

## Transcription of Student Comments

At LMU, in addition to the numerical summary, we are simply given scanned copies of the entire course survey (2 pages per person). To save you time combing through them, I provide here any and all comments from Fall 2016, edited only for punctuation, grouped according to theme.

### What did you find most beneficial about the course?

- \*The reading guides with page numbers
- \*It was applicable and helped inspire my writing outside the course
- \**Very* good with explaining even the most absurd questions. I went into this class dreading that I had registered, and now I feel like I will actually miss this class
- \*Quizzes and professor's help
- \*Talking and asking questions
- \*The interactive class lectures and the friendly/fun atmosphere the professor brought to the class
- \*The professor's attitude
- \*Professor made it easy for us to get help from him if we needed it
- \*Made me think about ethics/morality in a different way. Made me think freely
- \*The reading guides helped me study and were not excessive
- \*The reading guides
- \*The reading guides helped me a lot.
- \*Reading guides were actually helpful. Prof answered questions in a way I could understand/learn from.
- \*I found the reading quizzes to be beneficial, as they made sure everyone was reading and could participate. I also really enjoyed the format of lectures and open, free discussions.
- \*The chance for a lot of points helped because if we do bad on one thing, we can make up for it.
- \*The teacher was really helpful and informative
- \*The professor's enthusiasm; the fact that we all knew each other and became friends; page numbers on the reading guide
- \*Discussion-based classes allowed for better comprehension of topics
- \*Class discussions and reading guides with questions.
- \*Class discussions
- \*Discussion
- \*The open dialogue we had in class. I enjoyed how much we were able to question the philosophers, because I never found a philosopher I completely agreed with
- \*I learned to challenge and understand confusing things
- \*How in-depth we went in conversation about the readings.
- \*The lectures and student/teacher in-class interactions
- \*The in-class presentations.
- \*Student presentations
- \*The in-class discussions and Youtube songs

- \*The discussions amongst the class and in office hours, talking about specific ethical situations
- \*The lectures were *TOP NOTCH*, mind-blowing stuff. Also, the student-proposed examples [= in-class presentations] were very interesting.
- \*The dialogues we had in class. (To be completely honest, I feel that both this course and the professor are excellent, but required a large time commitment to get the full benefits from it.)
- \*The variety of perspectives we were able to explore.
- \*The range in variety of material provided, and the challenging environment
- \*To get to know more completely the various different ethical frameworks and how they compare to each other
- \*The comparison between the different philosophers
- \*Real-world application of what we learn
- \*I enjoyed the supplementary media that encouraged us to look at philosophy in the modern context.
- \*When the topics/ideas were connected to other aspects (media: songs, movies, clips)
- \*I found that the most beneficial part of this course was the different media used by the professor (songs, movies, etc.) to relate ancient viewpoints to modern-day situations.
- \*The study guides really helped. The use of videos/songs were great.
- \*The explanations of the readings, comparison to real-life situations.
- \*The accessibility of the material. It was easily explained.
- \*The instructor made very complicated readings very basic to understand while allowing a large amount of student input.
- \*[The course] challenged me to understand difficult reading which was beneficial.
- \*Nothing

### **What would have made this course more effective for you?**

- \*More group work
- \*More group work
- \*Personally, I have never benefited from group work, and so less of the in-class groupings would have been helpful.
- \*Not being a freshman
- \*Some of the reading was difficult to understand. The professor helped after the reading, but since this was after, it meant the time reading was less meaningful.
- \*Less material, more in-depth focus on what we do cover
- \*Less readings *but* more in-depth analysis.
- \*To have maybe had less material, but focus on it in much more detail
- \*More textual discussion of readings.
- \*Less reading and more talking. By focusing on more open discussion in class, we could have – perhaps – engaged more as a whole
- \*Spending more time on the challenging topics, such as Kant
- \*Nothing!

- \*Nothing
- \*Nothing.
- \*Not sure.
- \*N/A
- \*Not much, if anything
- \*Everything was awesome
- \*Power Point lectures instead of just free notes from listening
- \*If I did the readings more, but there was just *so* much and it's so dense!
- \*The online responses, wish they were more specified in the weekly schedule. I missed the first five because I strictly looked at that schedule, in part my fault no doubt, but it would've been helpful for the lazy/busy ones (i.e., me)
- \*Reading quizzes every other week [instead of every week]; they got to be a little overwhelming about halfway through
- \*More structured in-class discussion and a move away from traditional lecture structure.
- \*Visual aids of each philosopher's beliefs.
- \*Relating the content to a more modern-day context.
- \*If he would keep us up to date on our grades and treated this course as if we were experts. Also, if he graded our stuff on time.
- \*Less reading, clearer instructions on writing assignments
- \*More of a discussion-based class and less lecture.
- \*More discussions with the class during the lectures
- \*Less lectures, more discussions
- \*More use of connections [to songs and movies], rather than just lectures
- \*Possibly more discussions about specific ethical situations?
- \*Have discussions required for quiz [take place] before in-class quiz instead of outside of class.
- \*An easier breakdown; sometimes, I was just confused
- \*Maybe handouts/ more charts/teacher presentations so I can see his own important "notes" and have it visually explained.
- \*Clear notes about definitions

**Assorted (appended to other questions; each entry is from a single student)**

- \*He is a good listener and seemingly kind - but not overly kind in terms of expectations, which is good. Feedback to quizzes were received 2<sup>nd</sup> to last day of class, which was not intended, but made it hard to improve. I already had an interest in philosophy, and this [course] confirmed that.
- \*The class discussions were impressive, really kept me engaged. Was a stressful semester, so I was not able to be truly immersed in the class
- \*Very constructive [instructor/student interactions], class discussions, out of class as well. Very flexible for office hours that didn't work with my schedule. Weekly quizzes kept me focused. Philosophy is hard!

\*Every reading assignment we had, had a reading guide that connected the reading to the learning outcomes. Many questions were asked and answered thoroughly in class. There were tough questions on the quiz that challenged me. Instructor was clear when explaining difficult concepts.

\*When I went to office hours, Dr. Britt was very helpful. Very willing to meet outside class/during office hours. Some concepts were difficult, and I was challenged to think more critically.

\*I feel that the feedback I received for the argument outlines could've been more thorough.

\*He is a very good teacher, but the subject was not for me.

\*The instructor engaged our questions fruitfully.

\*Good feedback on reading quizzes and argument outlines. Caused me to think more profoundly. Class lectures were very effective.

\*The instructor led great interactive and engaging classes that pushed our knowledge but also let us explore interest in the subject.

\*I think that it would have been beneficial to talk about the quiz answers after the quiz, in case you got it wrong.

\*He had very good feedback for all of the writing assignments. I can't see how philosophy could have been taught any better. [The instructor] was always able to weave his answers to [students'] questions into the lecture.

\*When I needed help, he was available to meet with me for office hours.

\*I actually like philosophy now.

\*[His response to student questions] was one of my favorite parts of the class.

\*The professor did a good job answering questions without bias in class and had an open-minded perspective.

\*The song-lyric lectures were helpful and connected with students in an engaging way. I personally feel a huge benefit from having this class. The instructor was very engaging and was always available for discussion. This instructor cares about the students, and it is obvious. This was an important and tough class.

\*After taking this course, I have begun to consider adding philosophy as a minor