**Course Feedback (Fall 2016) [Surveys: 42]**

**Did this course help develop or strengthen the following skills?**

 **Yes No Not sure % Yes**

**Reading 32 5 5 76.2**

**Writing 36 2 4 85.7**

**Note-taking 39 1 2 92.8**

**Interpretation 37 1 4 88.1**

**Historical thinking 39 0 3 92.8**

**Critical analysis 35 0 7 83.3**

**Total Yes = 86.5%**

**Holocaust & Genocide**

**What would you KEEP about this course & why?**

* Viewing guides for video notes because this help you set up for what you should play closer attention to or know for the quizzes.
* The course was great in the fact that I learned a lot more than just “this happened” I learned how, why, under what circumstances. Open notes were great because then I felt more like I could learn as much as I needed about the information instead of just memorizing it to pass.
* The ability to use notes. It took the pressure off of memorization and I was able to actually learn and understand. There was less emphasis on grades and more on actually learning.
* The quizzes every day are very smart, they force us to do our homework. If you don’t do your homework than you fail.
* Keep the documentaries, many of these I want to go re-watch outside of class with the extra links and it is a way I prefer of learning. Also using open note test/quizzes, it was helpful with the information.
* The information of all the different genocides throughout history. It gives more emphasis on how these things can happen everywhere at any time.
* I would keep the daily quizzes and open notes and also all the video’s reading it in a textbook don’t do justice.
* Bonus points, because it makes up for the harder graded exams.
* The persistent quizzing & testing because it allowed me to retain the information.
* Everything. Touches on past genocides and the context of why its happened and the most recent occurances of genocide.
* The many different readings from the book and from other outside resources is overwhelming at times, but it really does help in understanding historical context! Also the many quizzes pushed me to do any and all homework assigned. That helped me learn a lot.
* Study/viewing guides & open notes quizzes & test. Keep the quizzes every class & the homework.
* Everything but group work.
* Determining what we think we know and what actually happened. It brings us to realize what is happening in the world.
* The format of quiz and tests.
* All of the extra credit opportunities, exams are hard so it’s nice to have the extra credit to fall back on. Number of tests there was a good amount of information covered on each test.
* Learning about all of the other genocides and what lead up to the holocaust. It helps you realize it didn’t happen just once.
* No comment
* I would continue to allow notes for quizzes.

**What is the MOST IMPORTANT thing you learned in this course?**

* Genocide will continue to happen if people don’t get the right politicians to act and do something. Care about others even if they aren’t in our country.
* Learned the terrible things of genocides & the true meaning of a genocide.
* It brought light to what’s happening in our world and really opened my eyes about things. I feel like we as a country need to take more action to stop these kinds of things.
* How much I thought I knew about this course like how the Holocaust came to be.
* The difference between concentration camps and killing centers.
* Genocides have been happening for decades, the Holocaust is not the only one.
* People go off of all the myths they hear about the holocaust, but most of them are wrong.
* How the human race has the capacity to ignore and to kill in such large numbers again and again.
* I learned more in depth about the Holocaust. I also learned about genocides I had never heard of before.
* It taught me a lot about the reason why atrocities like genocide are able to happen. The fact that Hitler alone didn’t cause the holocaust was important for me to know and understand.
* The context of how every genocide had occurred, learning the details was very educational and beneficial.
* I learned why it’s important to know about the events leading up to a historical event. For example, Why knowing about the events leading up to the Holocaust is important.
* Not to let the Holocaust be forgotten—not letting any genocide go forgotten and that humans need to start standing up for others’ lives/safety if we want genocides to end.
* The sheer numbers of it all. It was horrifying to learn it all, and how it just never ends.
* The historical background of the Holocaust and it didn’t take just Hitler to have the genocide take place.
* That this subject needs to be taught worldwide to inform all about the horrors of genocide, the killing of innocents, and how the problem can be prevented.
* We are people🡪 if we don’t get involved and fight for what is important to us🡪 we could very well diminish. You can’t expect change without being the change.
* Most important was to get the understanding why the Holocaust happened and how historical events had big influences for the future.
* The U. S. needs to step up in stopping genocide.

**What would you CHANGE about this course & why?**

* Nothing [2X]
* Nothing I would change.
* Nothing. I’ve learned more in this class than in the 4 years of history I took in high school.
* I wouldn’t change anything about this course.
* Nothing. All very educational and touches on the subject of the Holocaust, why it occurred, the context behind it and all of the genocides.
* We cover a lot of material. Some readings were hard to understand the main point [ask questions?], I would liked more creative assignments other than readings & quizzes to learn the material.
* I would add in a paper assigned outside of class to have students look into other genocides.
* At some point the reading amount was hard to get done or I read through quick enough that I missed key information.
* Learn more about genocides after the Holocaust—because it was just something I knew less about—would be interesting.
* Maybe more slides with information on Board
* Some more in-class work instead of straight notes
* Group work, I don’t think it fits with the way the class is structured.
* Not so many videos. Yes the visuals are good but if you have that many videos then it either needs to be a hybrid or 4 credit class.
* Amount of homework, being a full time student & working 25-30 hours a week doesn’t give much extra time. I found myself giving my attention only to this course & not to my other classes.
* Not as many readings/articles. I am a visual learner [visual learning includes reading not only pictures or videos] and liked the videos better. It helps you see how bad it really was.
* I would change not being able to see our grades at any time. [you can ask me at any time, as stated many times in class. Also, grades were updated quite frequently in writing every other week or more]. I like to be able to check that things are right. [see me at any time to check?]
* The amount of HW each class and no warning during class about it. [plenty of warning from the first week of the semester about workload expectations]. Every class I don’t always rember to check online [requirement for the class explained week one] for HW or make time for it if I don’t have an idea of how much I need to make time for.

**History of Science**

**What would you KEEP about this course & why?**

* Open notes on quizzes/exams very helpful with all the names/terms
* Everything, it was well organized and had plenty of opportunities to raise the grades.
* All the information and the focus on context because it is interesting and applicable to life.
* I’d keep everything the same. The expectations are made clear and the pace of the class is reasonable and consistent.
* Being able to use notes on everything because it is so much info. All the bonus opportunities, it really helped.
* Keep mostly everything. Course content is all incredibly interesting. Time is only issue.
* The bonus points because if you put in the work they can help you a lot.
* The extra credit helps a lot especially when you miss a class you don’t have to worry too much about it.

**What is the MOST IMPORTANT thing you learned in this course?**

* How to use context and to analyze things.
* Note taking skills
* How to be self-reliant when studying and how to better retain the information I read.
* How to explain, elaborate and support with examples in my writing.
* The relationship between science and religion. Always knew the popular idea was not correct, but didn’t know the full extent to which it was wrong.
* How science changed the human race.
* Probably learning about Galileo and Darwin these two are my favorite scientists and they had very interesting information about both.
* Note taking skills

**What would you CHANGE about this course & why?**

* There’s not much I can think of, I thought this course was easier as long as you do the work and pay attention.
* Be able to access grades for individuals on Talon instead of class feedback. I don’t frankly care how everybody else is doing, however I do want to know what my grade is. [frequent written updates every other week or more were given, it’s standard practice to report grade distributions for college courses (whether you care personally or not is not relevant), you could ask me at *any time* about your grade]
* Maybe reduce or condense content [??] It often felt we were rushing through important topics or solely relying on readings [yes, welcome to college!] to learn them. Grading can also be subjective based on writing style [clear and specific criteria for evaluation of written work was provided early on]
* Less powerpoints it gets a little boring sometimes.
* Perhaps more essay focus, but not much because in reality ever though most students may have poor essay ability I do think the potential and ability is there to increase potential to an affective level needed in college. Perhaps Kirkwood should just be more critical of the English department.
* The amount of reading and notes to be taken, it is overwhelming.
* Maybe relax on grading the exams a little and just have less bonus points, the exams were very stressful despite knowing the material mainly due to writing skills. [??]
* Too much reading and note-taking; overwhelming. Having to print all the excerpts [don’t have to print them, you can read online if you want] not knowing HW unless checking talon [explained in week one]

**Additional Comments:**

* Well organized and effective class. More like what I actually expected from a college course and experience.

**Europe: Age of Revolutions**

**What would you KEEP about this course & why?**

* Everything, there was a lot of material to review, but it was worth it. You made history interesting again.
* I would keep all the writing practices because they really help when the exams come around.
* The homework, it pushes students to learn.
* The homework, quizzes and exams were all set up well.
* I would keep all of the homework you’ve had us do. From all of the textbook readings, documentaries, and online readings. All of these have helped me sharpen my skills and made me do better on the exams.
* The homework and daily quizzes—help focusing note taking.

**What is the MOST IMPORTANT thing you learned in this course?**

* To understand the context of historical analysis and that things are not “just like” anything, but they can be similar.
* I’ve always been interested in the French Revolution, so that would be the most important thing to me.
* French Revolution and its relationship to the modern world. Thanks for everything!
* Constructing my writings to be concise with information.
* I have learned about some of the most important revolutions of all time.
* Common misconceptions about history such as it doesn’t ever actually repeat itself.

**What would you CHANGE about this course & why?**

* Nothing (2X)
* I’m not sure I would change anything.
* I felt the documentaries we watched were well done, and helped me learn a lot. Adding more could help other students tie in the material.
* If anything, students could be updated on their grades more often. [you can ask me anytime for your grade, also grades were updated frequently at least every other week]
* Let students know way ahead of time that the final does not have to be taken. Could be incentive to get a good grade.

**Ancient Mediterranean World**

**What would you KEEP about this course & why?**

* Particularly the policies regarding no makeup work, bonus points, and the optional final for students who are passing. All of these reward or punish students for their good or bad habits and create a positive and adult-oriented, college level learning environment.
* I would keep the in-depth class analysis and positive feedback.
* Textbook reading and note-taking—helped me feel more prepared for what I can expect in actual college with pursuing a history major (since I’m still a senior in high school).
* Most of it. I felt the open notes helped me to focus less on memorizing for tests and gave me the time to critically analyze what we were doing in class.
* I like the structure of this class a lot. I like that most of the responsibility is on us as students.
* Don’t change anything! This course will challenge any student who takes it.
* The documentary because it has or shows different opinion from different scholars.
* Workload—it taught me that I need to stay ahead and work hard, schedule—the schedule flowed well, content—it opened my eyes to how much our society is influenced by ancient societies.
* I would keep everything in this course. Although there is a lot of homework, it is needed in order to understand the concepts and allowed more material to be covered.

**What is the MOST IMPORTANT thing you learned in this course?**

* I learned more about a topic that I knew nothing about and I had fun doing it.
* The value of ancient history. I’ve always had an appreciation for history, but the course material and specifically the “Long Shadow of Antiquity” helped to reinforce and provide specific examples for this belief.
* How in depth each aspect of what we learn is. Allowing for a more sophisticated class.
* Time management.
* This course helped me take better notes. This course was difficult. I learned right from the start that I have to do the work to pass the class.
* The way history changes over time and the thinking of ancient people.
* The influence of ancient cities such as Rome on our society today in terms of building structures and the structure of our government.
* Julius Caesar was assassinated on the Ides of March, NOT the “Yikes!” of March. ☺ Antiquity has cast a very long shadow and is ever present even today.
* I learned how the Roman republic is the bases of our political system, which will help me understand politics and our society better.

**What would you CHANGE about this course & why?**

* Not a thing.
* I can’t think of anything to change. I learned a lot of good information about ancient society and how they have a large impact on our society today. Also, the workload you gave us the days we had class was not too much, which I liked.
* Honestly, I wouldn’t change anything about this course, it pushed me to learn and truly understand the concepts rather than just memorizing facts.
* The 9 am start time, but that was a me problem. Mornings kill me.
* I think I would have liked to have one big project. I think if there was some sort of project, I would have enjoyed the class more. I would lessen the homework just a little bit.
* Too much quizzes or/and the works were too many that it gives little or no time for other courses.
* I didn’t like using the website readings along with the textbook it was sort of confusing.
* I would use a more organized way of sorting the pieces of information. [?? Need an example here]
* Perhaps the class format being solely lecture. I’m afraid to say that, though the lectures were good review over the 3 units, sometimes I found it hard to pay attention or felt slightly sleepy.

**Additional Comments**:

* I loved this course and all of the content. I went into this course because it was required for my degree, but now I’m leaving this course with the intent of minoring in history. It has allowed me to see the world in a different way and see Greek and Roman influences everywhere I look. Thank you for providing me with knowledge that will stick with me through the rest of my life.
* I really enjoy having you as a teacher. The way you structure your classes really works for my learning style. I like how you don’t baby us. You don’t hold our hand you put almost all the responsibility on us which is a good thing. I enjoyed this class so much I’m taking the class that comes after it with you! See you next semester!

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| **Fall ’04 to Fall ‘16****Surveys: 1406** |  |  |  |
|  | **Yes**  | **No** | **Not Sure** |  |
| **Reading** | **1103** | **173** | **130** |  |
| **Writing** | **1051** | **192** | **162** |  |
| **Note-taking** | **1299** | **61** | **45** |  |
| **Interpretation** | **1196** | **67** | **142** |  |
| **Historical thinking** | **1319** | **31** | **56** |  |
| **Critical analysis** | **1166** | **59** | **193** |  |
| **Time management** |  **934** | **154** | **132** | **% Yes** |
| **TOTALS** | **8068** | **736** |  **860** | **83.48** |