

Term	Course	Primary Dept	Primary Division	Enrolled:	14
Fall 2018	EP&E 280 01/PLSC 301 01/PLSC 576 01 - AncientGreek Politcl Develpmnt	PLSC	Social Sciences	Responded:	13

Instructors

Cammack, Daniela

What knowledge, skills, and insights did you develop by taking this course?

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 4

Respondent	Answer
1278465	A much better understanding of the multiple changes that Greece had undergone over the span of a couple centuries! I really got to engage with a variety of material that was very well curated to the subject matter of the week! I now have a more comprehensive scope of ancient political systems.
1289521	We look at Ancient Greece's development through an awesome variety of disciplines: history, political theory, a lot of orations, and a little theatre. I feel like I have an excellent understanding now of Athens' sociopolitical life in particular all the way up to Alexander. The papers are what you make of them, and writing them helped me come to a very deep understanding of the material. Prof. Cammack is also open to finding a prompt that particularly suits your interests.
1289665	I learned about the development of Ancient Greek politics, and, in particular, the trends within classical political thought. Topics we explored included citizenship, lawmaking, imperialism, and democratic theory. This encompassed learning how to read Ancient Greek texts.
1291360	Learned a lot about the development of democracy in Ancient Athens and Ancient Greece history (mostly as it pertained to Athens). I also improved on my writing skills quite a bit.
1294708	I learned how to closely examine Ancient Greek texts, make sophisticated inferences from source material, and choose a topic befitting of a classics paper.
1307031	I developed a much more nuanced understanding of Ancient Greek politics, especially the development of Ancient Athenian democracy
1307265	The close examination of political texts from Ancient Greece was paired with intense and meticulous discussion in class, focused on broader themes of the texts. The opportunity to write two essays allowed for closer examination of many of these questions.
1308418	A broad treatment of various topics in Ancient Greek history, with a focus on the Classical period. While there is a focus on the political development of Greek cities, we also focused on the economic and social phenomena that influenced and were in turn influenced by political systems. The course is more of a broad overview of various themes and topics, such as mixed constitutions and the nature of empire, rather than a focused study of a given area of interest. With that said, there are certainly themes that resonate throughout the course. The course not only offers a valuable opportunity to compare different forms and conceptions of government in Ancient Greece but also an opportunity to examine topics of interest in depth. Professor Cammack gives students a lot of latitude in choosing essay topics, and even the focus of weekly discussion posts. There is a baseline amount of understanding you might gain/reinforce if you have read this material before, but you'll definitely enhance your understanding of areas that you choose to focus on the most.
1311196	I learned about how to read and understand a lot of the historiographic sources we have for ancient greece.

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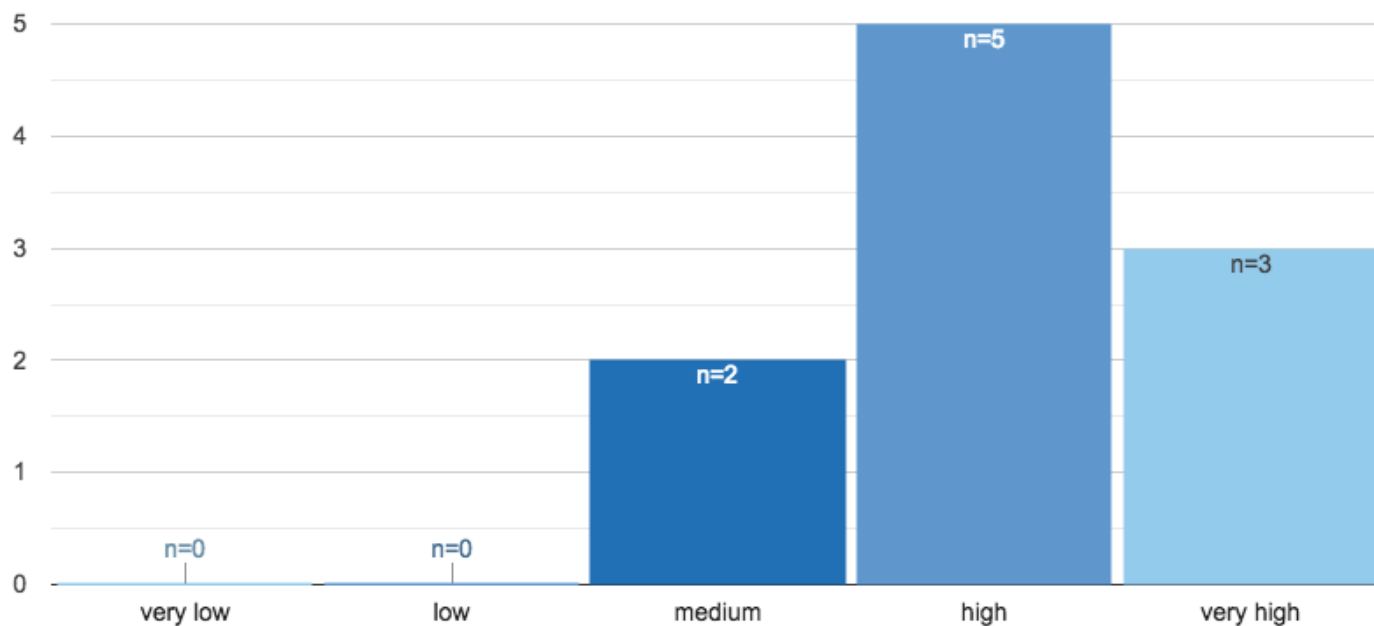
Cammack, Daniela

Your level of engagement with the course was:

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 3

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
4.1 ±0.7	3.8 ±0.9	3.7 ±1.0	3.8 ±1.0



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Cammack, Daniela

What are the strengths and weaknesses of this course and how could it be improved?

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 4

Respondent	Answer
1278465	Loved the reading and structure of this course. Professor Cammack is a fantastic conversation moderator, and she did a great job structuring a productive syllabus that was broken into logical chunks. I am unsure of how much I loved the reading responses each week, but I think that it was cool that she could draw on them to bring people into the conversation!
1289521	Strengths include an excellently crafted syllabus, an awesome professor who provides good feedback, and (in my opinion) a fun historical period. Workload is very low: do the readings and write a brief completion-grade response each week. Beyond that, write 25 pages over the term. I can't really think of a weakness, but I suppose if you don't find the material interesting it'd be pretty awful.
1289665	The strengths include the material itself and Professor Cammack. Ancient Greek political thought is fascinating, only partly for what it reveals about the present day. Interpreting in rigorous detail the developments of city-states and the progression of authors' interpretations allowed me to gain a deeper hold on concepts we invoke flippantly today, such as sovereignty, justice, and law. In addition, Professor Cammack is incredibly dedicated to students' learning; her discussion-leading in the classroom is effective, and she makes herself incredibly available for office hours.
1291360	The strengths of the course are definitely Prof. Cammack and the readings! Prof. Cammack was always very lively and clearly passionate about the material. She always made sure to provide historical context for the day's readings, which was a great help for understanding the material. Further, she always made herself available to her students for assistance throughout the writing process. She clearly cares about her students, which made the classroom environment comfortable and seeking help easy. Around midterms (or maybe a little before), she asked the class for anonymous feedback for improving the course and she definitely incorporated it going forward, which was nice to see as it shows she really cares. The only thing I'd recommend, if possible, is adding a draft component to the writing process. While it was great that she would read the first page of our papers, it would be nice to have more comprehensive feedback before turning in a final draft. However, given that the main focus of this class is not to improve one's writing, it is understandable if this is not a reasonable suggestion.
1294708	Prof Cammack is wonderful! She is an especially gifted lecturer when talking off of the cuff. My only suggestion would be a bit more summary and historical overview for some weeks. I got so much more out of the class during the weeks we had short historical/contextual overviews at the beginning of the class.
1307031	The only weakness I could identify would be to spend a more time getting really into the readings. However, I understand that the class was for graduate students and undergrads, and there were substantially more undergrads. This class benefited--and here is the strength I'll identify--by having a wide range of materials.
1307265	The strength of this course is Professor Cammack's deep knowledge of the texts and history of the time period. She often referred to the Greek text or commented on how specific translations could alter the meaning of a word or concept. One weakness of the course perhaps was the mix of undergraduate and graduates, which sometimes led to an uneven discussion.

Respondent	Answer
1308418	The biggest strengths of this course are the material and Professor Cammack; the material is engaging enough on its own, while Professor Cammack does an excellent job of guiding the reading and discussion. Apart from that, I would say that the reading can be a lot at times and that it is hard to learn as much from the reading during those weeks, especially when we don't have the opportunity to discuss all of it.
1311196	I think Daniela is a great professor that is really good at picking out material for us to read and encouraging discussion. Really the only thing that I thought was a bit weak about the class was the fact that a lot of the students were hesitant to participate in discussion, which Daniela did a lot to try to foster and I think at this point was mostly just up to the class.

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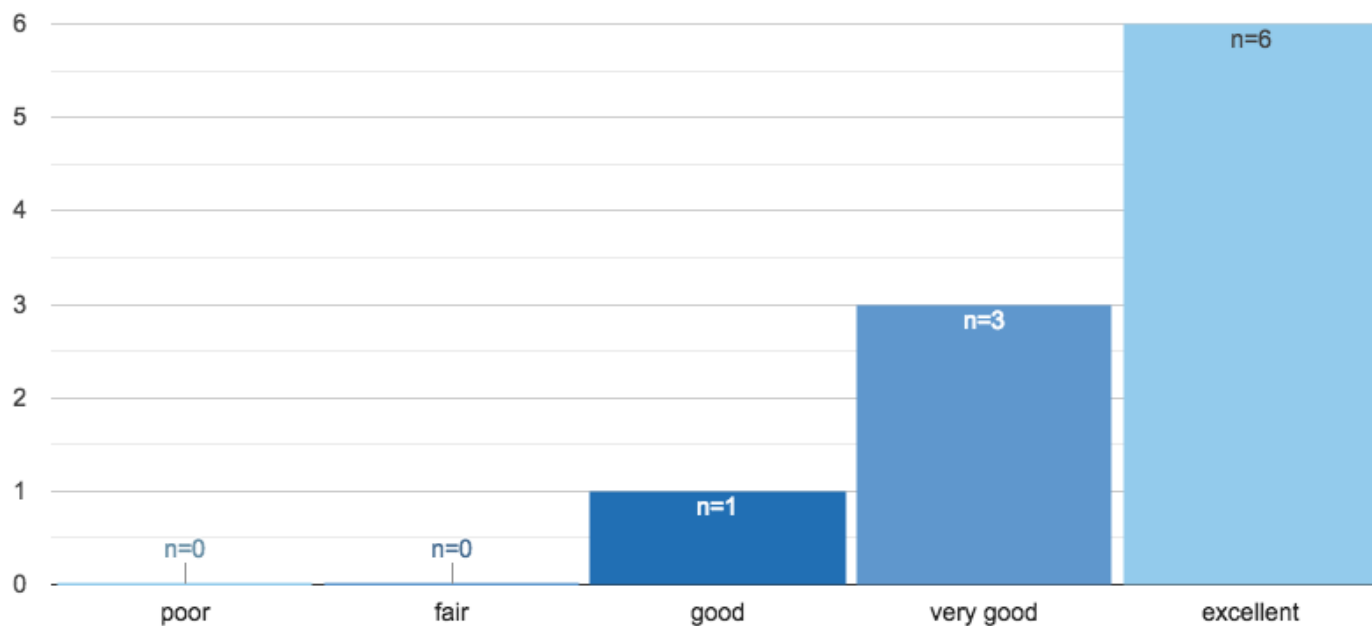
Cammack, Daniela

What is your overall assessment of this course?

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 3

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
4.5 ±0.7	4.0 ±1.0	3.7 ±1.1	3.8 ±1.1



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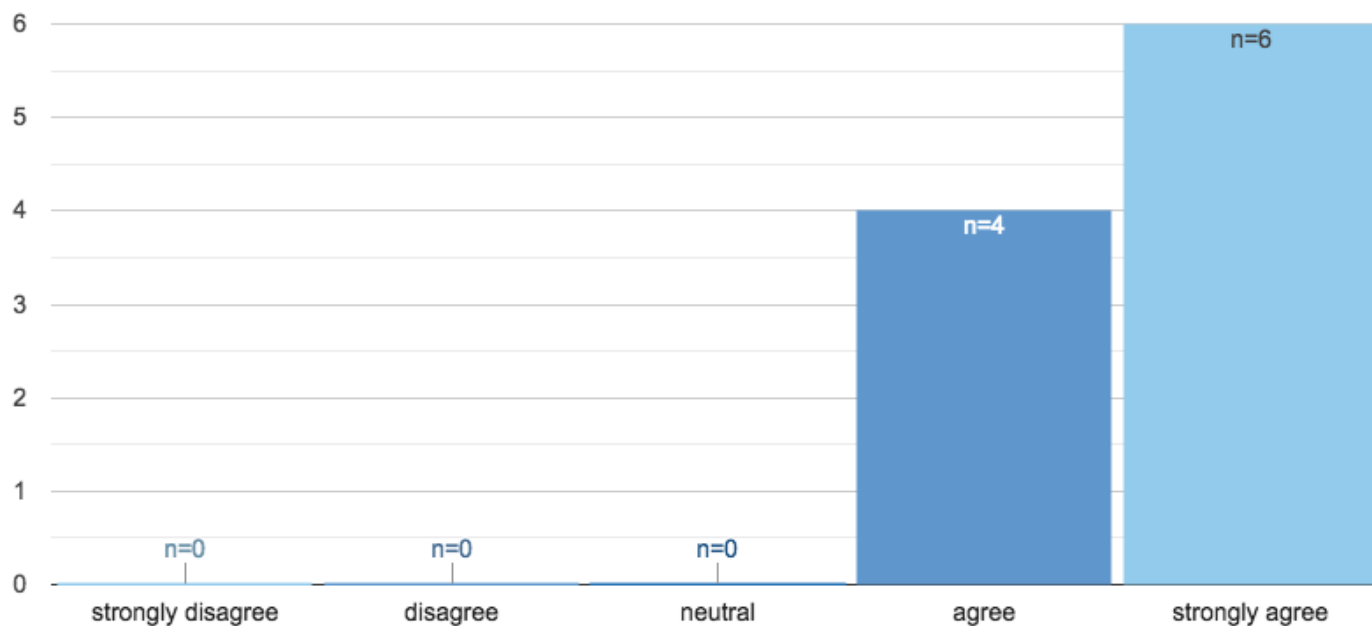
Cammack, Daniela

The course was well organized to facilitate student learning.

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 3

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
4.6 ±0.5	4.0 ±0.9	3.8 ±1.0	3.9 ±1.0



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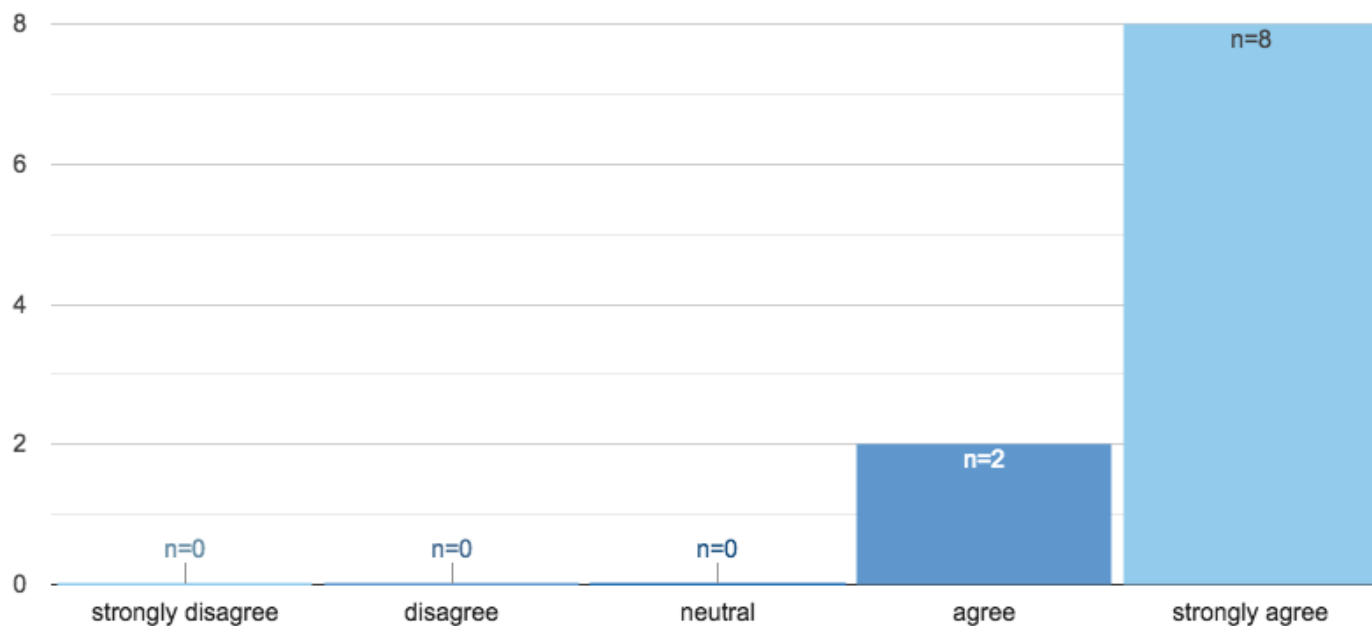
Cammack, Daniela

I received clear feedback that improved my learning.

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 3

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
4.8 ±0.4	3.8 ±1.0	3.6 ±1.1	3.7 ±1.1



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Instructors

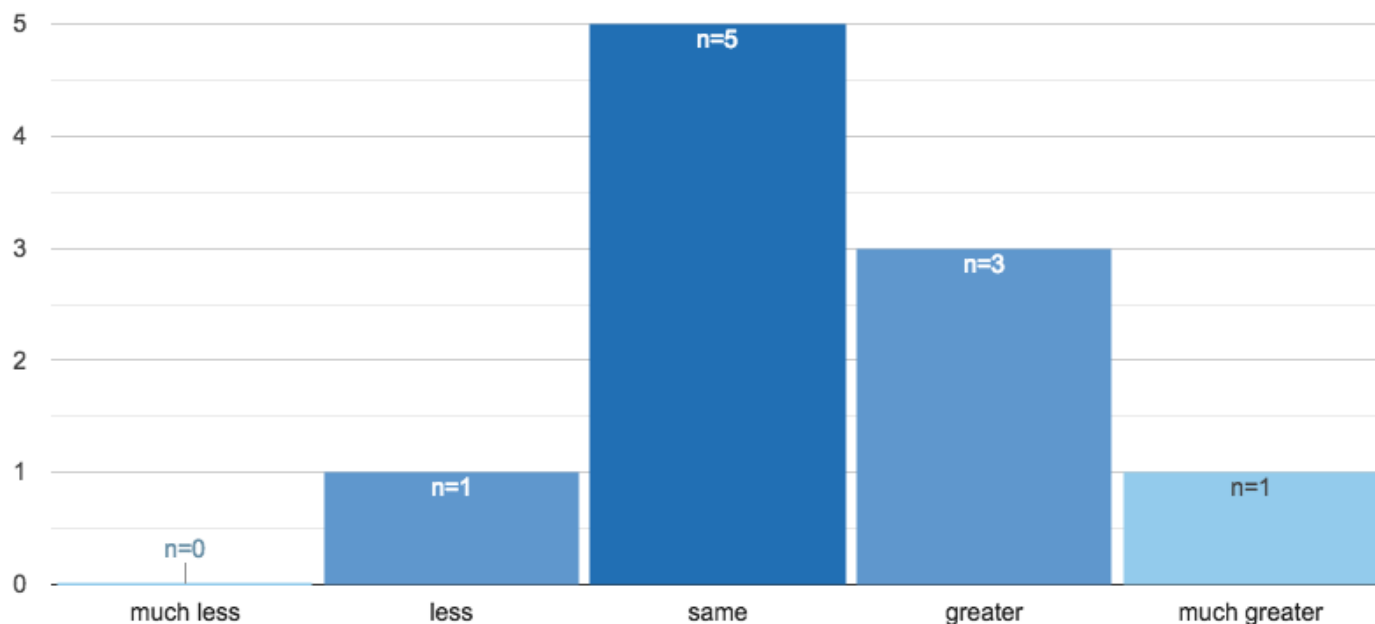
Cammack, Daniela

Relative to other courses you have taken at Yale, the level of intellectual challenge of this course was:

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 3

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
3.4 ±0.8	3.4 ±0.8	3.3 ±0.9	3.3 ±0.9



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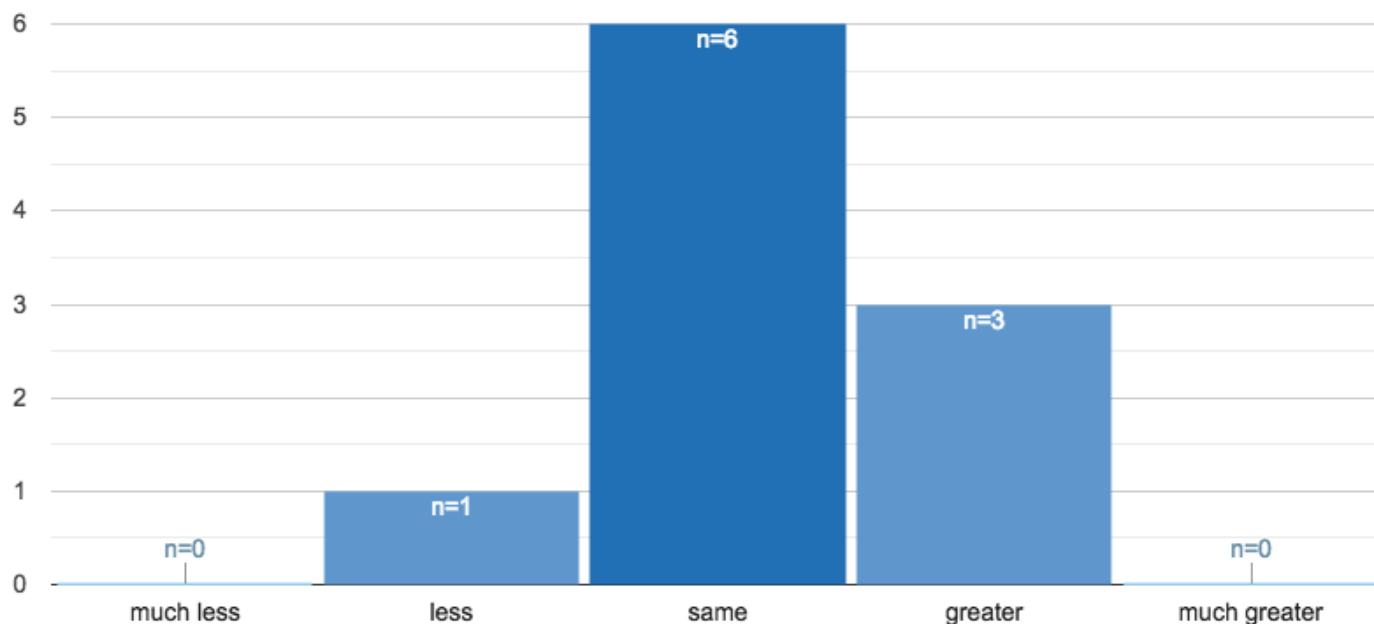
Cammack, Daniela

Relative to other courses you have taken at Yale, the workload of this course was:

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 3

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
3.2 ±0.6	3.2 ±0.8	3.0 ±0.9	3.2 ±1.0



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Cammack, Daniela

Would you recommend this course to another student? Please explain.

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 4

Respondent	Answer
1278465	YES! Much of Western political thought is based on Ancient Greece, and it is SO sad that we don't study it in greater depth. This course will give you an ability to think about mixed political systems, the pros/cons of democracy, the dangers of imperialism, and the role of orators/demagogues. Wow. Who doesn't want that? Also, Prof. Cammack is superhuman, and we do not deserve her if she is teaching the course, you MUST take it!
1289521	I highly recommend this class. Finally, a young professor who isn't uptight or self-important. She's very good about getting to know each of her students, and she'll do what she can to meet regularly about your paper assignments. Must take if you're at all interested in this era.
1289665	If you're interested in political theory and know a bit of Ancient Greek history/language, then absolutely. This class will inarguably add to your knowledge of the archaic and classical periods, and it will reveal profound trends in the development of political thought.
1291360	Definitely! Prof. Cammack is a great teacher who is clearly invested in her students. Even if you are not very well-versed in the material compared to others (i.e. don't have a lot of exposure to Classics), she makes this class approachable to everyone. Additionally, the amount of support in the writing process makes sure that you will never feel lost.
1294708	Yes! Especially because Professor Cammack is so engaging and the class is structured so that it's friendly to people without a background in Classics.
1307031	Yes, I absolutely would! I don't think classes like this exist anywhere else, in spite of how important the material covered is.
1307265	I would highly recommend this course to any student seeking to familiarize themselves with Ancient Greek political thought.
1308418	Absolutely. This course is a hidden gem, and I was surprised there wasn't initially more demand for the class. The material is fascinating, Professor Cammack is great, and it counts as a writing credit as well. Professor Cammack always makes herself available to discuss the readings and essays outside of class, and is great about giving feedback. Regardless of whether you want an introductory overview to Classical Greece, or are looking to delve deeper and examine it from a new perspective, this class is superb. The reading can be a little bit much at times, but you can probably get away with reading *most* of it during those weeks.
1311196	Yeah, I really loved the course, I had never taken a classics course at Yale and I thought this one was in-depth, I learned a lot without being overwhelmed, and the discussions were fun!

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Instructors

Cammack, Daniela

Summarize the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. In what ways was their teaching effective and in what ways could their teaching be improved?

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 4

Respondent	Answer
1278465	<p>INCREDIBLE professor. If she is not the best professor I have had at Yale, she is certainly tied at the top. I am baffled by her intelligence, modesty, and kindness. She makes herself available to students (well beyond any professor I've ever had), and she is very candid about the feedback that she provides. She is not only personally passionate about the material, but also contagiously passionate which makes the subject matter accessible to all students in the class! Yay, Prof. Cammack!</p>
1289521	<p>Prof. Cammack is a truly outstanding professor. I'm only a sophomore, but she's up in my top 2 or 3 so far. Not only is she brilliant at bringing together such diverse themes and sources, but she's also easy to approach and makes everyone feel welcome and like equals in conversation. She's neither uptight nor self-important, and it's easy to tell just how much she loves this material. My classmates were particularly quiet, so discussion was not always fast-paced or energetic, but I feel the professor did a good job of including our perspectives regardless. Sometimes a moment of silence is important. She also wasn't above drawing up an orienting timeline at the start of class. Sometimes we were a bit pressed for time and didn't get to every last source in the readings, but that's my only minor complaint - perhaps being a bit pushier in class could help. Overall, I'm extremely impressed with Prof. Cammack, and I'm looking forward to taking another class with her this semester!</p>
1289665	<p>Professor Cammack is incredibly knowledgeable about Ancient Greek politics and political theory, and her enthusiasm for the material infuses class discussions. I appreciated her efforts to include different class structures, such as partner work and debates. She led discussion capably, encouraging students to respond to each other but adding her thoughts where it was necessary and helpful. Professor Cammack also made herself available for frequent office hours, and her feedback on essays was consistently helpful and exhaustive. The level of granularity and detail at which Professor Cammack reviewed our work, though, sometimes made me nervous to discuss my thoughts and share my work with her. I'd like to stress that, despite these reservations, she was always kind, respectful, and encouraging in her feedback.</p>
1291360	<p>Her passion for the material was refreshing and really motivated interesting in-class discussion. That she would contextualize the readings before we discussed them was very helpful, and overall, I think this was the most well-structured and well-taught seminar I have been in so far. My only suggestion would be to incorporate more interactions with peers. I liked those few times where we discussed with our peers before sharing with the larger group. However, this is something minor. Prof. Cammack was truly great in every regard.</p>
1294708	<p>She is an engaging discussion leader and has an impressive command over all of the texts from the time period. There seemed no question that she couldn't answer. I have no negative comments!</p>
1307031	<p>Professor Cammack is fantastic! She works particularly well with undergraduates insofar as she makes the material accessible, and did well to challenge the graduate students. I think the graduate students could have been challenged even more, but that's it.</p>

Respondent	Answer
1307265	<p>Professor Cammack was an extremely engaged, knowledgeable, and dedicated instructor. She was always willing to meet with students during office hours both to discuss their essays but also any pressing questions brought up by the texts. Professor Cammack provided extensive comments on all essays submitted. Most importantly, her deep and innovative knowledge of the texts being read led to thought-provoking seminar discussion which were guided (but not dominated) by her. I especially appreciated her attention to specific words in the texts.</p>
1308418	<p>No weaknesses come to mind. Great at guiding discussion in class, and passion for the material was evident. Also really made an effort to make herself available outside of class for helping each student with their ideas, especially when it came to writing. Gave very thorough and helpful feedback as well.</p>
1311196	<p>Daniela has an incredible amount of energy and enthusiasm about the material and she was really great about teaching me where I could improve in writing the essays and functioning as a student of ancient greek thought.</p>

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Cammack, Daniela

“How have the teaching and feedback you've received in this course affected your writing? What have you learned about writing that you can use in future courses?”

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 5

Respondent	Answer
1278465	This has been fantastic. Prof. Cammack gives line by line feedback on essays, and she has stretched my understanding of what it means to write to a prompt and structure an essay to answer a specific question.
1289521	Prof. Cammack helped me focus on writing concisely - with more "punch." I first got experience with a long-form argumentative essay, and her feedback helped me understand how my organization sometimes makes reading difficult. In my shorter essay, I worked on presenting a more fluid argument.
1289665	I learned about the power of language and the importance of precision, and Professor Cammack's feedback has taught me to think carefully about each word I use. She also helped develop my capacity to write about political theory, which I certainly hope to use in future courses.
1291360	This course has taught me to be a little more adventurous in structuring essays and careful about answering prompts. Rather than just diving in with my intuitive response, I now take a long time to consider the possible ways to answer a prompt, making for a stronger paper.
1307031	I don't think I picked up any new skills for writing.
1307265	Professor Cammack's feedback helped me to make my writing more clear, direct, and succinct.
1308418	The feedback has helped me focus on the argument in my writing, and staying focused on my thesis. I have also been able to think about different ways to structure an argument and analysis, including through giving due attention to possible counterpoints to my argument. Overall, I learned a lot that I am sure I will be able to utilize in writing similar papers in the future.
1311196	I'd never written history papers before and now I feel like I understand the dos and don'ts a lot more.