Sample of Students’ Written Comments Evaluations

PHIL 225 – Love and Its Representations in Western Literature, Philosophy and Film; Fall 2009:

All, Unedited Student Comments:

1. **Strengths**: She is a tremendous thinker who obviously prepares very well for her discussion section. She constantly went above and beyond to help her students learn difficult material. She answered every question asked and she did a great job aiding discussion. Fantastic job. **How to improve effectiveness**: See above.

2. **Strengths**: Made it very clear what she was looking for with the assignments. Class notes and outlines were very helpful. Enjoyable discussion. **How to improve effectiveness**: —

3. **Strengths**: Very knowledgeable and clear. Discussion has become more helpful than lecture. **How to improve effectiveness**: Great job.

4. **Strengths**: Conveyed subject matter well, explained difficult concepts, helped with essay organization. **How to improve effectiveness**: Maybe make notes on board more organized, because they sometimes became a little cluttered / confusing.

5. **Strengths**: Very knowledgeable; lives what she preaches. Always very helpful. **How to improve effectiveness**: N/A.

6. **Strengths**: Enthusiastic; encouraged participation. **How to improve effectiveness**: 

7. **Strengths**: Clear explanations of confusing topics discussed during lecture. **How to improve effectiveness**: 

8. **Strengths**: She was helpful in answering questions and helping before an essay. **How to improve effectiveness**: None.

9. **Strengths**: Knowledgeable. **How to improve effectiveness**: Clarity of discussion.

10. **Strengths**: She was very enthusiastic about the subject matter, and was helpful in explaining the more difficult ideas from lecture. She also aided us by helping prepare for our essays, giving useful feedback, etc. **How to improve effectiveness**: N/A.
11. **Strengths**: She goes over the essay prompts in detail.
   **How to improve effectiveness**: She often argues with the students by a way to make us think and the devil’s advocate approach is often effective but sometimes it discourages people from speaking up.

12. **Strengths**: Compassion; ability to explain complex theories in a way we could understand them; availability during office hours; easy to contact; very helpful during writing process of papers. She is sweet, smart and never gets boring during discussion.
   **How to improve effectiveness**: No improvements needed.

13. **Strengths**: Efficiency of discussion section. Addressed key points well. Thought provoking discussion. Insightful class and teachers. I loved it.
   **How to improve effectiveness**: Be more realistic in terms of grading papers – too harsh.

14. **Strengths**: She was very organized and enthusiastic about the material and advocated student involvement in discussion. So nice and easy to talk to!
   **How to improve effectiveness**: She could get more information into each discussion.

15. **Strengths**: She always had an outline of the author’s main points and she posted them online for us after discussing / explaining them thoroughly. Class is structured well and she is very knowledgeable. Discussion was interesting and catered to us.
   **How to improve effectiveness**: Spend more time explaining how the essays are differently structured than regular English papers. Hard to write it in the format she wanted because we had never done so before.

16. **Strengths**: She was very good at both asking and answering important questions. Also, the ways she put her opinions/descriptions on the board really helped.
   **How to improve effectiveness**: Personally, I prefer pictures to words.

17. **Strengths**: Organizing discussion; enticing group activity.
   **How to improve effectiveness**: Be more strict. Call people out to speak.

18. **Strengths**: Comprehensive explanation on the main ideas and especially good explanations of writing assignments.
   **How to improve effectiveness**: Sometimes fell behind in covering material.

19. **Strengths**: She did a great job of challenging our ideas and pushing us to develop and attempt to answer our own questions.
   **How to improve effectiveness**: 

20. **Strengths**: Using visual aids to clearly present ideas in discussion. Awesome ☺.
    **How to improve effectiveness**: Answer questions a little more clearly.

21. **Strengths**: Knowledge of philosophy, and of the concepts introduced. Explanation of difficult detail. Wills to allow students to express themselves.
    **How to improve effectiveness**: 
22. **Strengths**: Very intelligent and knowledgeable in field of philosophy. Relates to “the big picture” well. Good at refuting students’ claims and making us think deeper.
   **How to improve effectiveness**: Word questions in a way to get more responses – sometimes questions aren’t always the easiest to lead to a discussion.

23. **Strengths**: She explained the material well.
   **How to improve effectiveness**: Go over the essay prompts more, help us understand what she wants to see in our essays.

24. **Strengths**: She is very good at explaining difficult concepts and is always available to help. Great TA. I really enjoyed her discussion section.
   **How to improve effectiveness**: N/A. I love her teaching style.

25. **Strengths**: Her willingness and energy when meeting one-on-one. Marina was a fantastic TA overall.
   **How to improve effectiveness**: Ask more specific or direct questions in discussion.