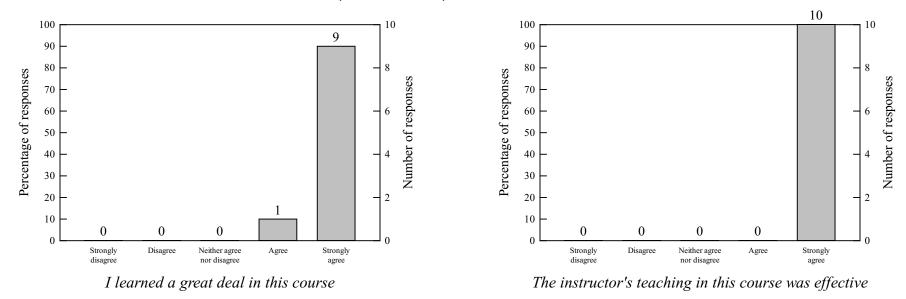
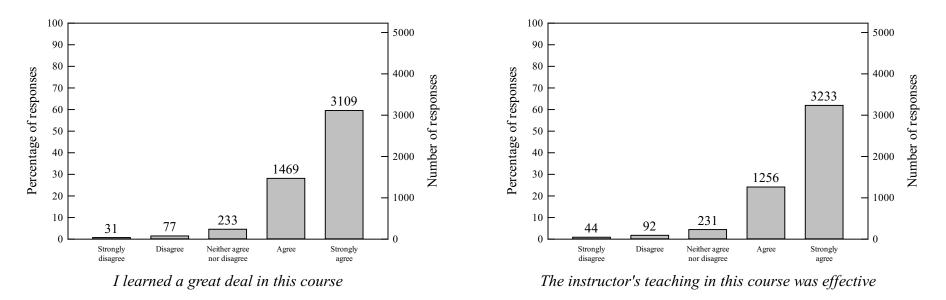
PSCI 0237A: International Law [Fall 2020] Winslett, Gary

Number of response forms completed: 10, of 0 total students enrolled



Aggregate of all courses in Fall 2020 (All Staff)



The fundamentals of international law and how to approach international law cases through effective analytical methods.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

Readings contributed a great amount, as did lectures and one 5 page paper and one 5,000 word paper.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

It is in my major and I was interested in the course content

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I did as well as I could and performed above average. I worked 6-10 hours per week outside of class on work, more if there were papers. I attended 100% of the courses

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

Extremely effective. Professor Winslett is a very passionate professor and a skilled lecturer. He enjoys engaging with his students and posing questions for us to answer. He is always readily accessible to understand concepts we do not understand well and cares very much about his students.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes and yes.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

The HLPPC assignment was very challenging, but an understandable part of the course. I think the readings would often get repetitive so cutting down on unnecessary readings might be a good idea if multiple readings repeat the same idea. Otherwise an excellent course and an incredible professor.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

I learned a great deal from this class, in the realms of theories, case studies, general concepts, and more.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

This class is hard! But that is no secret, and is emphasized at the outset. Everyone who is in the course signed up for it, and knew it was going to be challenging. There were lots of readings. I think that Winslett's lectures were phenomenally good at tying together a broad constellation of concepts into a clear and digestible 1 hour presentation. Given that our grades was primarily based on 2 papers and a final, the assignments were all very high stakes. These legal analysis papers were difficult, given that it was a style of writing and analysis unfamiliar to virtually everyone. But overall, I think the content and format was effective.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

I am a political science major, but had already fulfilled all major requirements--therefore I took this class simply out of interest. I am considering law school and so it seemed prudent to dip a toe in the pool before taking a full plunge.

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I attended all of the classes. This class was the most demanding time-wise out of all my courses, and I expect I spent about 6 hours per week outside of class doing the readings (I am an admittedly slow reader). This number obviously went up SUBSTANTIALLY during the weeks of/preceding the due dates of our IRAC and HLPPC papers.

Agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

I really enjoyed Professor Winslett's teaching style. He is clearly passionate and highly engaged in the material he teaches, and that really comes through. He managed to make lectures extremely interesting (and that can be quite the task at times with some of this material). He asked good questions, and facilitated one of the most stimulating class room environments I've had at Middlebury. Every student was readily to answer questions and engage all the time. Particularly given this was a bizarre, wacky COVID semester, I think that's quite the accomplishment.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

As I said before, this class was challenging. Certainly one of the most demanding courses I've taken and Middlebury. However, Professor Winslett was extremely clear on expectations (he gave us detailed rubrics). He also was extremely accessible and willing to meet in and outside of office hours.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

Overall, a really great class. Not for the faint of heart. But I would certainly recommend!

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

This course was extremely well put together and executed. I cannot understate how I believe this is one of the best (thought most difficult) courses I have taken at Middlebury, and definitely helped deepen my critical and analytical abilities, as well as a greater understanding of the concepts that define international law.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

Readings were always relevant, and I liked the structure of more background info for Tuesday and cases for Thursday. I also am grateful for the IRAC and HLPPC papers, as I thought they represented a great opportunity to do in depth and precise research and analysis.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

I took this course because I aim to apply to law school and because I have had great experiences w/ Prof. Winslett in prior courses.

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I put a lot of effort into this course and believe that it was reflected in my preparation for lectures and in papers.

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

Prof. Winslett does a great job of introducing difficult topics but pushing you to go further into them and keep thinking about them from different perspectives.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes. I really appreciate having a rubric for papers.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

Middlebury has very slim pickings for people interested in studying law in undergrad, so I think the course itself is essential to keep in frequent rotation. Also, Prof. Winslett is an incredible professor, and despite his courses often being the most difficult in a semester, I think they're worth it - definitely in this case.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

Learned a lot about international law and the way it can intersect domestic laws, the challenges that international law faces and the nuances with it being a consent based system. I learned how to think more grand on how specific issues can have consequences on other aspects of life.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

Considering how this was meant to mirror and actual law class in law school, I think the assignments were helpful and helped us think more critically about each case. The IRAC and HLPPC were big factors in helping see what kind of work would have to be done in a real law class.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

Took it because I am interested in law school and want to see how I would fair in law school.

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

Actively participated, only missed 1 class because I wasn't feeling well.

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

Very effective in explaining new concepts and answering questions that many of us had. Extremely knowledgable about the topic and great to interact with.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

Nothing, I think the asssignments were super cool and helpful. Readings of course was a bit heavy, but necessary for imitating a law class.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

I have learned not only about how international law functions, and what its principles are, but I learned about how a law-school style class works. I also learned how to read cases and analyze them-- and then write about them. I taught me to develop opinions about legal cases just from reading the case information.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

lecture was by far the most helpful part. I liked the IRAC better because I felt like I got a similar level of understanding about the case about the HLPPC, except it was easier. Readings were hard, especially the casebook, to really absorb. I really liked Klabbers as a guide book.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

The professor convinced me I should take it. It is in my major but I didn't need it.

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I gave this class my all. I spend about 8-10 hours/week on homework, not including essays. I couldn't count the hours i spent on the essays. enough that it derailed some of my other work. However, I really really appreciated that the reading load was lighter, if only slightly, during the weeks essays were due. Not many professors think about that and I found it very thoughtful that Professor Winslett had that in mind.

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

I think Winslett is the strongest lecturer in the poli sci department. He teaches instead of just making a speech. He takes questions well, uses visual aid effectively, and is all around a skillful instructor.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes. Very.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

The only thing I would say is that this class should be upgraded to a 300 level course. It is easily one of the most difficult poli sci classes I have taken at Midd, and the 200 level classification is misleading.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

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I learned a great deal in this course about how international law functions and is used as well as its origins. Both papers gave me great insight into law school and helped me to decide whether or not I wanted to go in the future. The lectures were great because Professor Winslett made the class very involved rather than just talking at us for the entire time.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

The papers contributed a great deal to my learning as they forced me to look in depth at a few cases which I found beneficial. Lecture was also helpful to talk through and have certain concepts explained.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

I took this course for my major and to see if I wanted to go to law school

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I attended every lecture and outside of class I would say I spent about 15 hours on outside readings.

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

The instructor was very effective and engaging at explaining new concepts and forcing participation from the class.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes the standards were very clear and they gave me a good opportunity to convey what I had learned. Though the HLPPC was very long, I believe it was overall necessary.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

I very much enjoyed the course, it was hard but Professor Winslett was very understanding and did a great job explaining anything that the class might have been confused about.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

This course has taught me the importance of rhetoric in the development of law/policy, the role of state/non-state actors in issues that transgress state boundaries, but also the complex relationships, attitudes, dictates, and philosophies that make up the social, political, economic context of international law. I can go on and on about the factual intricacies of many cases we reviewed and analyzed in addition to countless concepts that underlined each lesson but this class has been most constructive in reframing my perspective on global issues and providing me with tools to render my own opinion. I think this class has been monumental for my personal and professional development. I have gained confidence in public speaking, reading closely/presenting information in a cohesive manner, and conceptualizing large-scale issues that permeate the fabric of individual and collective consciousness.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

The lecture format which demanded participation/questions was essential for learning and constructing a close class community. One day was designated as the time to review concepts, definitions, philosophical quagmires, and essential topics while the other was devoted to reviewing applicable cases/case studies to bring the previously discussed concepts to life. I loved the readings, and I appreciated that they were from varied sources (and even included female scholarship) and the two required books were critical. The big three assignments for the class gave me sufficient room to share my dedication to the subject and what I have learned in a creative manner without being overburdening.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

I took this course despite the fact I was probably the only humanities student while everyone else had a much stronger Political Science or Economics background. Nevertheless, I did not feel at a disadvantage - in fact I think my strong reading/writing/analytical skills could still be applied to this course in a different discipline from my own - Professor Winslett made the material very approachable (despite the complexity of the matters) and left space for us to approach the lesson from different angles, thus, my literary studies and philosophy background still had a place in the room among other majors that seemed to better align with the class. Taking this class was supposed to be a sneak peak into what law school looks like, because I would like to pursue Human Rights work, potentially as a Human Rights Lawyer/ Advocate but was definitely not for my major/to fulfill a requirement.

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I think I did really well in the course (although I still need to write the final) but I think I will finish off feeling proud with what I have learned and how this new knowledge/skill set paves the way for my next steps. I thoroughly read each reading which too at least 5-10 hours outside of class on some weeks but this also included thorough notes and other personal research to better connect the material in my head. When I had a large assignment, I worked upwards of 10 hours, closer to 20 hours on the second one especially, to review, research, write, and edit.

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

Very very effective. Impressively concise and cogent in even the most difficult concepts. He listened attentively to any and all questions I asked and provided satisfying responses while also challenging my thinking and making me work hard to expand my

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes and yes! Very clear standards and provided a lot of opportunities to review in private through office hours. I think a few smaller assignments weekly would also be helpful to make sure that I fully understood all the readings and took the time to remember the material (although I don't think these smaller assignments should be graded, I would willingly do them without a grade to increase comprehension and keep myself on track so I don't fall behind on the readings).

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

I cannot thank Professor Winslett enough for this class. It's definitely one of my favorite classes at Middlebury, but also the most eye opening for my personal goals and aspirations. Despite how demanding and challenging it was, it was gripping. If I were an IPE major I would definitely try to take as many classes as I could with Professor Winslett but sadly his other courses don't align with my interests as much. I highly recommend this class, this professor, this mental space for growth - so grateful I took this course at a time when I really needed some more direction for my post-grad goals but also more incentive to be focused/appreciative of my time at Middlebury. This class has certainly done both.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

I have learned a lot from this course. Prior to taking this course, I didn't even know what international law actually entailed. Each unit had its purpose and I learned a lot from every reading, lecture, and class discussions. I found this class to be incredibly engaging, interesting, and generally extremely fruitful.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

The readings were very helpful and I felt the work load was fair. Each paper assignment was a great way to truly synthesize a lot of the concepts we had learned, dig deeper into the intricacies of specific cases, as well as learn a brand new style of writing / paper. I had never before heard of an IRAC or HLPPC, let alone written one, so I found this to be challenging in a good way as it pushed me as a thinker, learner, and writer. I also found class lectures to be extremely engaging. I genuinely looked forward to coming to class each day to hear from Professor Winslett and my classmates and dig into the reading material. The 75 min classes felt like they went by very quickly because I was so engaged.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

I took this course because I am interested in law and wanted to learn more about international law as I thought it may be a field I would want to explore in the future. I also have taken a class with Professor Winslett in the past and really enjoyed that course as well as his teaching style and wanted to take another with him! It also satisfies an elective credit for my major.

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I attended every class and felt I participated a decent amount in class. I spent approximately 4-5 hours on readings per week, and much more for the larger paper assignments.

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

Professor Winslett is an excellent professor. He is incredibly knowledgable on the subject and I was often impressed with his ability to clearly and concisely explain deep, complicated topics to our class as well as respond to each question insightfully. He provided thorough feedback to each of our assignments and made standards of evaluation as well as expectations very clear. He also did an excellent job at facilitating discussion and engaging the class throughout the lectures.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

Yes I think all assignments were fair and standards of evaluation were clear. The two papers were different from anything most of us had every written before so I appreciated how Professor Winslett was available for help and answering questions, as well as preparing us for these assignments ahead of time by explaining the proper format.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

I can honestly say that this is my favorite course I have taken at yet Middlebury. It was the most engaging class I have taken and I learned very much. Sometimes, especially as a senior, it is easy for courses to become repetitive and sometimes cover similar themes and material, but this course was completely different from anything I had taken before. It was definitely challenging, but this challenge forced me out of my comfort zone and pushed me to think about the world in a new way. I would highly recommend this course, and any course taught by Professor Winslett, to other students.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

I learned about different theories of international politics and learned about bilateral and multilateral treaties and international organizations that manage state interaction under different areas of international law like environmental law, intervention and women's rights

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

The two legal analysis papers we did, the IRAC and the HLPPC, were helpful in learning how to to understand cases and form arguments about different court rulings.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

To satisfy a major requirement

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I attended every class and did 4-6 hours of work per week

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

The lectures for the class were always very clear and informative whether we were talking about theory/concepts or specific cases. Even though there was a lot of information being thrown at us, the lectures were easy to understand and there was always time for lots of questions.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

The papers for the class were a good opportunity to apply what we learned in class to analyzing specific cases and the standards of evaluation were clear

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

This was a hard class but I enjoyed it and I feel like I have a much better understanding of international law than I did before.

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."

I have learned many different international law concepts and how they relate to politics and cases. I gained how to apply these different concepts creatively and how to analyze situations where they exist.

COURSE CONTENT & FORMAT: How did the various components of the course contribute to your learning? Consider, as appropriate, lectures, readings, writing assignments, problem sets, films, labs, drills, studio work, debates, discussions, presentations, field work, or group work. Be specific.

The readings and lectures were the main forms which helped me gain knowledge, but the legal writing assignments helped me learn how to apply things.

COURSE CHOICE: Why did you take this course? Was it an elective or taken to satisfy a requirement? Is it in your major?

I took this course due to my interest in law. It was not for fulfilling a requirement or for my major.

YOUR PARTICIPATION: How would you assess your own performance in the course? Approximately how many hours per week outside of class did you work? Estimate the percentage of classes that you attended.

I felt I did well in this class, and my performance got better throughout the course. I spent about 4-5 hours outside of class working. I attended 100% of classes.

Strongly agrees with "I learned a great deal in this course."

INSTRUCTION: How effective was the instructor in explaining new concepts, in facilitating the development of skills, in raising issues for discussion, and in enabling you to understand the course material and its significance? Provide examples.

The instructor was very effective in explaining new concepts and helping us build skills to keep applying our new knowledge. The questions raised for discussion were very interesting and led to fruitful discussion.

ASSESSMENT: Did test/paper assignments and/or projects provide you adequate opportunity to convey the learning expected in the course? Were standards of evaluation clear?

The assignments were a great way of showing what we learned. Standards were very clear.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: What comments would you make about maintaining or changing the course content and/or the instructor's methods of teaching? Comment on any aspects of the course, modes of teaching, or impact on your education that are not covered by the preceding questions.

I really enjoyed the format of learning about the topic and background the first day of class, and then discussing the cases the next class. This helped make discussion more smooth and made sure we had the right information to understand cases

Strongly agrees with "The instructor's teaching in this course was effective."