

Summary of Teaching Evaluations

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This document presents a summary of the numerical teaching evaluations I have received for the courses I have taught and the recitation sections I have led during my time at both Tulane University and the University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill. I include three general questions that students received for all classes. At Tulane University, these questions are “Overall I would recommend this course”, “Overall, I would recommend this instructor”, and “My knowledge of this course’s subject has grown as a result of taking this course”. At University of North Carolina, I include three comparable questions: “Overall, the course was excellent”, “Overall, this instructor was an effective teacher”, and “Overall, I learned a great deal from this course”.

At both universities, students were asked to respond using a five-point scale where (1) is strongly disagree and (5) is strongly agree. I aggregate these evaluations by course taught. At Tulane University, the evaluations are for Introduction to Comparative Politics (POLC-2300, Fall 2021). At University of North Carolina, I include my own Introduction to Comparative Politics class (POLI 130, Spring and Fall 2019), one section as a TA for the graduate Game Theory class (POLI 789, Spring 2018), two semesters with three sections each of the Introduction to Latin American Politics class (POLI 238, Spring 2016 and Fall 2017), and two semesters with three sections each of the Introduction to Comparative Politics class (POLI 130, Fall 2016).

In addition to the numerical summaries, I provide select comments from each semester I have taught or lead sections. The complete teaching evaluations are available upon request.

Table 1: Numerical Summary Teaching Evaluations at Tulane University

	Recommend this course	Recommend this instructor	Knowledge has grown	N
POLC 2300 (FA 2021): <i>Introduction to Comparative Politics</i>	4.24	4.59	4.65	17

Table 2: Numerical Summary Teaching Evaluations at University of North Carolina

	Course was Excellent	Instructor was Effective	Learned a Great Deal	N
POLI 130 (SP 2019 and FA 2019): <i>Introduction to Comparative Politics</i>	4.13	4.48	4.22	23
POLI 789 (SP 2018): <i>Game Theory I</i>	4.38	4.78	4.38	9
POLI 238 (FA 2017, SP 2016): <i>Introduction to Latin American Politics</i>	3.98	4.35	4.23	48
POLI 130 (FA 2016): <i>Introduction to Comparative Politics</i>	3.93	4.21	4.26	42

Selected Comments from *Introduction to Comparative Politics* (FA 2021)

- I loved this class! Professor McKiernan loved to hear what students had to say and always tried to keep us engaged. The course content was never too difficult to grasp, and when it was she was happy to help better understand. She was always very accommodating and kind. This course was definitely one of my favorites.

- The professor was very engaged, responsive to emails, and when giving feedback she was quite detailed. I was impressed by her extensive knowledgable[sic] and ability to cite examples off the top of her head.

Selected Comments from *Introduction to Comparative Politics* (SP 2019 and FA 2019)

- I really appreciate Katherine as a teacher. I am so impressed by her extensive knowledge and ability to lead the class. She was able to answer every question students asked her, fully fleshing out the material and further relating the questions to realworld examples. I especially liked listening to her talk about her own research in Colombia because she is clearly very passionate about her field and it is refreshing to see a teaching[sic] so excited about what they are teaching. I think that she has shown qualities of being a good teacher that I haven't even seen from full professors, so I think as a grad student she is doing a great job.
- Good balance of discussions and lecture I like how students can select countries to write essays on

Selected Comments from *Game Theory I* (SP 2018)

- Strengths: Katherine's willingness to help her students understand the material, readiness to share additional materials, ability to provide clear guidance in solving homework problems, sharing homework key latex code. I also appreciate her responsiveness and communication style. I can't add any weaknesses. Kate is such a wonderful TA!
- Kate did an excellent job of communicating and teaching math concepts to people who are less mathematicallyoriented than she is, and I greatly appreciated her teaching.

Selected Comments from *Introduction to Latin American Politics* (SP 2016 and Fall 2017)

- Kate was very helpful as a TA, and I very much enjoyed discussions with her. She did a great job leading recitation in her own way as well as incorporating material from lecture. Her discussions and presentations were exceedingly helpful for understanding this course as well as excelling on papers and exams. The only advice I would give Kate is to be more confident, because she truly knows what she is talking about. I would love to have had more discussions with her on the topics, but students often failed to participate. The limitations of this recitation was due to lack of student participation, which is not her fault, because she tried to engage students to the best of her ability. Kate is a wonderful instructor, and I would gladly take a course that she leads. I hope to see her employed further at Carolina. Kate would be a fantastic addition to our learning community. (SP'16)
- I loved having Kate as a TA. She's super nice, cares about whether we understand the material, and always gives us different ways to learn and understand the material we learn. I would want to have her as a TA again for sure! She also is quick with answering any questions we have and is happy to elaborate for our benefit. (FA '17)

Selected Comments from *Introduction to Comparative Politics* (FA 2015 and FA 2016)

- She did a great job on a weekly basis with engaging me in the material. I felt I came away with learning something new every day in recitation. She also was very understanding of the challenges college students are facing and that made it easier to come to her with problems when they arose. Overall, she was a very good TA. (FA '15)
- Katherine did an excellent job and was truly one of the best TAs I've had at Carolina. She exemplifies mastery of the subject and is very knowledgeable about everything we are learning. She is always very accessible and willing to go out of her way to meet with/help students. She made class expectations clear and stuck to them. She was more than willing to provide extra help when I felt I did not understand a concept and did a great job in preparing our class for the exams. Overall Katherine really improved my experience in this class. (FA '16)