instructional methods of Serena De Stefani encouraged student learning.  | 0  | 0 | 0 | 9  | 7  | 16   | <b>4.44</b> | 4.31   | 4.31  | 4.33 |

## Teaching Effectiveness

**Weight of responses:** 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|   | P | F | A | G | E | Resp | Section     | Course | Level | Dept |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|-------------|--------|-------|------|
| I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor Serena De Stefani as: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 8 | 15   | <b>4.53</b> | 4.38   | 4.37  | 4.39 |

## University-wide Course Questions

**Weight of responses:** 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|   | SD | D | N | A | SA | Resp | Section     | Course | Level | Dept |
|---|----|---|---|---|----|------|-------------|--------|-------|------|
| I learned a great deal in this course.  | 0  | 0 | 2 | 8 | 6  | 16   | <b>4.25</b> | 4.05   | 4.06  | 4.09 |
| I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course. | 2  | 7 | 4 | 3 | 0  | 16   | <b>2.50</b> | 2.86   | 2.95  | 3.06 |

## Course Quality

**Weight of responses:** 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses

**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

|  | P | F | A | G | E | Resp | Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|------|---------|--------|-------|------|
| I rate the overall quality of the course as: | 0 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 16   | 4.13    | 4.01   | 4.04  | 4.08 |

## What do you like best about this course?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments  |
|---|
| Professor DeStefani works with the students individually to ensure they are submitting their best work. She gives detailed feedback on all the assignments and always answers questions in a positive manner (which definitely encourages me to keep doing my work and wanting to improve). |
| The discussions we have in class.   |
| The peer review before final drafts were due  |
| I can easily reach out to my instructor if I am in any need of help. And she would reply quite quickly too.   |
| I enjoyed analyzing different pieces of literature and the connections they hold to our lives today.  |
| I liked some of the readings like tolintino   |
| the instructor created an open environment  |
| I like how the course taught us how to write in a way that we have never written before, which would be helpful for the future.   |
| I liked how the professor set up outlines to help us with our writing process.  |
| It is a small class so it is easier to connect with other students during online school.  |

## If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments  |
|---|
| I would maybe pick some more relatable texts. Some of the texts we read were hard to get through.                               |
| N/A   |
| Nothing, everything ran very smoothly   |
| Nothing, the course was taught wonderfully. I had a great time!   |
| I personally would not teach it any differently than how it was taught to me this semester.                                     |
| I would make the prompts for the essays more open ended so that students would be able to write about something they care about |
| have more in class discussions ab the reading to generate thought   |
| Canvas could be more organized  |
| Give a little more time and feedback for essays.  |

## In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor Serena De Stefani encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?

These comments are unique to the instructor Serena De Stefani.

| Comments   |
|--|
| Helped improve my ability to close read and to write analytic essays.  |
| She gave a lot of insight into how to further analyze writing. She pushed me out of my comfort zone as a writer and helped me improve my writing in almost every way.  |
| Professor DeStefani really helped me push to my limits and find out where I stand in my writing. She gave wonderful feedback on essays and was always available for extra help. She is one of my best professors this semester.  |
| By engaging with us directly during each class period as well as devoting a class towards individual meetings I felt as though Professor De Stefani truly wanted us to improve in our writing and as students.   |
| This class helped me interpret texts better and see the underlying meanings better and I think Prof DeStefani was a big part of that   |
| In high school I was taught to focus on the grammar and sentence structure when writing, but in this class, I was taught to place emphasis on the subject and the reason I'm writing in the first place which I think is much more important. This class taught me how to better develop and explain my ideas. |
| I feel like I learned how to write and connect better. I was able to relate different topics/concepts to each other and relate things to how they are today. This class also helped me get better at not summarizing and instead use my own ideas.   |
| Yes. Professor De Stefani encouraged my writing and helped me improve tremendously.  |
| We met multiple times to talk about how I could improve my writing.  |

## Other comments or suggestions:

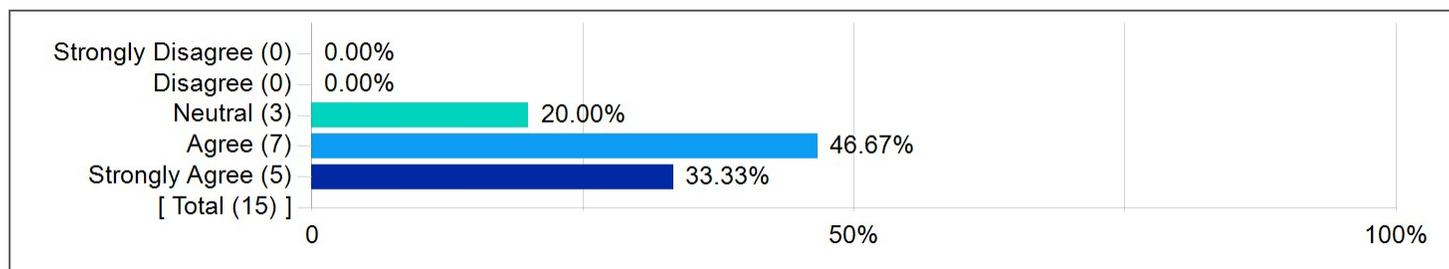
These comments are intended for all instructors.

| Comments   |
|--|
| This class definitely helped me to become a better writer and more attentive reader! |
| N/A  |
| none   |

## Questions added for: SAS Writing Program

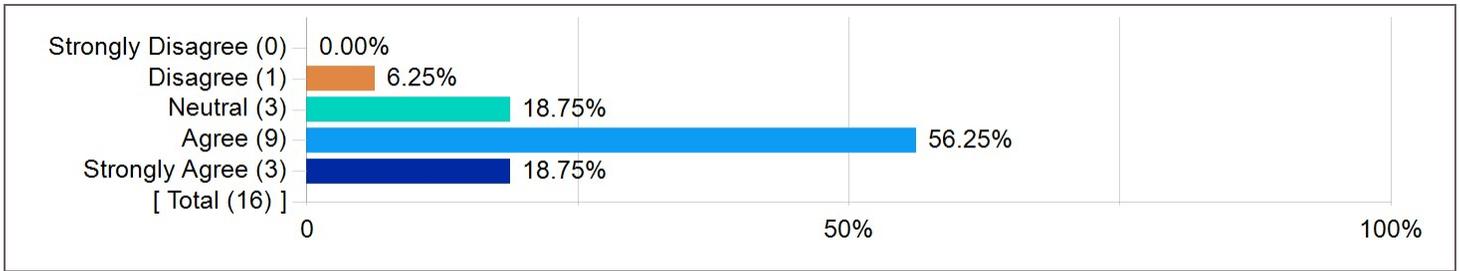
**Weighted Means:** Section, Course, Level, Department

## The assignments for this course explained the reading and writing tasks in a helpful way



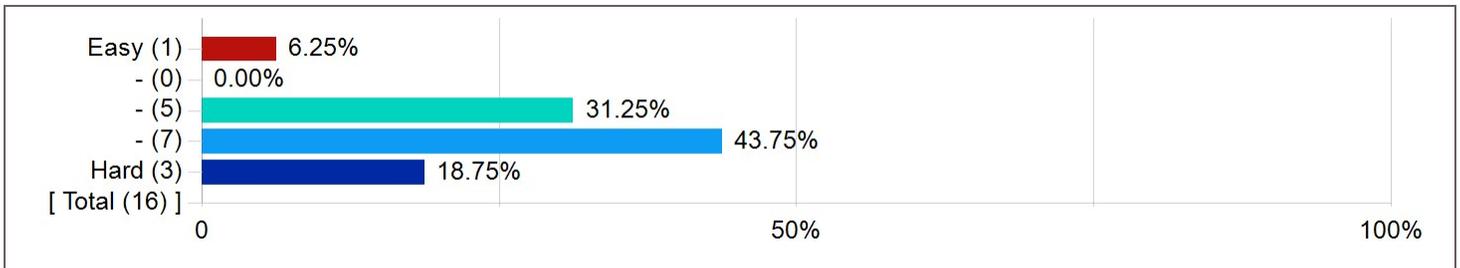
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.13    | 4.12   | 4.14  | 4.16 |

**The group work in the course improved my performance**



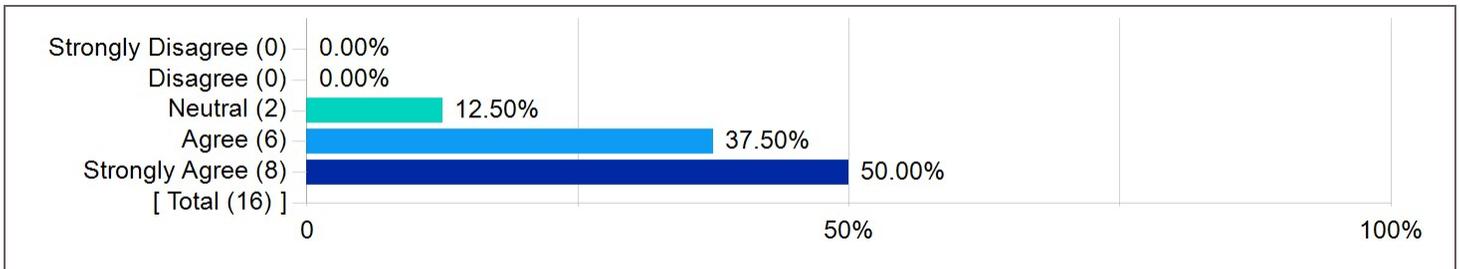
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 3.88    | 3.75   | 3.77  | 3.77 |

**How would you rate the difficulty of the assignments?**



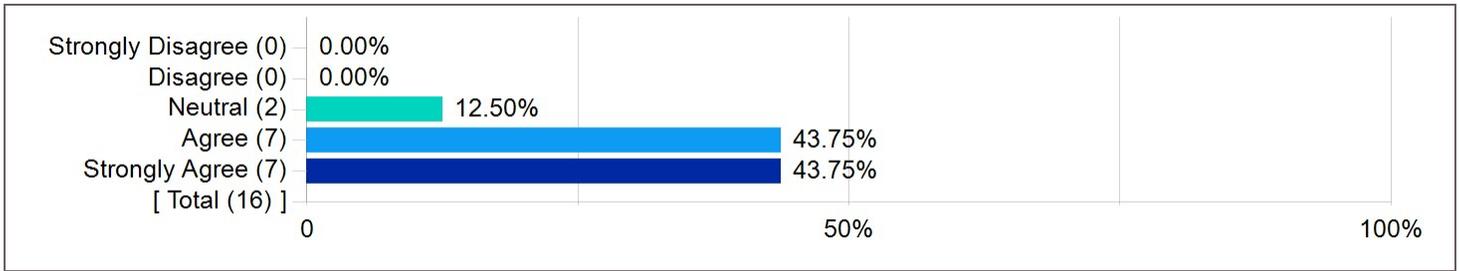
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 3.69    | 3.86   | 3.78  | 3.73 |

**The instructor Serena De Stefani explained objectives and requirements of the course clearly**



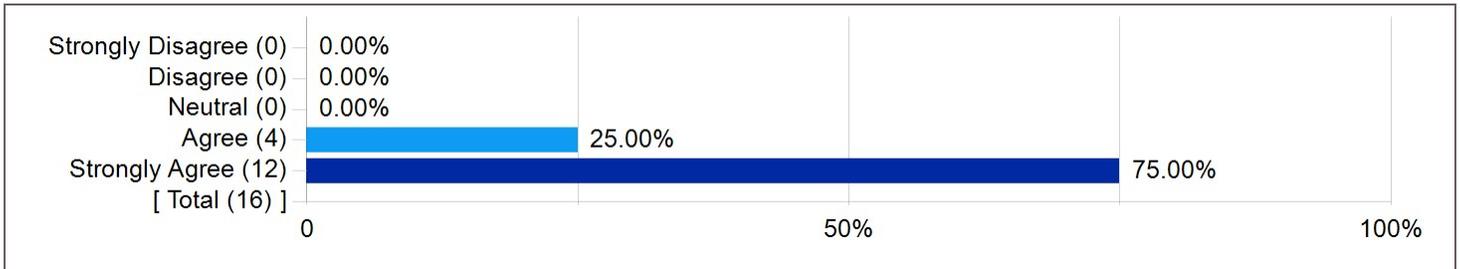
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.38    | 4.32   | 4.31  | 4.31 |

**The instructor Serena De Stefani returned written work promptly and made helpful written comments on papers**



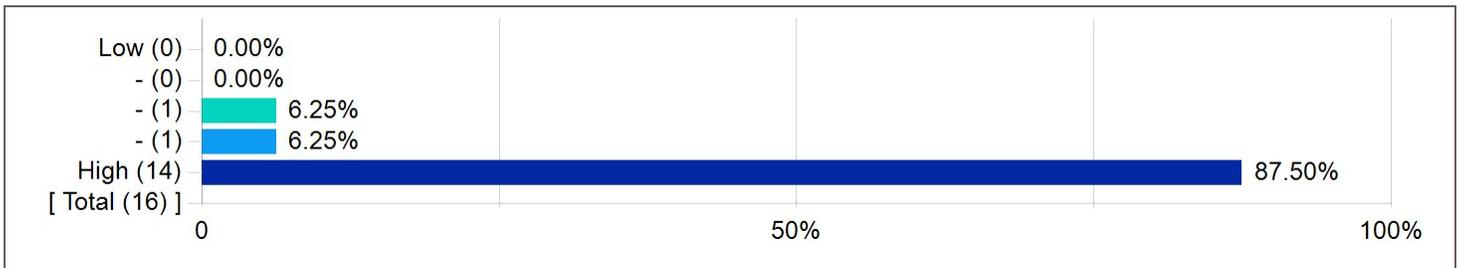
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.31    | 4.28   | 4.27  | 4.30 |

**The instructor Serena De Stefani was respectful of all students regardless of their race, gender, age, etc**



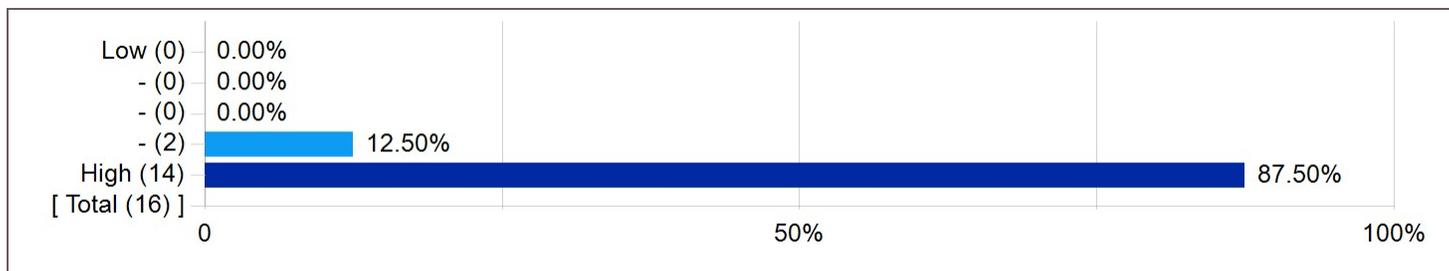
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.75    | 4.80   | 4.78  | 4.78 |

**How would you rate instructor's (Serena De Stefani) ability and willingness to help students outside of class?**



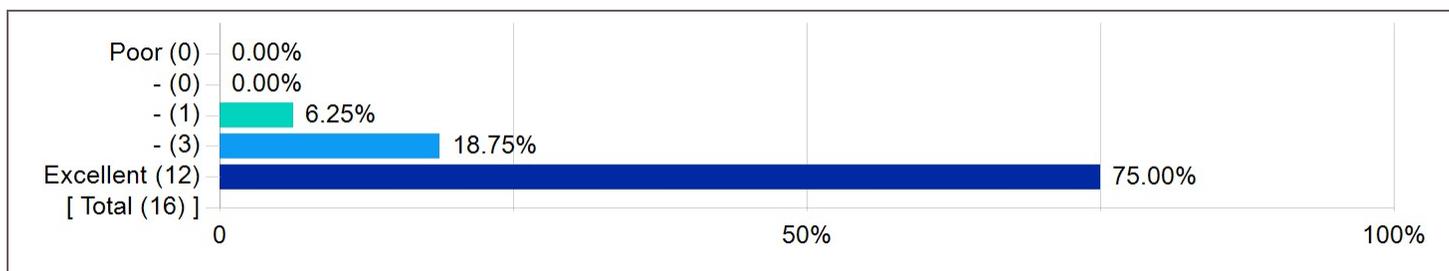
| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.81    | 4.67   | 4.64  | 4.65 |

**How would you rate your instructor's (Serena De Stefani) enthusiasm for the subject of the course?**



| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.88    | 4.68   | 4.65  | 4.66 |

**How would you rate the instructor's (Serena De Stefani) ability to involve all students in classroom discussions?**



| Section | Course | Level | Dept |
|---------|--------|-------|------|
| 4.69    | 4.38   | 4.39  | 4.41 |

## Teaching observation notes

Abigail Reardon <reardon@english.rutgers.edu>

Sat 1/16/2021 12:36 PM

To: Serena De Stefani <serena.destefani@rutgers.edu>

Cc: Brian Becker <beckerb@english.rutgers.edu>

Hi, Serena,

I hope had a nice break, and thanks for your patience as it's taken us a bit longer than expected to get these notes back to you. I really enjoyed observing your class, and please don't hesitate to be in touch if you want to talk about this observation or anything else related to the Writing Program!

### Things that you do especially well:

I was impressed by several qualities of this class. First, the class session was excellently organized, and you did a very nice job moving between presentation of relevant content -- especially, for example, key concepts from Armstrong's "Homo religiosus" -- and inviting student contributions. In general, your students seemed exceptionally engaged and well prepared to do the work you were asking of them. I appreciated your lecture offering biographical and intellectual context related to Karen Armstrong, and you did a nice job avoiding presenting *too* much extra-textual information such that students would become overwhelmed. Your prefatory remarks and the connection-making activity students completed ensured, I suspect, that as students went off to read this (challenging!) article on their own, they would be well prepared to understand its argument.

### Things to consider for the future:

Your instinct to have students make connections between the texts is, of course, a good one. That said, I recommend that you encourage students to elaborate on the logic motivating their identification of key terms and potential connections at greater length. For example, the student who said "I think you could tie 'community' from the first quote in with 'moral compass' from the second" (19:30) might have been pressed to explain HOW and WHY this was the case at greater length. I understand that this was only an introduction to Armstrong and that you would have additional opportunities to attend to the nuance of her argument, but I'd recommend always encouraging students to bear in mind those underlying analytic questions. And one small note on remote instructional delivery: consider displaying quotations on the screen when discussing them. I'm glad that you invited students to look at the discussion activity on Canvas, but for ease of access, it would likely be a good idea to have the text under consideration visible for everyone.

### A note on general WP goals:

Again, I suspect that you would address this matter in other discussions of the text, but consider that we always want to help students see how it's best to move dialectically between the passage/key term and broader intellectual context of the text's argument. It can be tempting for students, I think, to think that it's enough to identify a key term, but the essential next step is for them to mobilize that key term (by questioning it, recontextualizing it, etc.) to arrive at a more holistic understanding of the text and, eventually, their own

interpretive position.

Well done! It's clear your students found this class session useful, and I suspect they produced some fascinating papers engaging Armstrong.

All my best,  
Abbie

## Folder Review

Kurt Spellmeyer <spellmey@english.rutgers.edu>

Sun 12/20/2020 1:27 PM

To: Serena De Stefani <serena.destefani@rutgers.edu>

Dear Serena,

To follow up on our folder review of December 11, I am writing to thank you for doing an excellent job this semester--and under very difficult circumstances. Your assignments were skillfully designed and your responses to the papers well-aimed, nuanced and encouraging. The high quality of the writing that your students produced reflects the hard work and dedication that you brought to your teaching. Thank you for a job well done, and best wishes for 2021.

Warm Regards,

Kurt