

## Howard Shaeffer

PHIL 107 - Intro to Philosophy (41287)  
No. enrolled = 30 / No. of surveys returned = 20  
2114



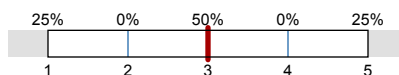
## Survey Results

## Legend

Question text

Left pole

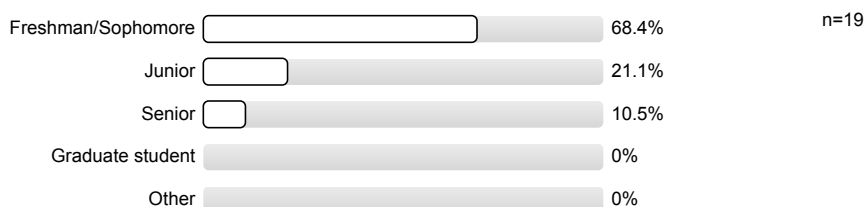
Right pole



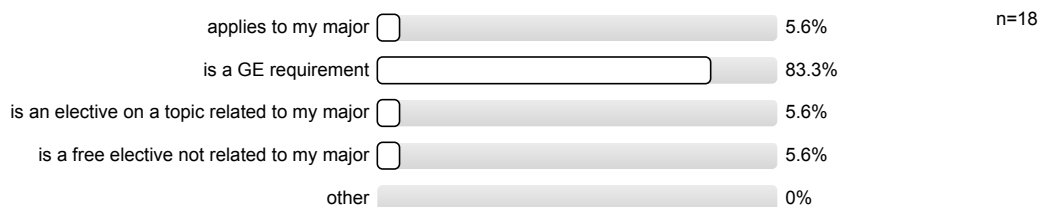
n=No. of responses  
av.=Mean  
dev.=Std. Dev.  
ab.=Abstention

## 1. Background Information

1.1) My class standing is:

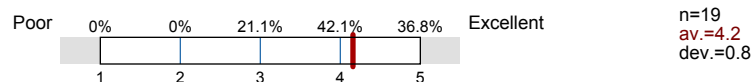


1.2) This course:  
(Select "applies to my major" if the course fulfills **both** GE and major requirements)

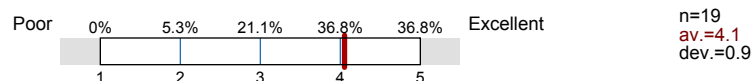


## 2. Instructor Rating

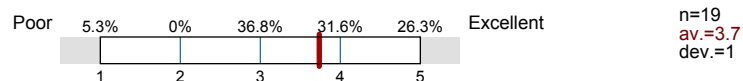
2.1) The instructor's contribution to my understanding of concepts/ideas was...



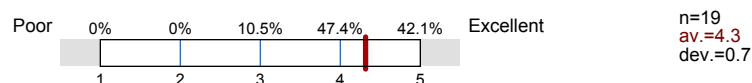
2.2) The instructor's accessibility/availability for consultation outside of class (office hours, by appointment, email, phone) was ...



2.3) The instructor's explanation of the grading system was ...



2.4) The instructor's ability to present information clearly was ...



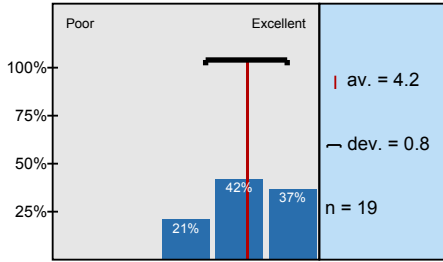
2.5) The instructor's ability to challenge me was ...		n=19 av.=4.3 dev.=0.8
2.6) The instructor's ability to create an atmosphere where students were comfortable asking questions and/or engaging in discussion was ...		n=19 av.=4.6 dev.=0.7
2.7) The instructor's ability to create a classroom environment that was respectful of diversity (ethnicity, socio-economic background, sexual-orientation, nationality, age, ability, religion, gender) was ...		n=19 av.=4.6 dev.=0.6
2.8) The instructor's ability to demonstrate knowledge of the subject matter was ...		n=19 av.=4.6 dev.=0.6
2.9) The quality of the instructor's overall preparation for class was ...		n=19 av.=4.2 dev.=0.8
2.10) The instructor's overall teaching effectiveness in this course was ...		n=19 av.=4.5 dev.=0.8

### 3. Philosophy Department Questions

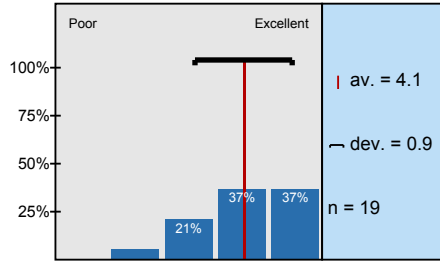
3.1) The instructor's ability to relate course objectives with course content/assignments/tests was ...		n=20 av.=4.2 dev.=0.7
3.2) The instructor's returning of work in a timely manner was ...		n=20 av.=3.5 dev.=1.1

## Histogram for scaled questions

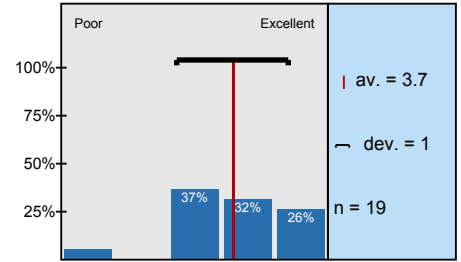
The instructor's contribution to my understanding of concepts/ideas was...



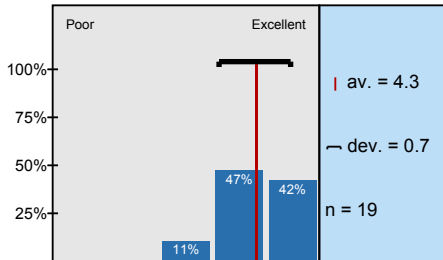
The instructor's accessibility/availability for consultation outside of class (office hours, by appointment, email,



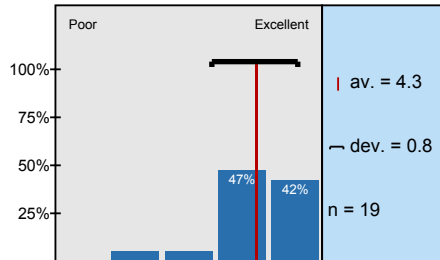
The instructor's explanation of the grading system was ...



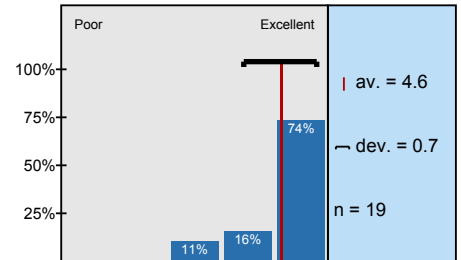
The instructor's ability to present information clearly was ...



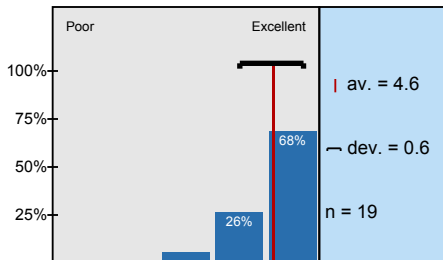
The instructor's ability to challenge me was ...



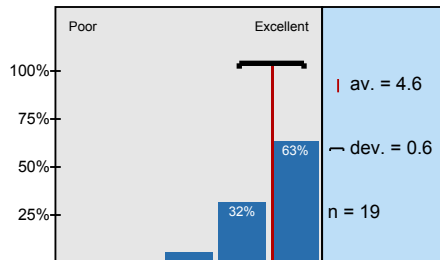
The instructor's ability to create an atmosphere where students were comfortable asking questions and/or



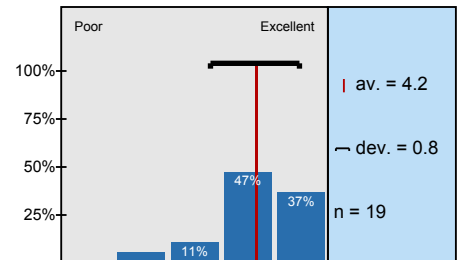
The instructor's ability to create a classroom environment that was respectful of diversity (ethnicity,



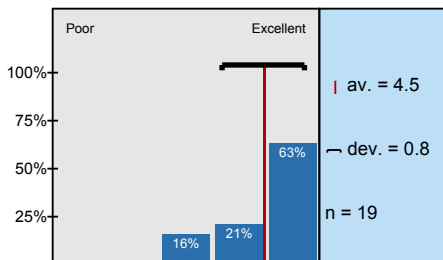
The instructor's ability to demonstrate knowledge of the subject matter was ...



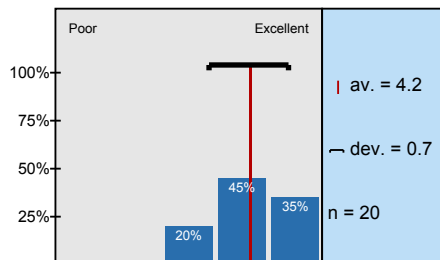
The quality of the instructor's overall preparation for class was ...



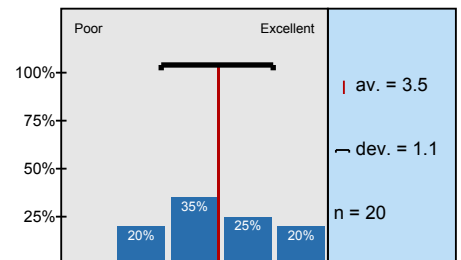
The instructor's overall teaching effectiveness in this course was ...



The instructor's ability to relate course objectives with course content/assignments/tests was ...



The instructor's returning of work in a timely manner was ...



# Profile

Subunit: Philosophy  
 Name of the instructor: Howard Shaeffer  
 Name of the course: PHIL 107 - Intro to Philosophy  
 (Name of the survey)

## 2. Instructor Rating

2.1) The instructor's contribution to my understanding of concepts/ideas was...	Poor					Excellent	n=19 av.=4.2
2.2) The instructor's accessibility/availability for consultation outside of class (office hours, by appointment, email, phone) was ...	Poor					Excellent	n=19 av.=4.1
2.3) The instructor's explanation of the grading system was ...	Poor					Excellent	n=19 av.=3.7
2.4) The instructor's ability to present information clearly was ...	Poor					Excellent	n=19 av.=4.3
2.5) The instructor's ability to challenge me was ...	Poor					Excellent	n=19 av.=4.3
2.6) The instructor's ability to create an atmosphere where students were comfortable asking questions and/or engaging in discussion was ...	Poor					Excellent	n=19 av.=4.6
2.7) The instructor's ability to create a classroom environment that was respectful of diversity (ethnicity, socio-economic background, sexual-orientation, nationality, age, ability, religion, gender) was ...	Poor					Excellent	n=19 av.=4.6
2.8) The instructor's ability to demonstrate knowledge of the subject matter was ...	Poor					Excellent	n=19 av.=4.6
2.9) The quality of the instructor's overall preparation for class was ...	Poor					Excellent	n=19 av.=4.2
2.10) The instructor's overall teaching effectiveness in this course was ...	Poor					Excellent	n=19 av.=4.5

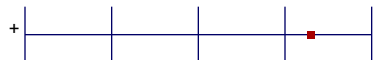
## 3. Philosophy Department Questions

3.1) The instructor's ability to relate course objectives with course content/ assignments/tests was ...	Poor					Excellent	n=20 av.=4.2
3.2) The instructor's returning of work in a timely manner was ...	Poor					Excellent	n=20 av.=3.5

# Profile

Subunit: Philosophy  
Name of the instructor: Howard Shaeffer  
Name of the course: PHIL 107 - Intro to Philosophy  
(Name of the survey)

2. Instructor Rating



av.=4.3

## Comments Report

## 4. Student Comments (Only writing within the textboxes will be recorded.)

4.1) Please comment on the instructor's overall teaching effectiveness:

Shaeffer is a great teacher. I learned a lot and thoroughly enjoyed the class.

~~Benjamin~~

Instructor's teaching was very effective. The essays were helpful in my understanding of the concepts as well as my own opinions. Instructor is also very amiable and approachable.

Benjamin is a good teacher, it is more the subject matter that just goes around and around in a circle ~~as~~ resulting in no truth but many arguments.

Prof. Shaeffer is an excellent teacher and I will miss taking his class.

His teaching was effective.

Benjamin was able to provide interesting topics + assignments. He was very easy to talk to and was eager to know our thoughts + ideas. He incorporated many different ideas + theories into our lectures. He provided personal stories/facts about him which helped in getting to know him better.

Very effective teaching, I learned a lot about philosophy as well as learning how to articulate my thoughts in a more clear manner. Open forum helped contribute to my understanding of the topics.

~~He is a good teacher I just don't like the subject  
which is something that I don't like~~

He is a good teacher I just don't like the subject

good clear explanation of readings  
and concepts

Lectures were stimulating and interesting, but system of  
grading was poor.



Obviously very interested in the subject matter,  
lots of good discussions in class.

Teacher was really good. Use of metaphors  
and analogies helped relate to our own  
lives so we could grasp topics  
easier.

Drawing several diagrams on the board and using analogies  
was very helpful in understanding concepts and ideas.

Benjamin Shaeffer is the best teacher I could have ever asked for  
in philosophy. I feel connected to him & his ideas. The class was the  
perfect level of difficulty & I actually retained everything we discussed instead  
of just memorizing it for a test.

I felt that as the class progressed, the manner in which the class was taught got less chaotic. In the beginning I felt it was difficult to grasp ideas because they were slightly spiratic and random.

I, felt that you knew the material, and in the manner you present the material made certain topics interesting. You made me work to understand ~~the~~ the material being shown and didn't shun any opinions. It made me feel that I could talk about a subject in class or ~~in~~ during the essays, and not get hammered and ~~sh~~ shun for believing a certain kind of ideology.

Good discussions & what not

4.2) Please comment on the content of the course (for example, topics, tests, texts, organization, etc.)

Having a paper due every 2 weeks was a great idea. It makes you really think about what you're learning and make actual thoughts regarding the concepts.

The writing of essays in philosophy topics was very challenging.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Topics were very interesting to me. Quizzes were also helpful.  
Organization could be better and more helpful.

Some of the material was so boring  
it was hard to focus on but other  
than that the class was enjoyable

The weekly quizzes on the reading ensured that we had  
read the assignments thoroughly. The topics were interesting  
& the textbook was accessible & clear.

We talked about different philosophers and their opinions on different topics like the meaning of life and such. Our text book was a collection of philosophical articles.

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Our topics were always interesting and philosophical stimulating. The quizzes & assignments were relevant to our readings. Texts were diverse by culture & themes.

Interesting topics, the text was great because it gave a multicultural perspective on philosophy,

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We mostly did essays which got annoying

enjoyed readings, good variety of topics. liked that class could vote on certain topics.

Topics were always interesting, readings were informative; notes equaled less anxiety.

Wide variety of content.

For reading Quizzes Friday would be better to have on the material from wed not monday. Seems easier to hold such complex ideas since I felt even short readings had a lot of in depth meaning to get at

Really enjoyed the Text had lots of interesting readings, I'll probably keep it to reference to and read when I'm older.

We talked about everything. All major philosophical topics were completely delved into. This content helped me become sure of my views, religion, & self.

On occasion the quizzes were a bit difficult, mostly because sometimes I felt that in class we never went over what exactly was on the quizzes. For me at least, it is hard to extrapolate ideas from a philosophical background.

Only ~~the~~ thing I can think of to ~~recommend~~ <sup>recomm</sup> is ~~go~~ <sup>go</sup> over Buddhism and Hinduism more, but then again it was the first time you ~~read~~ read or touched the material, but it was pretty awesome.

# Philosophy

4.3) Other comments:

Great teacher, great class, I highly recommend it.

Thank you Benjamin for being so  
Honest and genuine.  
I wish you the best.

This is an excellent course which I  
will recommend to others. ;)

Great class, gave me tools to think about the world around me in a new light

Very understanding when it came to making up quizzes missed from sports. very nice!

None.

Liked your drawings during lectures.

Very nice teacher, good sense of humor. Didn't like the quizzes, maybe more essay questions instead.



Great teacher!

I enjoyed this class and the fact that it made me think in a different manner than other science classes I must take for my major

