

**INSTRUCTOR EVALUATION**  
**PHI 107 - SPRING 2006**  
**DEKE GOULD**

**COMMENTS ARE MADE BY STUDENTS ON THEIR QUESTIONNAIRES. WE HAVE MADE NO EDITING OR SELECTING OF COMMENTS.**

**Please provide comments or suggestions about the instructor:**

He leaves little to no room for original thought & stifles creativity.  
Very structured & knows what he is talking about.

A-

The instructor was extremely enthusiastic about what he was teaching. Often times he would use his self as an example just to stress a point. I had a ball watching my professor stomp on his own foot, check things across the classroom and run into walls. It was never however too clramactic [sic].

Very enthusiastic and informative, gives good examples, grades fairly, easily accessible during office hours.

Well prepared, enthusiastic, fair grader.

Always there to go over papers or tests after class  
Needs to write more notes on the board.

Excellent lectures.

Good instructor.

Instructor should change his evaluation system as he grades participation - not every student lives [sic] or can speak in the class, therefore it is not fair that they get lower grades.

He's really smart, that's very apparent however he needs to realize we have not all gotten our masters in philosophy. Overall he did very well.

Clearly knows philosophy and all of the philosophers and ideas we studied. Makes the class interesting. Does a good job at explaining the subjects. Makes himself readily available outside of class. Very enthusiastic about the subject - makes the class more enjoyable.

Interesting and is helpful outside of class.

He was informative about the subject and helpful during office hours.

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**What aspects of this course contributed the most to your education?**

The writing of papers contributed most to my education because they taught me to think critically. I now think more indept about the topic in which I am writing.

In-class discussions.

Determination & the mind-body problem.  
Structuring well formed arguments.

Writing the papers contributed most to my education. This aspect of the course was the most difficult and challenging. It forced me to aquire [sic] a new writing style.

lectures on specific philosophers.

Lecture & readings were very boring & hard to understand for forestry studens. Explanations in class helped a lot.

Sorry but there was not that much contribution.

Understanding what philosophy is and alod [sic] the basic views of philosophy.

The discussion was the best part.

The readings and discusing [sic] them with other students.

The writing contributed a lot, it was a style I had not encountered yet.

This was my first philosophy course and I feel that I have taken a lot from it. The readings (in RR) were especially interesting - the readings in TKR were more in the textbook form. Discussions were very helpful for understanding the material.

The class discussions and readings and papers.

Reading effectively to take out and examine each person's view.  
Writing a good argument.

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**How could this course be improved to increase its educational value?**

I enjoyed the class to the tee. It was definitely up to par.

Add an extra discussion section on Fridays.

More Logic as applied to our writing.

This course is too condensed. Students need more time to carefully do the readings.

not so early in the Am.

for me look at maybey [sic} enviromental [sic] Philosophy like Aldo Leapod.

I think that the course is good and nothing should be changed.

I believe that a mix between free exploration of one's values and a structured response to course material works best. While the course allowed me to respond to the works we read, I was not really allowed to expand upon them.

Decrease the number of exams by half.

1. do not have papers & Exams on the same day.
2. less reading - discussion of readings felt very rushed at times b/c [sic] of limited class time.

Change the meeting time - few people can think philosophically at 8 am.

I don't know, it is pretty educational.

A little more work on effective writing.

**Please provide comments or suggestions about class time:**

Class time was appropriate. Any longer and we'd all kill each other with our arguments.

Seems like not enough time each week to cover what we read.

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repetitive [sic] at times but informative.

8:00 AM philosophy classes should be banned.

not so early in the Am.

Lock the door at the beginning of class.

well spent.

class time is very early (8 am), however, for people who have problems with scheduling class times, this option is good.

I like the discussions.

wasn't used the best every time.

because of abundance of readings felt rushed at times. good lectures though. always willing to answer questions. Good uses of examples to allow us to understand.

It is difficult to think philosophically at 8 am. I normally am a morning person, but it takes a lot to think philosophically that early.

Good time.

It sometimes ran long due to deep questioning about topics. It could have been cut down, but this would leave questions unanswered & the conversations were interesting so I did not mind them.

**Please provide comments or suggestions about readings:**

The readings were fairly understandable. They definitely taught us to think outside of the box.

sometimes hard to understand, often needs clarification through discussion.

some were dry, others confusing but most were effective.

Too many readings.

Not enough time to actually understand them.

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too many, too much.

have an outline of each reading, meaning?'s [sic] or statements of what we are supposed to get from the readings.

too many, too much.

have an outline of each reading, meaning?'s [sic] or statements of what we are to [sic] long, leaves too much to cover in class.

Readings are helpful to understand material, however, sometimes they seem too long or hard to understand.

fine

to [sic] much for an introductory class.

lots & difficult to get through. Specially for a 100 level class. Less readings would lead to better discussion/understanding.

TKR - very easy to understand, some what wordy, but overall beneficial to my understanding.

RR - most were very challenging - I needed the class discussion to understand them but all were very interesting.

It sometimes ran long due to deep questions about topics. It could have been cut down, but this would leave questions unanswered & the conversations were interesting so I did not mind them.

**Please provide comments or suggestions about papers, assignments, and exams:**

The papers, exams and assignments were all graded fair. And if we ever had problems we could go to his office hours and discuss it. He was always available.

Not overwhelming, easy to study for (Term paper should be the last paper, not Paper 4).

4 papers & 4 exams & term paper is a little overkill.

Papers should not be due on the same day as exams. Too much pressure.

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average

have the last paper & exam on last day of class or only have 3 exam/papers w/term paper due at last class.

four

I think that papers are graded too strictly, because it seems that instructor expects us to be "professional philosophy writer" by being super scrupulous [sic].

More short answers would be easier than multiple choice - it is so easy to argue contradicting [sic] viewpoints in Philosophy that single - answer questions just don't seem appropriate.

the papers were fine, but adding all of the test with them seemed to be too much.

Its awful that theyre [sic] on the same day decreases study time/ability to write a good paper. I have 5 other classes 4 on T/Th so this often fell on days I had another exam/paper. Tests were very difficult.

exams were very fair, covered all course material  
papers - topics challenging, somewhat unclear at times assignments - very few, but all were beneficial.

All assignments contributed to learning material.

All were fair.