

JAMES BOLLING

MAJOR AM AUTHORS
ENGL128 003 Fall 2016
No. of responses = 30/33 (Response Rate:90.91%)



Overall indicators

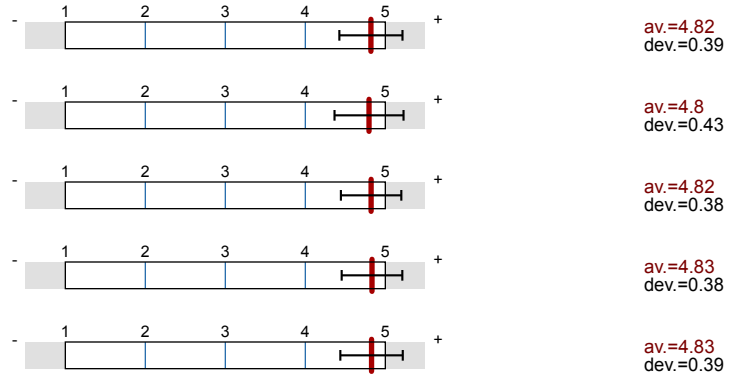
Global Index

Course/Instructor Characteristics

Overall Course Assessment

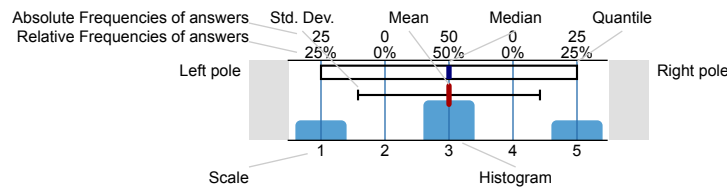
Teaching Award Recommendation

Feedback to Students



Legend

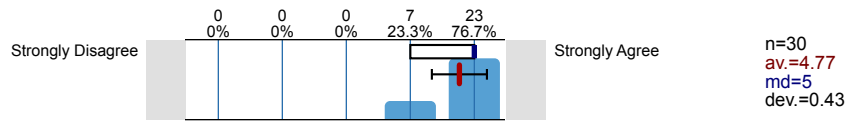
Question text



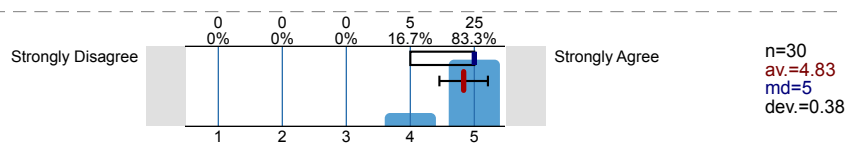
n=No. of responses
av.=Mean
md=Median
dev.=Std. Dev.
ab.=Abstention

Course/Instructor Characteristics

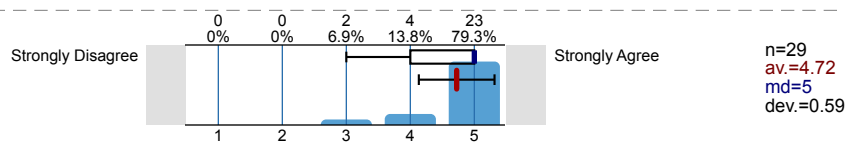
The course challenged me to think deeply about the subject matter.



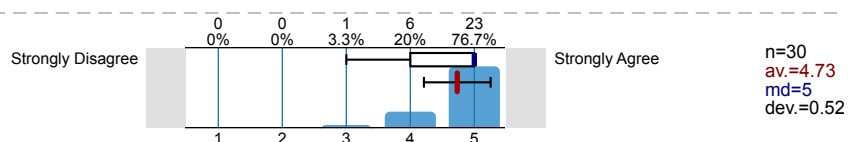
The instructor clearly communicated what was expected of me in this class.



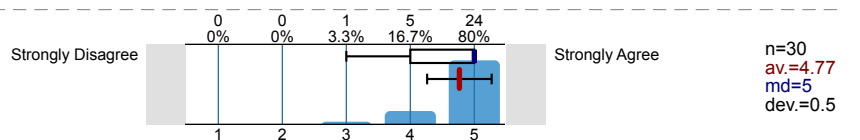
I was able to get individual help when I needed it.

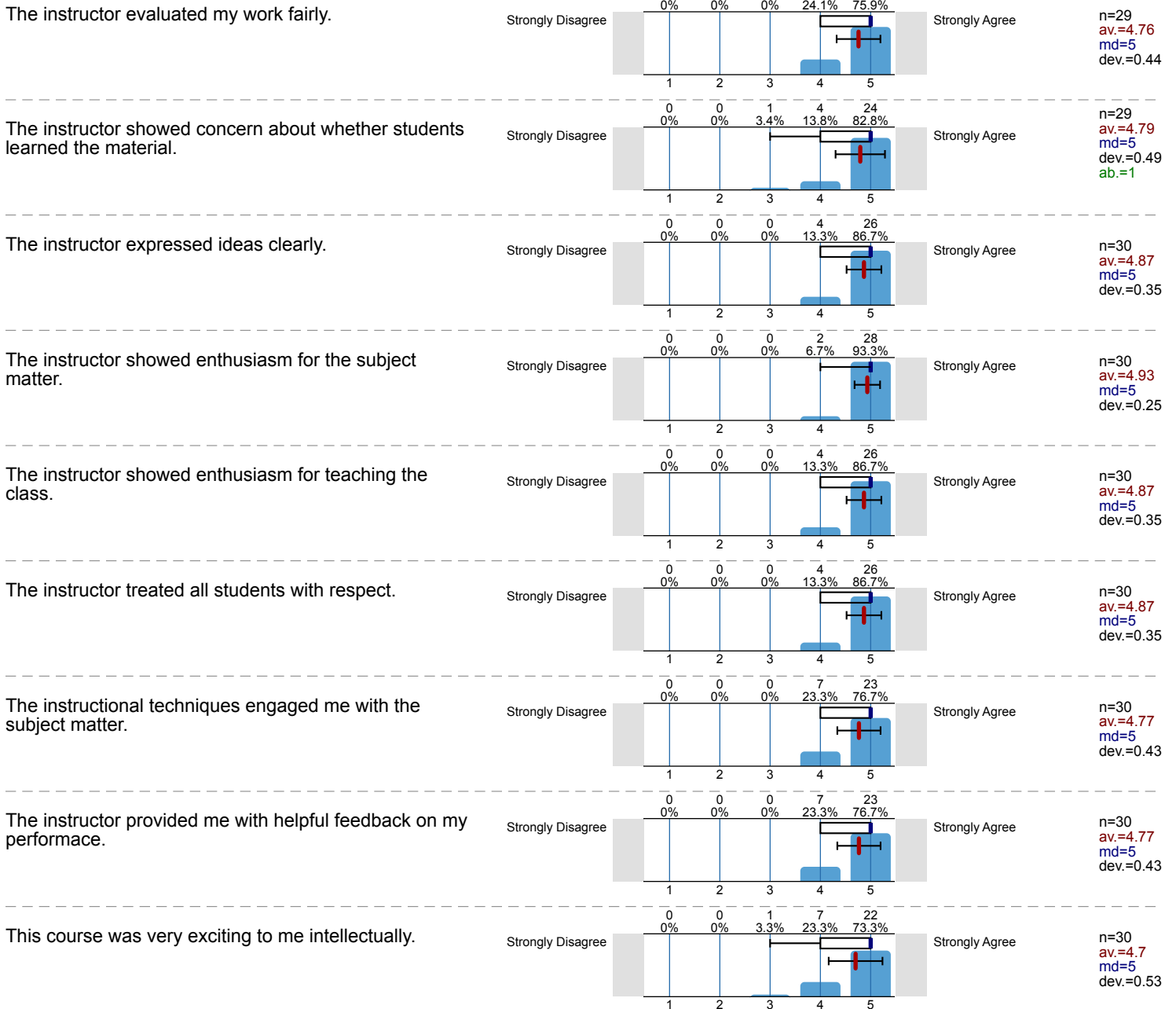


The course material (e.g., coursepack, website, texts) helped me better understand the subject matter.

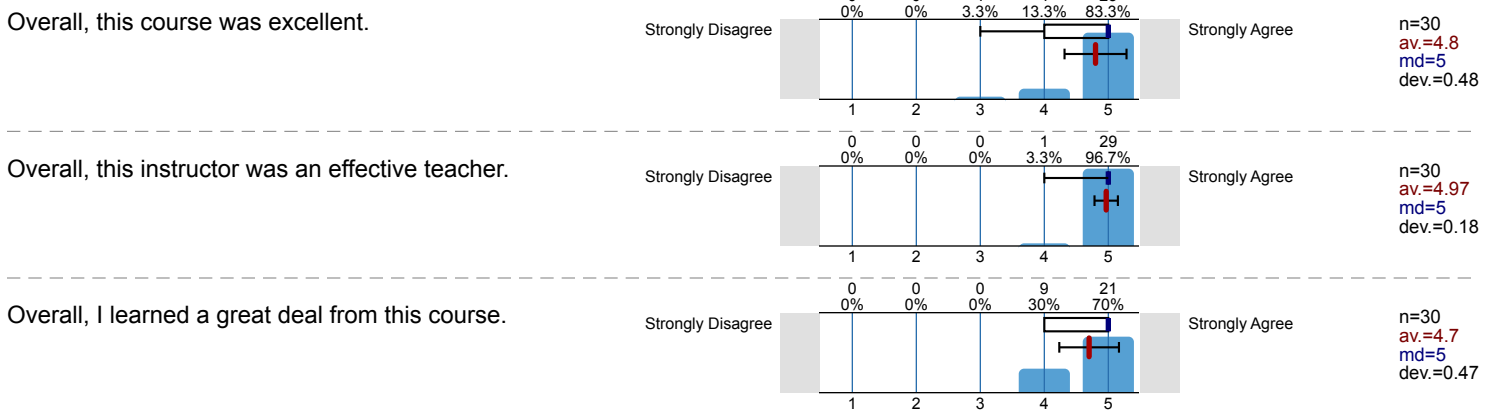


The course assignments helped me better understand the subject matter.





Overall Course Assessment

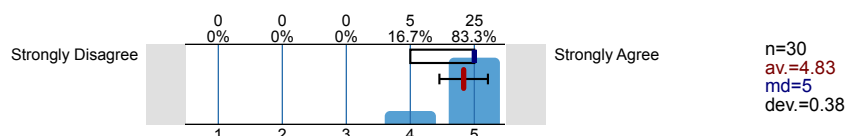


Comments on overall assessment of this course.

- Ben Bolling provided me with one of the most intriguing and interesting learning environments I've ever encountered. Starting with existential questions and boiling it down to the many possibilities that an author can provide with text. I thoroughly enjoyed every single class session that was held. This class got me back to a point where I want to read for pleasure again, this made reading less mundane and incredibly interesting again. I look forward to hopefully finding my way into another one of Dr. Bolling's classes in the future.
- Dr. Ben was the best professor I had all semester. He is one of the best professors here and is very enthusiastic about the material he teaches. He obviously cares a lot about the class and teaching students.
- Dr. Bolling was enthusiastic to teach this class and made it interesting for students to learn about some of America's most major authors. While many professors are primarily concerned with their own bubble with research, Dr. Bolling was here to teach us and was passionate about what he taught. The ability to have each student be able to voice their own opinion about the books in a valuable way was something I appreciated and he was the best professor I had this semester.
- I consider Ben Bolling to be one of the best teachers that I have had in my life, and if I could, I would 100% recommend that other professors follow his example in both teaching and engaging with the students. I am excited about going to his class every other day and always look forward to having discussions about the material instead of being lectured at as is common with many other professors I have. The enthusiasm that Ben has for actually teaching is contagious and I always know that any opinion that I voice will not only be taken seriously, but held as a legitimate point of discussion throughout the class. My friend and I walk back to Hinton James after every class together and for most of the walk, we are discussing the material covered in the class, the points that were brought up, and what we thought. Ben Bolling is an amazing professor and I recommend him to every person I talk to that wants to fulfill their Literary Arts requirement or wants to find a good professor for English 105. I really appreciate his class and hope that more professors choose to follow his example.
- I looked forward to coming to this course every day. I learned a great deal from the books we read as well as from Ben and my classmates. He was an exciting and passionate teacher, which made the course much more engaging.
- I really appreciated that he was passionate about what he was teaching because it made it more interesting to learn, plus I loved the idea of arguing whether or not we believed each author was major because we got to share opinions and it emphasized the goal of the class.
- I really enjoyed having this instructor as a teacher. I could tell that he loved what he was doing and he was very passionate about the ideas we would discuss in class. He was also very engaging and funny. I would definitely recommend his classes to others!
- I really enjoyed taking this class and it made me think about concepts in new ways. I enjoyed the challenging books we had to read as well as the Major Discussions we have in class after every novel we read. Professor Bolling really challenged me to think about literature in very unconventional, yet effective ways. I definitely feel as though I have gained new understanding and perspective after taking this class.
- Professor was a great teacher, but bad at grading in a manner that was quick.
- Professor was able to relate works to teenagers. I've only had one other English teacher in my life that had this ability. Do not let this teacher go somewhere else.
- The class itself was interesting but the instructor made it really something special and definitely my favorite class. We learned about the course material as well as life lessons and things applicable to everyday life and other areas of academia. The best instructors are the ones that can master these both, teaching the material as well as lessons that go beyond the classroom.
- This class was incredible. One of the very few classes that I have genuinely WANTED to attend each day. It was obvious that Dr. Bolling truly cared about what he was doing and was enthusiastic towards his students.
- This course taught me how to effectively analyze literature and authors for myself. Professor Bolling did an excellent job engaging the class and keeping discussion open. He made the classroom a comfortable place to express my ideas without fear of being shot down which made it easier to learn.
- This is one of the best classes that I have ever taken. You cannot ask for a more enthusiastic, intelligent, and dedicated professor.
- This was a very a grate course overall. Ben showed an outstanding amount of enthusiasm for teaching the course and he also showed a concern for his students.
- Very enjoyable course. As someone who has not really enjoyed reading throughout my life, this course revolutionized the way I looked at and read literature. One of, if not, the best professors I have had at Carolina. Extremely intelligent but does very well to explain ideas at a good difficulty. Presented ideas that were very relevant and new to me. Enjoyed coming to class every day. Would recommend professor unconditionally. Very enjoyable class environment and structure of class is very good. Overall, great class taught by even better professor.

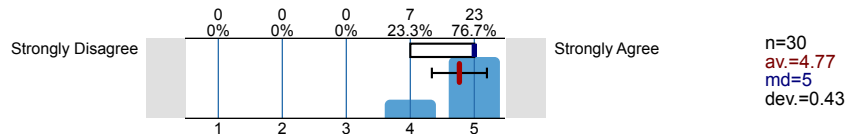
Teaching Award Recommendation

The instructor was one of the best I have had at Carolina, fully deserving of a teaching award.

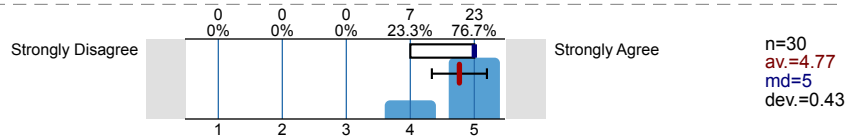


Feedback to Students

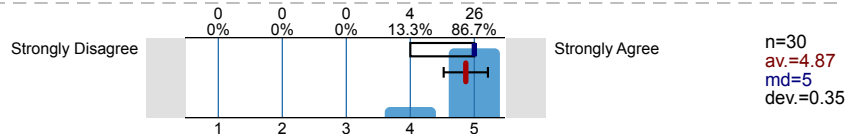
The instructor handled questions well.



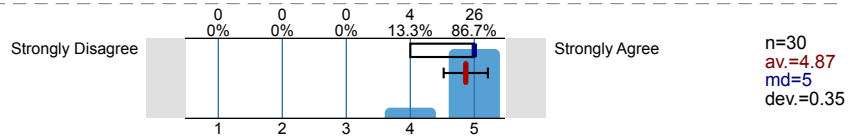
The instructor used examples that had relevance for me.



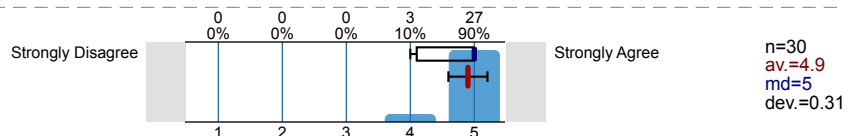
The instructor used class time well.



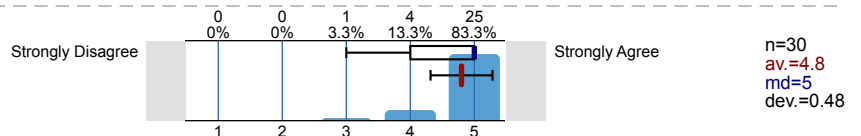
The instructor encouraged students to participate in this class.



This course was designed to keep me engaged in learning.

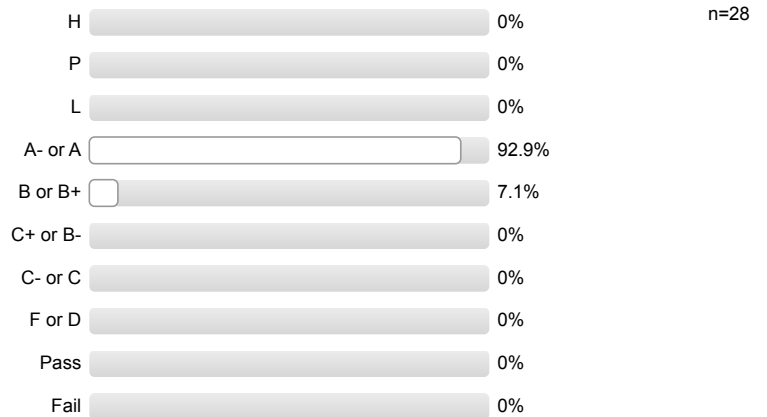


The workload was appropriate for what I gained from this class.



Other Information

What grade do you think you will get in this course?



Is this a required course for you?



COURSE: texts, requirements and standards, organization, emphasis, etc. Did you find the material interesting or valuable?

■ As a science major, this class was extremely refreshing. Our class discussions were always engaging and I would leave class with my mind blown each and every day.

- I found the course material interesting and really appreciated the way that the class was based off of discussion. It was a lot different than any other English class I have ever taken and I really appreciated the way we were able to voice our true opinions about the works we studied. In this class we could have talked about American authors in a usual expected way that is not really relevant to what we study today, but professor Bolling made the material extremely relevant and stayed in touch with reality and current issues.
- I found the course to be valuable as I have learned a great deal about American Literature and I also greatly improved by oral and written argumentative skills.
- I found the mix of authors to be interesting and valuable to my understanding American literature as we know it. Although the authors were interesting, there could have been room for other authors such as Harper Lee and others that are also important. I highly enjoyed each book we read.
- I really liked that the course was more discussion-based. The content in the readings, assignments, and class conversations was very interesting and thought-provoking.
- I was never a fan of older texts but Professor Bolling made these works very interesting and made me look forward to reading and analyzing them.
- It was a class focused around major American authors. As a result, there was not a material covered at any point in the semester that was not valuable.
- Most of the material we read for class I had not read before and for the texts that I has read before, I felt that I learned something that I did not before after reading it again for this class. I definitely feel I have to confidence to tackle harder texts in the future and I feel as though I can gain something from reading new and different texts by using similar strategies of dissecting the text to discover what the author is really trying to say.
- Si.
- Some of the texts feel outdated and do not relate to me.
- Very interesting book choice, all had relevance today and encouraged deeper, analytic thinking. Some texts were very challenging but with class discussions and insight by professor students were able to gain insight into the hardest of texts.
- Yes it was valuable and interesting. The material is applicable to understanding not only literature, but history, society, and myself as an individual.
- Yes we read various American works and critically examined them for their function in society and why it was considered major.
- Yes, I liked most of the books we read. I thought they were interesting and different because I hadn't read any of them in high school or any other books by the same author before.
- Yes, every piece that we did was intersting and important in literature.
- Yes, the required reading was engaging and a good mix of styles. The material was valuable because it was important American literature that everyone should read.
- Yes, this class provided a take on a few of the Major American authors that the cannon regards today, and provided intriguing discussion as to challenge and uphold these titles that these authors have taken hold of.
- Yes, while I doubt I would pick any of these materials for myself, I definitely took something away from all of them.
- Yes, yes, and yes. The emphasis on individual presentation, discussion, and thought was the emphasis of this class that I most enjoyed.
- Yes.
- Yes. All the texts were relevant and many were free. They are all books I would have liked to read at some point in my life.
- yes it was very appropriate for the course and hooked me in. The works assigned both indulged my reading sweet tooth and propelled me further down my academic path.

WRITTEN WORK: Did the instructor assign both papers and examinations that enabled you to demonstrate your knowledge of the material? Did the course help you improve your writing skills?

- The assigned papers and midterm essay gave me an opportunity to express my thoughts and opinions in writing. The assignments taught me how to better formulate an argument and how to provide evidence for that argument. I think the feedback was very helpful and showed me where I can improve in my style of writing.
- The instructor assigned papers and facilitated discussion about the literature. This greatly helped improve my writing because it was relatively easy writing but the topics were challenging. He effectively communicated what he liked and did not like about my papers, which will help me greatly with my future writing.

- The instructor provided opportunities to demonstrate our knowledge of material through written and oral presentations. I am very glad that we were not mandated to take reading quizzes. We also demonstrated our knowledge of the material through in class discussion.
- There were multiple papers and no exams, which I found totally appropriate regarding the subject matter. Considering the seminar/discussion nature of the course, the papers allowed me to effectively articulate both what I thought and what I learned.
- This course required a few papers and the feedback I received from them have definitely molded me into a better writer.
- We had oral presentations every couple classes which tested how I interpreted the novels and works. We were also required to write three short essays on different works that also allowed me to delve deeper into them.
- Written work was very good in enabling and encouraging higher learning and critical reading. Helped my overall understanding of class and texts that were read.
- Yes we submitted papers that asked us to analyze the texts we read.
- Yes!
- Yes, a lot of writing assignments that help strengthen my analysis of text and argument skills.
- Yes, and while it didn't necessarily help to improve my technical skills, it greatly influenced the ways in which I analyze works and portray my ideas which I'm incredibly grateful for.
- Yes, my professor assigned papers that allowed us to voice our own interpretation of the text in a way that examined our knowledge of the content. I received very constructive criticism from Dr. Bolling, and I believe that I am a better academic writer for it.
- Yes, the papers that were assigned allowed me to freely voice my opinions and got me to enjoy writing about literature.
- Yes, the response papers as well as the midterm assignment forced me to pick a text that I felt really spoke to me and dissect it further to figure out what the author was trying to say and why the way they were saying it was important to my understanding of the text as a whole.
- Yes, this class provided a balance of opinion and literary based analysis which allowed me to further develop my persuasive writing skills and my general writing ability as a whole.
- Yes.
- Yes. The focus of the class was for us to demonstrate our knowledge and the assessment system was geared towards this goal. Practice makes perfect. The written requirements followed by valuable and helpful feedback was very beneficial in improving my skill as a writer.
- just grade them.
- yes (2 Counts)
- yes the papers we wrote were relevant to the material we studied and they helped me think about the material in new ways
- yes, in class examinations forced me to showcase my knowledge for texts while papers allowed me to communicate my overall understanding for the class and subject matter.

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT: daily organization, atmosphere, effective use of scheduled class time, etc. What would you have liked to do more of? Less of?

- Atmosphere was mostly chipper and entertaining. May have appreciated some in class time to read, but hey who wouldn't?
- Class time was used efficiently and crucially. I don't think anything needs to be changed.
- Classroom lectures were really interesting and insightful. I liked how it was more casual and conversation like
- Everyday that we came in for this class we spent our time in the best way possible. We spent it in a way that was most conducive to our betterment as students and members of society.
- Good balance of lecturing and open class discussion.
- Honestly, the class time was mostly student geared as we could drive the conversation. I thought the proportion of lecture to discussion was great. However, I thought the Major Discussions became extremely repetitive by the end.
- I enjoyed the way that the class was set up.
- I liked the way the class time was scheduled.
- I really liked how everything was based on discussion. Even when I didn't necessarily raise my hand to say something, I always enjoyed listening to the discussions of our readings and found them very interesting

- I think that the class was really well balanced in terms of Professor Bolling talking/lecturing to us and him wanting to hear our feedback and ideas of what we thought about the texts we were reading. Overall, I really liked the way the class was organized.
- I think the instructor did a good job of managing class time between lectures and discussions. He also spaced out the oral presentations and allowed the students to decide which works to write about.
- Just right.
- Loved the style of the class and that we were welcome to speak or not speak so long as we respectful because I feel like that helped everyone participate in the most comfortable way for them. I only wish we had gotten to sit in a circle or semicircle because I feel that that is more engaging, but of course we were somewhat pressed for space.
- More time for discussions of the big 30,000 feet questions that allow for adaptation of opinion and challenging things that are just left to individual ponderance normally.
- My professor used class time effectively and provided enough flexibility for in-depth discussions. I would have liked to do more analytical group work. Although I enjoy discussion, I think some of the time allotted for class discussion could be used for different groups to focus on one aspect more in-depth.
- The class environment was always open an welcoming. I was never afraid to speak as Dr. Bolling treated everyone with respect even when opinions differed.
- The class was structured the same every day. It was a good mix of lecture that provided information about the author and discussion about the literature, which kept the class involved. Professor Bolling used his class time effectively and distributed the lecture time and discussion time to keep everyone engaged and interested.
- Very good classroom environment. Lots of student interaction after basic guidance by professor. Allowed students to get a lot from class.
- We had great discussion on the themes and messages behind the text. I would have liked to spend more time on learning how to write a close reading paper.
- good.
- perfecto

TEACHER: teacher-student rapport, speaking ability, availability, etc. What particular recommendations would you make, if any?

- 5 Gold Stars.
- Dr. Bolling was approachable and is a good speaker so he was able to be available to each student. His age is also closer to a college student than most so he was able to relate course material in a way that we could understand better than an older professor could.
- Dr. Bolling was without a doubt one of the best professors I have had at UNC. His clear passion for his work and thirst for knowledge showed through to his students, exponentially increasing my interest in the course.
- I don't think I would make any recommendations; I thoroughly enjoyed taking this class and learning in this class.
- I felt comfortable to say anything to Ben and to speak out in class.
- I felt that the instructor was always willing to work with his students whether it was in office hours or via email.
- I really appreciate that he was knowledgeable and passionate about everything we studied and his personableness helped us relate to him and therefore feel more comfortable and engaged.
- My instructor made himself readily available in his office hours and by appointment. He encouraged questions during class and responded to emails promptly.
- One of best professors I have ever had. Very very smart and has very good insight into all material. Great class leader.
- Overall really liked the teacher and the class. I just wish papers would be graded faster, but I understand that it is hard to do because teacher has their own life to attend to.
- PLEASE TEACH MORE CLASSES LIKE THIS.
- Professor Bolling was an interesting teacher who demonstrated enthusiasm about Literature. His enthusiasm made me want to learn more about literature. He was available for questions whenever I needed and communicated exactly what he expected of us.
- Professor Bolling was super interesting and I think did a good job at keeping everyone in the class engaged which is hard to do considering some of the material we read.
- The instructor is very accessible and makes the class extremely enjoyable. If a student has a chance to take a class with him I would highly recommend it.

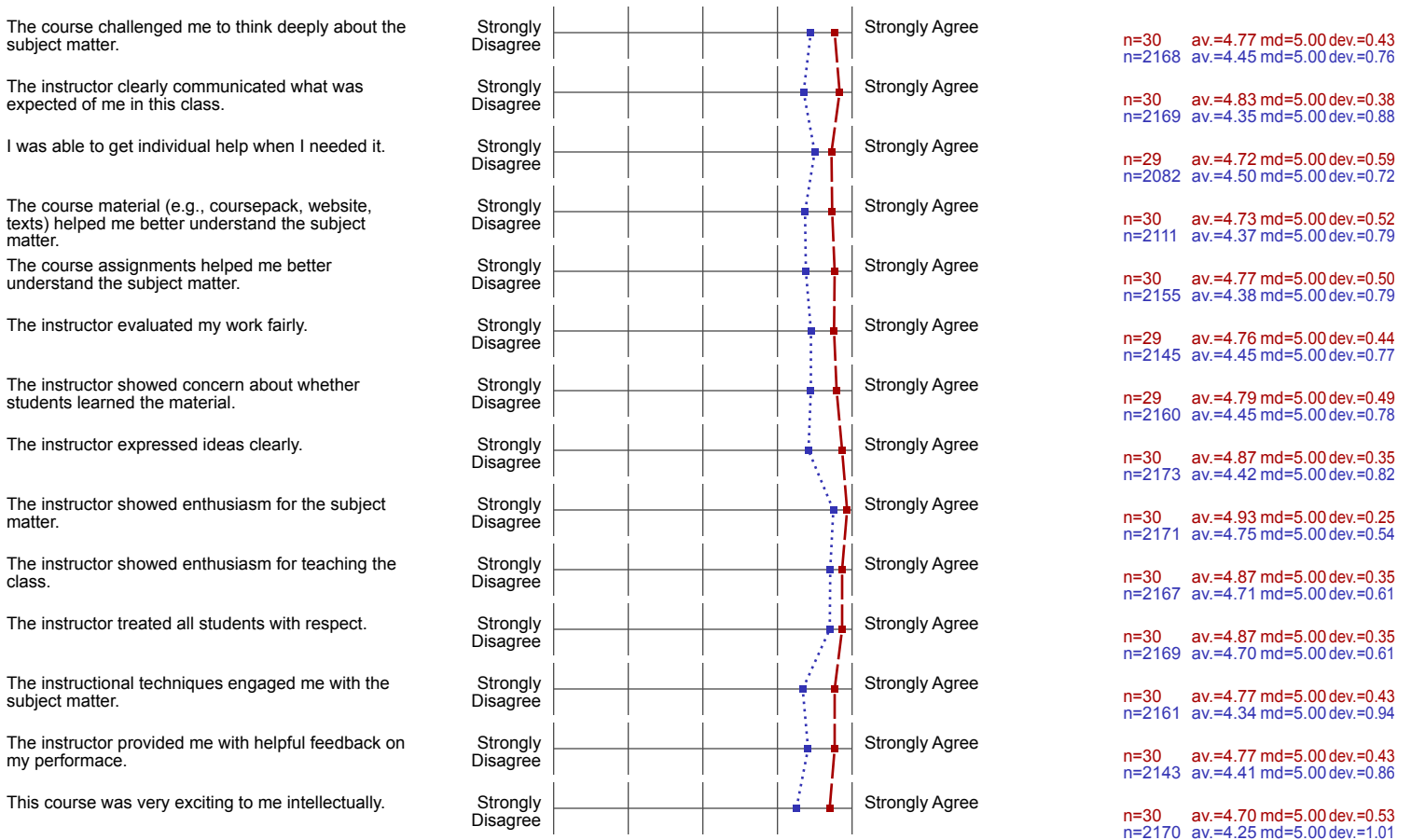
- The teacher felt universally accessible and always approachable. I am in no position to tell this man how to do anything differently. I see no reason why he should.
- The teacher-student rapport was great in this class and Ben Bolling's speaking ability made every class always interesting.
- The teacher-student rapport was strong. James Bolling is a strong communicator and was able to vocally impact me on a class basis. I did my best to reciprocate!
- he's great.
- perfecto

Profile

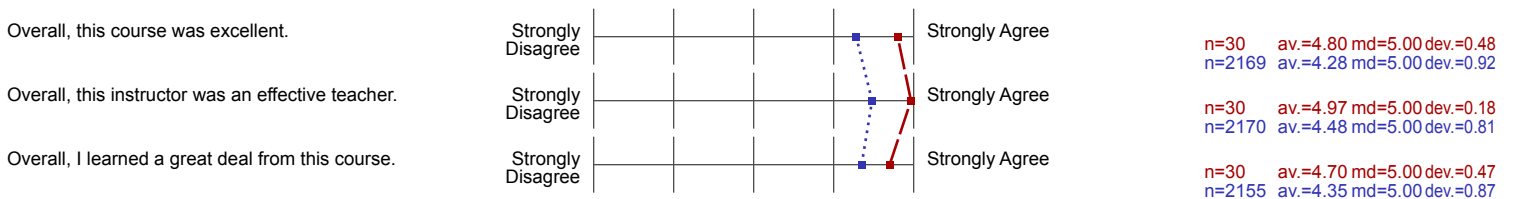
Subunit: College of Arts and Sciences 2016
 Name of the instructor: JAMES BOLLING
 Name of the course: MAJOR AM AUTHORS
 (Name of the survey)
 Comparative line: ECL-General Dept Avg 2016 Fall

Values used in the profile line: Mean

Course/Instructor Characteristics



Overall Course Assessment



Teaching Award Recommendation

The instructor was one of the best I have had at Carolina, fully deserving of a teaching award.



n=30 av.=4.83 md=5.00 dev.=0.38
n=2158 av.=4.06 md=4.00 dev.=1.03

Feedback to Students

The instructor handled questions well.



n=30 av.=4.77 md=5.00 dev.=0.43
n=2163 av.=4.50 md=5.00 dev.=0.70

The instructor used examples that had relevance for me.



n=30 av.=4.77 md=5.00 dev.=0.43
n=2146 av.=4.43 md=5.00 dev.=0.77

The instructor used class time well.



n=30 av.=4.87 md=5.00 dev.=0.35
n=2164 av.=4.33 md=5.00 dev.=0.90

The instructor encouraged students to participate in this class.



n=30 av.=4.87 md=5.00 dev.=0.35
n=2160 av.=4.50 md=5.00 dev.=0.80

This course was designed to keep me engaged in learning.



n=30 av.=4.90 md=5.00 dev.=0.31
n=2161 av.=4.37 md=5.00 dev.=0.89

The workload was appropriate for what I gained from this class.



n=30 av.=4.80 md=5.00 dev.=0.48
n=2162 av.=4.38 md=5.00 dev.=0.85