

## Average Responses – PSC 300 (West Wing/Newsroom/House of Cards) Student Evaluations

(Each question measured with a 5-point scale with options: (1) Strongly Disagree, (2) Disagree, (3) Neither Agree nor Disagree, (4) Agree, (5) Strongly Agree; columns compare course average for each question against all department courses offered in Summers 2014 and 2015. Note: response rate for 2015 was significantly lower for my course compared to 2014.)

<i>Question</i>	<i>Me (2014)</i>	<i>Dept. (2014)</i>	<i>Me (2015)</i>	<i>Dept. (2015)</i>
This course helped me learn...				
...writing skills.	4.08	4.03	4.1	4.05
...reading skills.	4.69	4.35	4	4.45
...research skills.	4.08	4.03	4	4.18
...speaking skills.	4.46	4	4.3	4
...critical thinking skills.	4.62	4.33	4.5	4.58
The objectives of the course were clear.	4.85	4.53	4.4	4.71
The instructor was enthusiastic in presenting course content.	5	4.62	4.7	4.76
When appropriate, the instructor presented divergent viewpoints.	5	4.59	4.8	4.74
The instructor treated students with respect.	4.92	4.74	4.5	4.78
Class discussions contributed to my understanding of the subject.	4.85	4.41	4.5	4.68
I was comfortable asking questions in this class.	4.85	4.44	4.5	4.66
The instructor was available for help outside of class.	4.85	4.56	4.51	4.68
I understood how my grade was determined for this course.	4.69	4.44	4.5	4.61
The instructor provided helpful feedback on my work.	4.62	4.47	4	4.43
The reading material helped me to understand the course content.	4.77	4.5	4.3	4.66
Completing assignments contributed to my learning in this course.	4.82	4.41	4.2	4.61
The instructor presented the material at an appropriate pace.	4.85	4.5	4.1	4.66
I found this course intellectually challenging.	4.31	4.09	4.1	4.66
Overall, I rate this instructor an excellent teacher.	4.92	4.56	4.4	4.68
Overall, this course was worth taking.	5	4.56	4.4	4.53

Select Open-Ended Feedback (Full comments available upon request.)

“I remember being in PSC 121 when you were my TA and it may be constructive for me to note the tremendous improvement I have noticed and how much more I enjoyed your teaching in this class. I commend you for making this change and think that it was noticeable and positive.”

“This has been one of the best classes I have ever taken at SU. As someone usually in the intellectual minority, I felt I was able to say my opinion w/o persecution.”

“A+++++. I am a scientist & an engineer. I don’t find too much in political discourse interesting, but this is stimulating to the point where I’d recommend any course with this instructor.”

“I really enjoyed incorporating House of Cards and The Newsroom into the course. There is clear evidence that the plot and rhetoric of these shows mirror many of the political structures and issues that we see in society. The readings also followed the show and lecture really well.”

“One of the most informative classes I’ve taken. I will definitely choose another political or sociology class next semester, especially w/ the election coming up.”

“- Everything, the format of the class was great – the course was incredibly insightful – I have gained knowledge in the power of the presidency that I highly value and I loved the discussions”

“I would keep that ‘straight forward aspect.’ I didn’t expect anything out of the ordinary because things were clear. Keep the Socratic style seminars.”