

Sample Student Comments on Evaluation Forms

Course: Writing 125, *Staging Science*, Wellesley College

Semester: Spring 2011

Class size: 14 students

Professor Brubaker is a wonderful professor. She took the writing portion of this course as seriously as the literature she was having us read analyze, and made sure that each class had a portion of how to improve one's writing either before, during, or after discussing the material. Professor Brubaker was accessible outside of class, even requiring us to schedule a meeting with her for our first two papers so that we could establish a working relationship with her outside of the classroom. She always answered her emails and was willing to answer questions no matter how trivial they seemed. She went beyond the texts and exposed us to science plays in the production phase as well as the literature; for example, she made arrangements for us to see a science play in Boston, and she invited a guest lecturer from the Theater Studies department to discuss his experience in directing a few of the plays we read. Her assignments were all relevant and contributed to our improvement as writers and critical thinkers. I hope she teaches classes besides writing, as I would love to have her again.

You can tell that she puts a lot of time and effort into this course through her attention to detail and her comments. She really does her best to give you a deep and detailed review of your work.

I would recommend Professor Brubaker because she is a very thoughtful instructor. She gives a lot of great criticism, but isn't condescending. She is also very encouraging and makes herself available to her students. At the same time, she is a very tough grader and so she makes her students work very hard for the grade. However, although she structures the class discussions very well, she sometimes has trouble getting all students to participate. Nevertheless, she is an awesome instructor.

I would recommend Anne to other students. She is very personable and enjoys teaching. She also takes the time and energy to improve and make sure that we have a great learning experience. She took the time to organize and take us to a scientific play in Cambridge which definitely helped me to grasp the main ideas that we had been learning about all semester. I went to her office hours many times and enjoyed getting to know her and knowing that she truly cared about my time at Wellesley.

As a writing course, this course was incredibly valuable. I was confident in my writing before the course, but now I feel even more confident in my ability to choose and argue a thesis statement. I believe that this was possible thanks to the weekly writing tips and instructions that the professor went over every week. Additionally, the essays provided great feedback towards improving my writing. As a course of the intersection of the

sciences and the humanities, this course was also incredibly interesting. By reading these different plays, I learned a great deal about both science and the humanities, which I can apply to my own life as a humanities major and pre-medical student. This course allowed me to think more critically and analytically about science, and how it relates to the humanities.

I would highly recommend this instructor. I was delighted upon taking this course to discover that the instructor could handle students in a seminar based class so well. Specifically, I appreciated her ability to maintain the progression of a discussion over the course of a class, while never devaluing a comment made by a student. In terms of writing instruction, I was thoroughly appreciative of Anne's helpfulness and openness during one-on-one meetings. Throughout the course, her very specific constructive criticism on papers pushed me to rethink and revise my writing process. In class, I thoroughly appreciated the use of concrete examples of previous student writing that either failed or succeeded in its goals. I continued to use those examples as reference points throughout the course.

Course: English 106, *Literature and Experience: Technologies of Literature*, UIUC
Semester: Fall 2009
Class size: 15 students

I feel she did a good job facilitating discussions. I appreciated her summarizing/expanding on ideas we shared, and she helped make everyone's comments flow cohesively.

Anne is very knowledgeable and passionate about literature. She engaged me throughout the semester with her ability to make old themes appear new. She is also an inspiration to me because she expresses her passion for English/teaching which makes me want to teach.

Really nice, understanding, shows a sincere knowledge of the topic. Kind of a tough grader.

Available, easy to understand/good at explaining. Really enthusiastic and excited about all the texts.

Very positive and enthusiastic, well organized and kept interest of students. Knows the material.

She is very good at engaging people, and I felt comfortable participating in the class. She was very approachable, knowledgeable, and interesting to listen to.

Relates/connects well with students—provides good environment for open discussion; really appreciated and liked the time and effort put in by you to respond to our papers.

Created insights on aspects of literature that are often undermined or overlooked. Great classroom discussions and thought provoking questions; did not give enough time for heavier reading loads.