

Duke University - Trinity and Pratt Undergraduate Programs

Undergraduate Course Evaluations - Fall 2021

Course: ENGLISH-208S-01: CRITICISM AND THE ARTS
Instructor: Kevin Gallin *
Response Rate: 8/15 (53.33 %)

At A Glance:Course Difficulty

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

3.75

Subject Overall:

Undergrad Overall:

Q12

Q12 - The course was difficult.

At A Glance:Effort

10+

9

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

6

Subject Overall:

Undergrad Overall:

Q13

Q13 - How many hours in a typical week did you spend on this course (outside of class meetings)?

At A Glance:Overall course

Excellent

Very Good

Average

Marginal

Poor

4.63

Subject Overall:

Undergrad Overall:

Q7

Q7 - Considering all components of the course (lectures, discussions, sections/labs, assessments, projects, course environment, etc), overall the course was

At A Glance:Overall Instructor

Excellent

Very Good

Average

Marginal

Poor

4.75

Subject Overall:

Undergrad Overall:

Q8

Q8 - Based on the effectiveness of instruction (clarity, expertise, enthusiasm, rigor, support, inspiration, etc), overall the instructor, Kevin Gallin, was

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1 - Your personal level of engagement with the course was:

Response Option		Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means								
Very low		(1)	0	0.00%		4.25		4.12		3.88				
Low		(2)	0	0.00%										
Medium		(3)	2	25.00%										
High		(4)	2	25.00%										
Very high		(5)	4	50.00%										
					0	25	50	100	Question	Subject Overall:		Undergrad Overall:		
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	Subject Overall:		Mean	STD	Median	Undergrad Overall:		Mean	STD	Median
8/15 (53.33%)		4.25	0.89	4.50	249		4.12	0.85	4.00	18535		3.88	0.95	4.00

2 - What knowledge, methods, skills, insights, or ways of thinking did you develop in this course? Please describe three specific things you learned.

Response Rate	7/15 (46.67%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical thinking Appreciation for Genre, exploration of genres that I would have otherwise not explored, close reading analysis Prof. Gallin was very engaging in class. I feel like the course has definitely helped me to develop a more flexible and nuanced definition of "genre." I believe that this new perspective will impact how I engage with texts in the future, especially current media that I do not usually remind myself to think of critically. Most of the time when I'm reading a recently released book, I'm only doing it for entertainment. This class has reminded me that pieces that seem less academic/serious are still owed deliberate critical thought. close reading, analyzing text, cross-cultural connections, ethical debates, societal understanding Learned a lot about writing more succinct arguments and how to formulate thoughts in different writing styles which was very useful overall. Analyzed theories of genre and the line between literary and genre fiction. Dealt with how Authors and artists work within genre conventions and how they deviate. I learned what genre was, specifically how authors use genres and why they matter. I improved on my writing in literary essays and in writing reviews. I learned how to have effective discussions in class, thus improving my public speaking skills, ability to create discussion questions, and how to work with my peers. I learned better analytical skills, how to better organize my essays, and how to push arguments further. 	

3 - Reflecting on the overall learning environment of this class, in what ways did the instructor(s) and the structure or components of the course facilitate your learning? Are there specific course components or methods of instruction you'd keep for future years?

Response Rate	7/15 (46.67%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I want to keep the student chosen text component. fun activities - roaming around campus (Klara and the Sun) or determining if others are zombies (Zone One)!!! Prof. Gallin was wonderful at leading discussions. He's clearly very passionate about the material, so it's easy to engage with him. facilitating discussion; interactive activities I like the open Socratic style discussions. Pretty standard as far as English classes go in the way the class is run, which is nice. I liked the weekly reflections actually. And the genre portfolio was interesting and unique The professor was really organized and structured each class well. It felt like we had clear objectives and each assignment was very intentional. I felt very involved and absorbed with each text. The discussions Kevin lead were incredibly engaging. I learned so much from every class. He had assignments other than just essays, like the genre portfolio assignment. The weekly forum posts we had were great for keeping accountability with the readings. The creative tilt to different projects that we can choose to engage with is incredible as well. I am not used to a more creative approach to an english class. Having that incorporated into some of the assignments made me so excited to do the projects. Kevin also had a week where we got to 	

4 - What might improve the course? Are there specific course components or methods of instruction you'd change for future years? Did anything in particular impede a positive learning environment?

Response Rate	6/15 (40%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perhaps make the load a bit less - I found it hard to read a novel a week in the beginning of the semester. I think that some of Gallin's rubrics could be more specific. I feel like his assignments are fair. His grading is also generally fair, and I really appreciate that he allows students to rewrite/edit assignments that they did poorly on the first time. With all of that being said and appreciated, there were times he used terms in the rubrics/assignment sheets that I would interpret in different ways than he would. I think more specificity would make assignments easier for future students, especially in areas that he has strong opinions on. I liked the course the way it was, I just wish there weren't assignments over break all the time. Nothing specifically. Just a little hard to keep up with the reading at times, but the books were all interesting. Maybe get rid of one of the assignments because it did feel like a lot of work in the course. Frankly, there is not a single thing I can think of that would improve this course. Kevin did such an amazing job on every front. The course was challenging, engaging, and rewarding. This has been my favorite class and professor I have ever had at Duke, which I don't say lightly! 	

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5 - The course was intellectually stimulating. It made me think in new ways, encouraged me to adopt different points of view, or challenged me to develop new skills.

Response Option		Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means								
Strongly disagree		(1)	0	0.00%	<div><div></div></div>	<div><div>4.63</div><div>4.46</div><div>4.19</div></div>								
Disagree		(2)	0	0.00%										
Neither agree nor disagree		(3)	0	0.00%										
Agree		(4)	3	37.50%	<div><div></div></div>									
Strongly agree		(5)	5	62.50%	<div><div></div></div>									
					02550100	Question	Subject Overall:		Undergrad Overall:					
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	Subject Overall:		Mean	STD	Median	Undergrad Overall:		Mean	STD	Median
8/15 (53.33%)		4.63	0.52	5.00	249		4.46	0.76	5.00	18409		4.19	0.86	4.00

6 - What made this class stimulating or how could it be more intellectually stimulating if it wasn't?

Response Rate	6/15 (40%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We could choose better books, which are more interesting. The class content was excellent! Gallin was great at engaging with us during class time. It was stimulating because of how many different perspectives and ideas the professor brought up about a single text. I never knew there was so much nuance in writing. The subject matter was great. Genuinely felt engaged with each text. Not only was there a good selection of novels, but I also enjoyed the variation in how each class was formatted. For instance, for the Klara in the Sun unit we had to observe strangers like the protagonist. Then, we even had a class formatted like a class debate on whether the protagonist, Klara, was a human. For the Station Eleven unit, we worked with our peers on specific discussion questions. There were also classes to workshop our projects and provide feedback to other projects. The discussions and assignments were challenging and engaging. The book list Kevin chose was also fabulous. 	

7 - Considering all components of the course (lectures, discussions, sections/labs, assessments, projects, course environment, etc), overall the course was

Response Option			Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses		Means						
Poor			(1)	0	0.00%			4.63	4.34	3.99				
Marginal			(2)	0	0.00%									
Average			(3)	0	0.00%									
Very Good			(4)	3	37.50%									
Excellent			(5)	5	62.50%									
						0	25	50	100	Question	Subject Overall:	Undergrad Overall:		
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	Subject Overall:		Mean	STD	Median	Undergrad Overall:		Mean	STD	Median
8/15 (53.33%)		4.63	0.52	5.00	248		4.34	0.82	4.50	18477		3.99	0.95	4.00

8 - Based on the effectiveness of instruction (clarity, expertise, enthusiasm, rigor, support, inspiration, etc), overall the instructor, Kevin Gallin, was -

Response Option			Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses		Means						
Poor			(1)	0	0.00%						Question	Subject Overall:	Undergrad Overall:	
Marginal			(2)	0	0.00%									
Average			(3)	0	0.00%									
Very Good			(4)	2	25.00%									
Excellent			(5)	6	75.00%									
						0	25	50	100					
Response Rate		Mean	STD	Median	Subject Overall:		Mean	STD	Median	Undergrad Overall:		Mean	STD	Median
8/15 (53.33%)		4.75	0.46	5.00	307		4.46	0.78	5.00	21548		4.18	0.97	4.00

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9 - Based on the effectiveness of instruction (clarity, expertise, enthusiasm, rigor, support, inspiration, etc), overall the teaching assistant, , was

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%								
Marginal	(2)	0	0.00%								
Average	(3)	0	0.00%								
Very good	(4)	0	0.00%								
Excellent	(5)	0	0.00%								
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%								
0 25 50 100					Question	Subject Overall:	Undergrad Overall:				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Subject Overall:	Mean	STD	Median	Undergrad Overall:	Mean	STD	Median
0/15 (0.00%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	4531	4.29	0.90	5.00

10 - In what ways did the teaching assistant(s) facilitate your learning and what might have helped even more? Include any constructive comments you'd like to share with here.

Response Rate 0/15 (0%)

11 - What would you like to say about this course to a student who is considering taking it in the future?

Response Rate 5/15 (33.33%)

- Take the class! Gallin is very fun to talk to, and he clearly cares a lot about the material. He wants to help each student succeed, so be sure to reach out to him if there are aspects of assignments that confuse you. He's more than happy to help when he is made aware of ways he can assist you in understanding or completing an assignment.
- PLEASE TAKE IT! It's definitely my favorite class I've taken at Duke so far. It is especially great to take this course with Kevin if you are a non-English major trying to learn more about the field.
- If you are a voracious reader and want to read a varied bunch of good books, and talk about them, this is a good class for you.
- Go to office hours! Communicate with the professor if you feel behind, he genuinely wants you to succeed!
- This is an amazing course. If you can get a spot in it, take it. Kevin is an amazing professor. The class itself is SO interesting and really fun. It's challenging and engaging, but also just a pleasure to engage in. I would take it again if I could.

12 - The course was difficult.

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
Strongly disagree	(1)	0	0.00%								
Disagree	(2)	1	12.50%	■							
Neither agree nor disagree	(3)	1	12.50%	■							
Agree	(4)	5	62.50%	■							
Strongly agree	(5)	1	12.50%	■							
0 25 50 100					Question	Subject Overall:	Undergrad Overall:				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Subject Overall:	Mean	STD	Median	Undergrad Overall:	Mean	STD	Median
8/15 (53.33%)	3.75	0.89	4.00	252	3.03	0.97	3.00	18513	3.29	1.07	3.00

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13 - How many hours in a typical week did you spend on this course (outside of class meetings)?

Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means						
1	(1)	0	0.00%								
2	(2)	0	0.00%								
3	(3)	0	0.00%								
4	(4)	1	12.50%	■							
5	(5)	3	37.50%	■							
6	(6)	2	25.00%	■							
7	(7)	0	0.00%								
8	(8)	1	12.50%	■							
9	(9)	1	12.50%	■							
10+	(10)	0	0.00%								
0 25 50 100					Question	Subject Overall:	Undergrad Overall:				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Subject Overall:	Mean	STD	Median	Undergrad Overall:	Mean	STD	Median
8/15 (53.33%)	6.00	1.69	5.50	251	4.47	1.93	4.00	18475	4.53	2.40	4.00