

## Comments from Students in Summer@Brown Course - 2022

“I wanted to share something fairly incredible for me that stemmed from this class.

I'm not sure if you recall but for one of our first assignments, we were assigned to watch a few videos on public speaking, one of which was Joe Biden speaking at the American Institute of Stuttering. As a person who stutters, I was incredibly moved by this video and so decided to send him an email thanking him for the representation he brings to the community and for inspiring me. Three weeks passed and, assuming no one had read it, I forgot about it, meaning that I didn't think much about missing an unknown caller last Saturday morning. However, when I went to check the voicemail, I immediately recognized the voice and was stunned: Joe Biden called me back and left a message that I will truly never forget. I want to thank you not only for sharing the video but also for being one of the only educators I've ever been taught by who has shared a video featuring a prominent person who stutters talking about stuttering and further spreading awareness about it, which I believe is the key to ending ignorance and confusion surrounding the topic. Anyway, I just wanted to reach out to say thank you so very much!!”

–A.B. [not her real initials]

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“Thank you for making this course such a wonderful experience for me.”

–B.Z. (from Toronto, Canada)

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“This was the BEST class I have ever taken, and I feel so fortunate that I was able to learn under your tutelage and get to know you. Thank you so much for your care, investment in us, sharing of your wisdom, and all the work that you put into designing this course. It is an immense amount of work that you have done, and we are so much better because of you.

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You will always be THAT PERSON who made a profound imprint and impact on my education.”

--M.G.

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“Thank you so much for your teaching and guidance....!!”

--R.W. (from Beijing)

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"It truly has been a blast during these past 4 weeks. I have learned so, so much.

The material itself was extremely exciting. I know more now than I knew when I started.

Thank you so much for teaching this class in an incredible way, I'll miss you, Judge Curran!"

--D.P.

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“Thank you so much for all the helpful advice and for this eye-opening course. I have learned so much over the past four weeks.”

-K.W. (Vancouver, Canada)

“Thank you so much for your patience and guidance throughout the course. I learned so much these past few weeks, and you're easily one of the most accessible professors I've ever had. I really appreciate all the time and resources you gave us!”

--F.G. (from Shanghai, China)

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“It was a very pleasure taking this course with an instructor such as you.

You have taught me many very various experiences and some really good advice that I plan on taking with me in my future.... Learning about the great trials flew by\* \* \* I have learned many lessons throughout this course that I will most certainly wield in my future career. Many time management skills, advancements in public speaking, and most importantly learning from your personal experiences.

I will miss this course very much so and the daily schedule that I had built when doing this course. It was a blast. I truly did love this class. It is very sad to think about how insignificant our lives really are compared to the scope of the future and our past. That really makes me want to do something great in the world and leave a long-lasting impact that will forever alter the way future generations live their lives in a meaningful way.”

-D.P. (Georgia)

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“I wanted to extend a final Thank You for working with me through this course. It has been so inspiring being able to work with a judge for the first time. Before this, I have never had experience with any trial work so

it was very exciting for me to be introduced to this. As well for the public speaking, it has been so nice to learn about the different techniques.

Thank you for the support over the past few weeks.”

-S.P.

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“...I am sad that this course is over as I have greatly enjoyed it!

It has been a formative experience in terms of my future Mock Trial and law career. Thanks to your expert guidance, I have been challenged to think critically, ask (and answer) big questions, and write with precision and eloquence. Thank you for all you have done to make this a wonderful experience!”

-N.L.

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“I cannot thank you enough for everything pertaining to this course, as I really do feel (no hyperbole) that I have matured and expanded as a person.”

--M.G.

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“I cannot delineate how much gratitude I have for all that you have done for me. It is truly an *honor* to have worked with you....”

--A.K.

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“I genuinely enjoyed the course.... I really appreciate all of the support over the past few weeks!”

--R.K. (from Beijing)

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“I learned so much from your course, and now have a much clearer picture of what a career in law would entail. Thank you again for this amazing program!”

--F.G.

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“I cannot thank you enough for this wonderful course....”

--E.L. (Tel Aviv, Israel)

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“I wanted to extend a final Thank You for working with me through this course. It has been so inspiring being able to work with a judge for the first time. Before this, I have never had experience with any trial work so it was very exciting for me to be introduced to this. As well for the public speaking, it has been so nice to learn about the different techniques.”

--S.P.

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“You have been so great at making everyone feel comfortable and so available throughout this course for any questions.”

-- K.W.

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“ It is an honor to have had the chance to work with you and I hope that we will have more opportunities to meet again in the future whether it be in Brown or another place.”

---S.P. (Shenjing, China)

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“Coming into this course, I was unsure of what to expect. Though the title caught my eye and the description seemed incredibly interesting, you never know the quality of the teacher and how much you will really learn. However, from the moment this course began, the class exceeded everything I had hoped for. From the well-structured and captivating lectures to the provocative discussion questions, I was challenged to think more deeply and truly enjoyed doing so. You are an excellent teacher and I am very grateful for everything that I learned during this course and the support that you gave me and my fellow students.

Brown is very lucky to have such an amazing teacher on their summer staff.”

-K.A.

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“I will never forget the lessons this course has taught me and how much you have done to hone my public speaking skills and improve my critical thinking skills. This course enlightened me in many ways and was essential to improving me as a historian, lawyer (to-be), and person. I am truly blessed to have you as an instructor....!”

--A.K.

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“Thank you for all the support you’ve given me throughout the class. I learned so much and had lots of fun.”

-C.Z. (Beijing)

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“Thank you so much for all the helpful advice and for this eye-opening course. I have learned so much over the past four weeks.”

-K.W.

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“I truly liked this course as it gave me insight into topics that weren’t covered at school. Especially the discussions of the trials which exposed me to new information and diverse cultures and values that I had rarely studied or explored. It taught me a lot, and the knowledge I received will be undoubtedly helpful in the future. I also really appreciate how you always provide detailed lectures and feedback.”

--Z.P.

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“It truly was a joy to be a student in this course and I am very grateful to have attended...I am so happy to have the opportunity to have challenged myself in such an enriching and thought-provoking learning environment”

-K.A.

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“I can’t tell you how much [ ] and we appreciate the time you have taken/are taking to work with him! It is above-and-beyond, and [ ] has been effusively enthusiastic when sharing the contents of your tutorials. He truly LOVES these lessons, and we are so grateful for your generosity of time and knowledge - it’s actually almost hard to believe

these days that someone in your position would be so kind as to spend his precious free time extending himself in this way – it is such a GIFT. Please know our heartfelt gratitude.”

--Parent of C.G.

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“Thank you again for such an incredible experience during the Brown Pre-College program! It truly has left such a lasting impact on me, both broadening my perspective and improving my critical thinking skills profoundly. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to learn and grow under your tutelage. Thank you for all that you do.”

--M.G.

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“I wanted to share with you how crucial the information that I have learned in your summer class has been for me. I have been in school for only a month, and in many of my AP U.S. History classes, I have been referencing, citing, and drawing upon the facts, details, people, places, and events taught in your Great Trials Course. I have noticed that my hand tends to be the only one raised so much of the time.

From John Brown to the Salem Witch Trials and John Adam's representation of those two British soldiers following the Boston Massacre, the information with which you supplied us has proven to be invaluable! My John Brown debate on violence and the Nuremberg Trials even came into discussion as we had class conversations on war crimes and just war policies, so much so that I sent my teacher my debate video. In my AP Language and Composition class, I discussed how fear of the different and unknown widely influenced the characters in *The Crucible*, as well as the Salem Witch Trials on which it was based and Red Scare to which the novel was compared.



So, I just want to take a moment to once again thank you for making a very important and positive impact on my education. I imagine that all too often, teaching feels like a thankless job, but I truly cannot thank you enough for how you have enriched my life thus far. Just know, you've made a real difference in this student's life and evolution. You and your course will never be forgotten and in fact, it will always be remembered fondly and in the highest esteem. It has been, by far, the best course I have ever taken.”

M.G.

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“I really enjoyed the class and the teacher was fantastic.”

--Summer@Brown Course Evaluation.

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“The professor of the course, Justice Curran, is really nice.”

-- Summer@Brown Course Evaluation.

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“The course not only pertained to the trial’s legal basis but was also deeply integrated with the great trials’ philosophical, psychological, and historical facts. I could extend my perception of the law by contemplating the enrichment queries in each lecture.”

-- Summer@Brown Course Evaluation.

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“The daily discussion questions were engaging and educational. We learned information and applied it using critical thinking [and ] getting a chance to understand the other students’ different perspectives.”

“We were able to learn and discuss so much through the course content, and that could only have been done through Judge Curran’s exhaustive work, from Zoom meetings, to discussion boards, to case studies, and personal interactions with his students.”

--Summer@Brown Course Evaluation.

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“Judge Curran made everyone feel welcome and let us all know he was available and just an email away at all times.”

--Summer@Brown Course Evaluation.

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“This course was everything I could have wished for and more. I learned more about the law, human conditions and psychology and studied fascinating cases.”

--Summer@Brown Course Evaluation.

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“...This was a phenomenal course, and because of it, I would take any course hereafter that Judge Curran teaches. I have never had an educational experience such as this....”

--Summer@Brown Course Evaluation.

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“...I have had many presentations throughout this past school year. From your notes and critiques, I have learned the importance of practicing and understanding the purpose and intonation of *every single word*. Your lesson in projection has been helpful in my practice, and all of these invaluable tips have allowed me to give some of the best presentations I have ever given. I have gotten 100s on all my presentations so far, even from the harsher graders, and wonderful comments from my peers and teachers. Above all, those public speaking lessons have taught me a pertinent lesson in humility. I will admit, I thought I was an excellent public speaker before the meeting and simply wanted to hone my skill. However, you have taught me that there is always room for improvement, a space to close between yourself and the asymptote of perfection.

These are some of the more prominent ways you have impacted my life, yet the lessons you have taught me throughout the course have impacted me in a million more profound and nuanced moments. Thank you for being such an incredible guiding figure, beyond those four weeks, and for imbuing me with priceless wisdom that supersedes knowledge. Though I cannot ever fully elucidate my gratitude to have you as my teacher, inside and outside the classroom....”

--A.K.

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“I cannot thank you enough for the letter of recommendation, but also the guidance, kindness, and confidence you have given me in the college application process, and in life.”

-E.W.

(Received four months after the course concluded)

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“Your course stands as the most enriching, exciting, and widely applicable one that I have taken. Just last week, my AP U.S. History Course covered the *Amistad* case and John Brown's rebellion. The O.J. Simpson case came up in my Biotechnology class, and I had some insight to offer thanks to you and all that I learned under your tutelage. I find myself discussing the Parkman-Webster case with my mom, and on more than one occasion, my mind has wandered to the deeply disturbing case involving Leopold and Loeb. Thank you for providing me with such an incredible experience. I still keep in contact with some of my Brown classmates, including [S.P.] and [D.P.]....

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Everybody brought such vivacity and enthusiasm to our discussions; it was beautiful to see you supporting your students and dedicating so much time to us as we supported one another and earnestly took your guidance. That dynamic--at least at this age and level of schooling--is rare, and so inspiring once you bear witness to it.”

M.G.

(Received four months after the course concluded)

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