

Instructor Isaac Hale

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - DAVIS

Winter Quarter 2018
POL 001 (002) 75030

Student Evaluation of Teaching



Enrollment 47
% responding 63

	5	4	3	2	1				
	5 %	4 %	3 %	2 %	1 %	\bar{x}	SD	M	N
Please indicate the overall educational value of the course. (excellent very good satisfactory fair poor)	16 53%	8 27%	4 13%	2 7%	0 0%	4.3	0.9	5.0	30
UCD Grade Point Average: (5) 4-3.6, (4) 3.5-3.1, (3) 3-2.6, (2) 2.5-2.1, (1) 2 or below	11 39%	9 32%	7 25%	1 4%	0 0%	4.1	0.9	4.0	28
Expected grade in this course: (5) A, (4) B, (3) C, (2) D, (1) F	12 40%	16 53%	2 7%	0 0%	0 0%	4.3	0.6	4.0	30
Your interest in the subject matter before taking this course: (5) Very high, (4) Somewhat high, (3) Moderate, (2) Low, (1) Very low	14 47%	7 23%	8 27%	1 3%	0 0%	4.1	0.9	4.0	30
Please indicate the overall teaching effectiveness of the instructor. (excellent very good satisfactory fair poor)	15 50%	11 37%	2 7%	2 7%	0 0%	4.3	0.9	4.5	30
Instructor's knowledge and command of subject matter. (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor	25 83%	4 13%	1 3%	0 0%	0 0%	4.8	0.5	5.0	30
Instructor's openness to discussion and ability to stimulate it. (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor	23 77%	4 13%	1 3%	1 3%	1 3%	4.6	1.0	5.0	30
Instructor's availability for consultation.	15 65%	5 22%	1 4%	1 4%	1 4%	4.4	1.1	5.0	23
Clarity of course objectives and organization. (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor	19 63%	7 23%	3 10%	0 0%	1 3%	4.4	0.9	5.0	30
Effectiveness of style and methods of class presentations. (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor	19 63%	6 20%	4 13%	1 3%	0 0%	4.4	0.8	5.0	30
Relevance and educational value of readings and WorldWideWeb resources. (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor	18 62%	5 17%	2 7%	2 7%	2 7%	4.2	1.2	5.0	29
Instructional value of course assignments (term papers, project, etc.). (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor	17 57%	8 27%	3 10%	1 3%	1 3%	4.3	1.0	5.0	30
Fairness and impartiality of grading.	22 73%	5 17%	2 7%	0 0%	1 3%	4.6	0.9	5.0	30
Instructional value of examinations. (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor	18 64%	6 21%	3 11%	0 0%	1 4%	4.4	0.9	5.0	28

Instructor's knowledge and command of subject matter. (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor

Hale is definitely passionate about the subject. It is evident that he is highly knowledgeable on the subject.

grad student in political science so he knew what he was talking about

Professor Hale is extremely knowledgeable and passionate about his material, which really helps keep the class interesting. He really encouraged questions and was very understanding that it was an intro class, so most people did not have a lot of polisci background. The way his class/lectures were structured made all the concepts easy for me to follow and to write our term papers on. I thoroughly enjoyed this class, and will definitely be taking more polisci classes in the future.

Best instructor I have taken at Davis!!!!!! Knows the material truly on the back of his hands. And never hesitate to help answer student's questions.

He is kind of an intellectual snob to be honest and it showed in his teaching.

Good at answering confusing questions

Isaac is extremely well versed in anything politics or politics related. He does his best to explain our complex political system in such a way that people who have forgotten most of this information or never learned it can learn and learn the material well. He is extremely well versed in history and can typically pull extremely obscure information off the top of his head accurately when confronted with hypothetical or possible situations that come up as questions. He really knows his stuff and makes sure that his students are accurate i.e. making the distinction between a Majority and a Plurality known.

He made assumptions we had prior knowledge about Pol that many in the class clearly did not have. I was afraid to ask questions because he never directly answered them so I felt dumb for asking.

Instructor's openness to discussion and ability to stimulate it. (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor

He encourages discussion from students.

The instructor is actively asking students to participate, but his questions can be way too targeted and as a result, everyone is confused and doesn't know how to answer, not to mention most people in the class aren't paying attention anyway

made participation 10% of our grade so you had to speak up

The way he kept the class going carried by frequent questions to us was engaging and thought-provoking. Many times it helped me improve on critical thinking skills.

Isaac makes it very easy to ask questions if concepts are not understood and always leaves a section of time for Questions and Answers during class to go over any un-understood or "salient" issues/current topics.

I did not like that 10% of my grade was based on participation. While I can see the logic and how this attempts to make the class more of a colloquium and less of a lecture, but I didn't like it because I'm an introvert (and am compelled not to speak up unless I have a very compelling issue or reason to do so.

Instructor's availability for consultation.

never went to office hours

Isaac is always clear about his office hours and is easily and readily available through email. He always leaves a bit of time after class to answer immediate questions and answer hypothetical.

He didn't allow for office hours throughout the remainder of the week for the last paper.

Clarity of course objectives and organization. (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor

Everything is documented in the syllabus and he takes great efforts to make these known at the beginning of the course.

He did not go over essay prompts thoroughly.

Effectiveness of style and methods of class presentations. (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor

He made sure we had a complete understanding of the subject. Lectures were very easy to follow and interesting.

Powerpoint slides are just inherently boring

powerpoint slides

Lecture slides were always clear and organized.

The Actual projector made things a bit difficult, but other than this, his presentations and way of teaching was exceedingly effective and has a passive/osmotic way of learning the material to the point where you've learned what you didn't know you learned.

Relevance and educational value of readings and WorldWideWeb resources. (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor

most of the articles we are assigned to read are way too dense and academic, and since I do not have time for it, I don't do the readings

The images he used to help explain class concepts were always relevant and helpful to understanding the material.

I thought the readings were sometimes too long/dense for an intro class

A handful of the readings were a bit heavy of the political jargon and word count, but when we get to class, these articles become clearer because Issac covers and really expands and teaches this material. There is no self study in this class, and I think that is wonderful,

Instructional value of course assignments (term papers, project, etc.). (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor

The essays are one of the fun parts of this class, because they are a medium for me to respond to what I am learning, which I wish we did more verbally in class

This class was based on quizzes and Essays instead of a final exam. While these papers are hard, they make us think and apply the knowledge we have learned rather than just regurgitating it.

Fairness and impartiality of grading.

The grade relies way too much on quizzes that have only 5 questions, and a single mistake can cost a lot of your grade. This isn't very fair and the professor needs to institute a better grading system. >:(Moreover, the quizzes are given not long after relevant material is given, and at that time, material is not very processed. Giving quizzes is fine, but it shouldn't be the only form of exams given. There should be chances to make up with midterms and finals where the material given out is processed much better.

Every point is justified and noted within his comments for essays as he is very good and emphasizes his excitement to give us lots of feedback so that we do better on the final paper. His quizzes are fair and test mainly the prior classes material and on the rare occasion the main points of the reading. These quizzes are typically preceded by a quick question and answer session should there be any questions. The only thing I did not like was the participation points that required participation in class. I am an INTROVERT and learn best when left alone to really soak in the information without having to put my thoughts and opinions out on the open. Perhaps making participation extra credit would be a better motivator as everyone loves extra credit, or having it so there is like a minimum x number of times you must participate to get full points? This participation point method needs to be re-examined as it only gets the same outgoing EXTROVERTED people to participate.

Instructional value of examinations. (5) Excellent, (4) Very good, (3) Good, (2) Fair, (1) Poor

We do not have any examinations for this course.

The examinations were all quizzes, quizzes would have been use if there were exams following.

Really liked the several quizzes instead of a midterm and a final. Provided some incentive to read readings, at least for me, and made it easier to manage the class overall.

Overall the professor was great at explaining lectures and was easy to ask questions to

I enjoyed this class far more then I thought I would and should have. I really enjoyed our discussions on hypothetical and how one may be able to find a way to manipulate a election by creating a puppet to split the oppositions votes. I was surprised at how knowledgeable and quick to knowledge and accessing knowledge Issac was and while I hated answering questions and participating, His real world application and references and breaking down concepts really made this class very interesting and practical. Before this class, I hated all the gridlock that we have in government because it prevented Obama from actually making any change, but now I understand why it exists and how the entire thing is basically one elaborate and crazy sham. Props for incorporating Starwars & Star Trek. I hope you have a wonderful Birthday.

Having quizzes almost every day made me not excited to go to class, and I felt very on edge all of the time nervous about them.

Term	Eval Opened	CRN	Subject	Course	Section	Enrollment	% Response
Winter Quarter 2018	3/9/2018 12:00 AM	75030	POL	001	002	47	63