

Unedited student comments on Course Evaluations of Prof. Ed Smith's PSYC W2215, Spring 2009. Comments are sorted according to ratings on Instructor Overall. "nc" = no comment

Comments on Instructor Effectiveness	Comments on readings, materials, assignments, and exams	Please comment on ways to improve the course	What were the best aspects of this course	General comments	Instruct Rating
"I thoroughly enjoyed Professor Smith's presentations and found him to be both approachable and stimulating. Smith is one of the better professor's I've had during my four years here."	"I haven't received much feedback at this point but I haven't sought it either."	nc	nc	nc	5
"Smith is awesome! He explains the important concepts very clearly and he is enthusiastic about the subject matter. I really enjoyed the class. He was available for office hours; gave me great advice/information regarding psychology grad schools..."	nc	nc	"the lectures; the textbook is very well written and easy to follow."	nc	5
"Professor Smith was a clear and organized lecturer and always made sure everyone understood material "	"Grading on exams was slightly subjective but still fair. Clearer expectations might help in advance. "	nc	"Topics of focus were really interesting and connected nicely. Lectures were organized and clear. Article readings sometimes overlapped with book or with each other-- but this in a way was helpful in reinforcing the information. "	nc	5
"Professor Smith clearly shows an intense passion for the field of cognitive neuroscience, and it comes through while he teaches his students."	"I enjoyed writing the essay."	nc	"The focus on abnormal cognition"	"Professor Smith is great."	5
nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	5
nc	nc	"none "	"student involvement, small class, engaging lectures, great TA and professor"	nc	4

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"I wish we were able to get through more of the material during class. We would always run out of time and then have to skip some of it, or rush through the last part."	"I wish we had been given a sheet with instructions for the essay."	nc	nc	nc	4
nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	4
nc	"Paper guidelines could have elucidated more clearly and earlier"	"Perhaps a bit more convergence of articles and book materials"	"Small class size enabled demonstrations, individual attention, and spirited discussions Interesting, cutting-edge articles"	nc	4
nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	4
nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	4
nc	"Many of the readings were not discussed in class or directly related to lecture. Of course, they were still interesting and valuable. I wish that the final paper had had a more structured format. I felt a little lost when trying to decide how to approach the paper: like an essay, like a research paper, like a review, like a magazine feature...I worry that my grade will be less than I expect because my writing style or approach were inappropriate or insufficient."	"grading based on evaluating student's grasp of concept rather than on which specifics a student elected to include in an answer."	"professor's stories of personal research experience. fMRI trip"	nc	4
nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	4

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"Overall great. Explanations of concepts were excellent. Anecdotes etc. were very good and interesting. Provided great perspective on the research. Presentations of studies sometimes were muddled, at least at first. I got the feeling he hadn't read a few of the papers discussed in lecture in a while. "	nc	"Don't do the exam reviews and paper meetings during class time, and add a topic or add days to existing topics. I would rather take three equally weighted exams than the 25/50 midterm/final split."	"Ed Smith"	"I like the textbook"	4
"Professor Smith is a very good instructor. He's very approachable and very meticulous in going through the material during each lecture. I can't really think of how he could improve his lecturing style. I didn't give an overall excellent rating only because I feel there is always room for improvement no matter how much experience and general knowledge one has even though I can't really come up with any particular suggestion for improving the lectures."	nc	nc	"The lectures were good at clarifying the material."	nc	4
nc	nc	nc	nc	nc	2