Report Comments

Welcome to your Instructor Report for WashU Course Evaluations. Below you will find response data from the specified course section. Responses to personalized questions appear at the bottom of the report.

The intention of this report is to provide feedback, and also to prompt improvement in areas that may be lacking. This report is accessible to appropriate department level and school level users, as determined by your school. We appreciate your dedication to our learning community at Washington University.

If you have questions about this report, please contact evals@wustl.edu

Creation Date: **Monday, May 20, 2019**

Course and Instructor Evaluation

Past research shows that the students' answers to any one question can be noisy, more prone to biases, and provide less useful data for evaluating courses and instructors. Since interpreting individual questions, including their relative highs and lows, can easily lead to inaccurate conclusions due to low reliability, individual question responses are not available in any standard report.

However, combining students' responses to several questions aimed at measuring the same underlying attribute can improve the quality of the measures. Therefore, the statistics displayed for each attribute (mean, median, mode, and standard deviation) are calculated from the grouped responses to all the questions in each topical block.

All questions below use a 5-point response scale: 1-strongly disagree to 5-strongly agree

Learning

Competency Statistics	Value
Mean	4.60
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.69

Organization

Competency Statistics	Value
Mean	4.55
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.75

Enthusiasm (Chris Dorst)

Competency Statistics	Value
Mean	4.63
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.71

Individual rapport (Chris Dorst)

Competency Statistics	Value
Mean	4.67
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	0.60

Comparison Detail for Course and Instructor Evaluation

Learning

Score (4.60)	
Department (4.24)	
School (4.29)	

0.00   1.00   2.00   3.00   4.00   5.00

Organization

Score (4.55)	
Department (4.33)	
School (4.27)	

0.00   1.00   2.00   3.00   4.00   5.00

Enthusiasm (Chris Dorst)

Score (4.63)	
Department (4.42)	
School (4.42)	

0.00   1.00   2.00   3.00   4.00   5.00

Individual rapport (Chris Dorst)

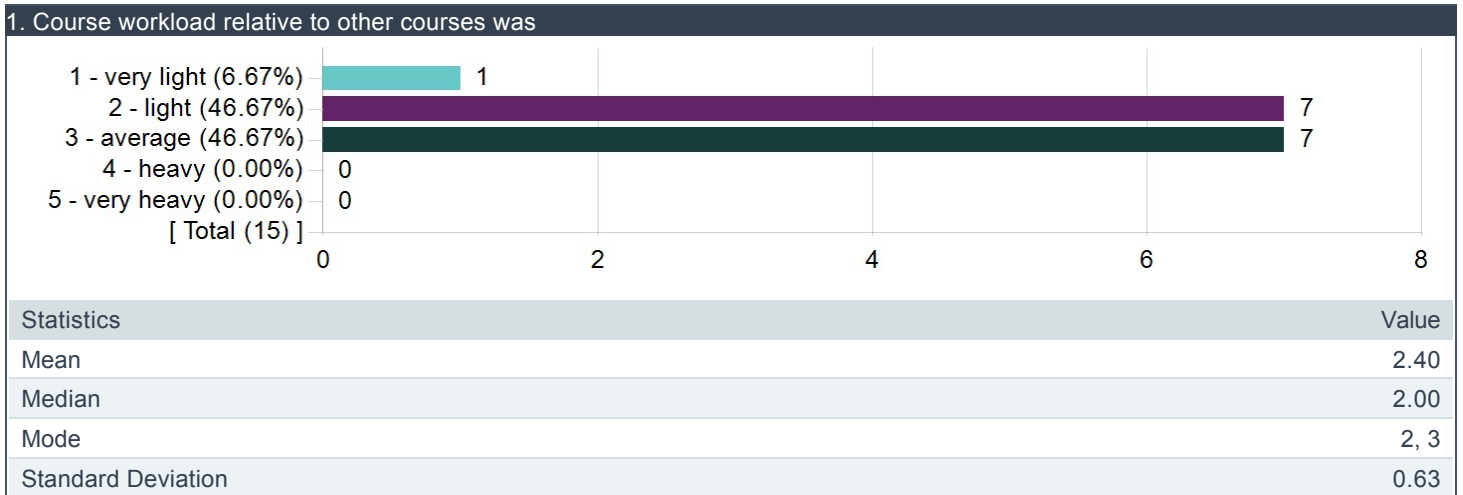|	
Score (4.67)	
Department (4.62)	
School (4.53)	

0.00   1.00   2.00   3.00   4.00   5.00
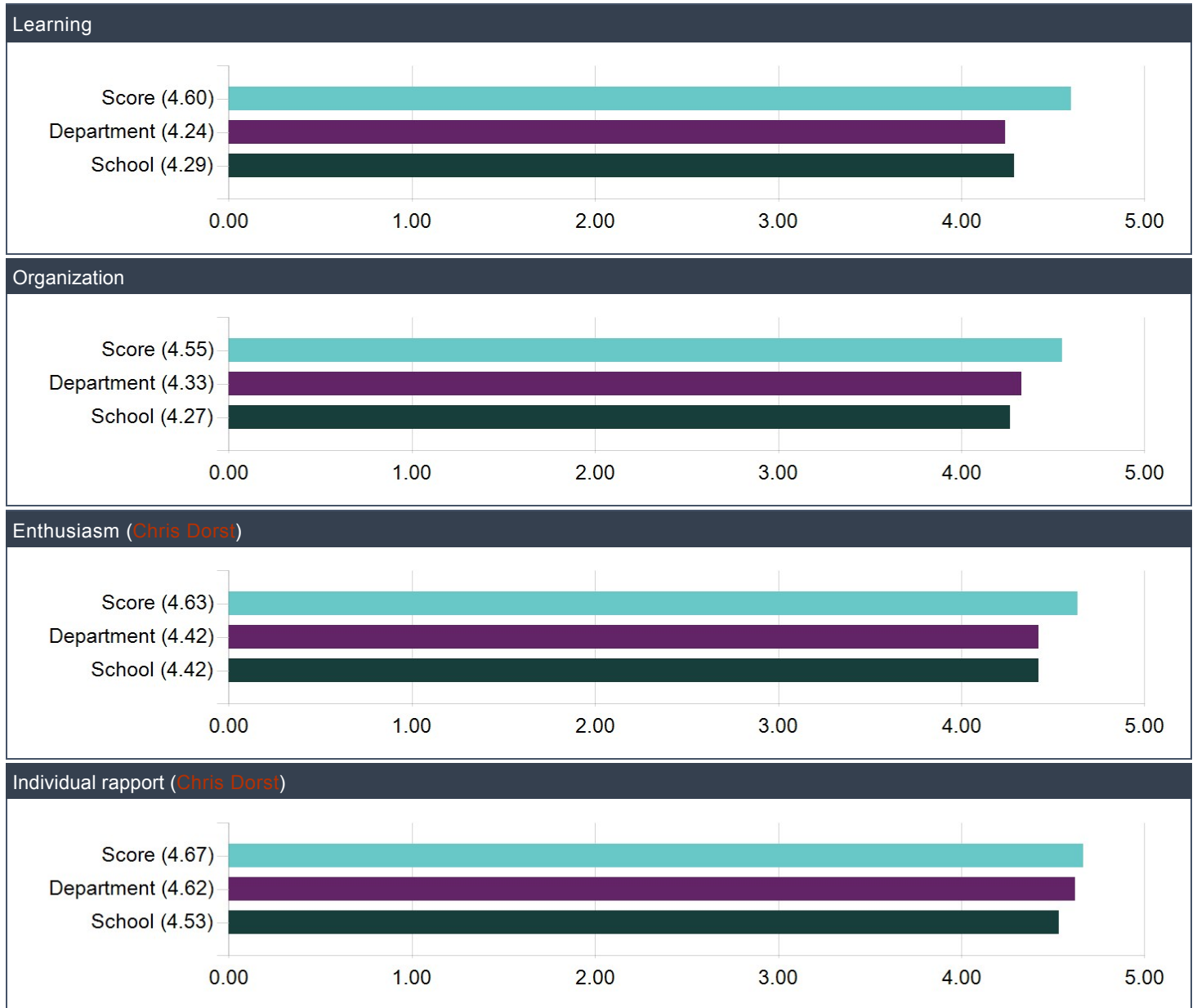
Varied Rating Scale Responses

The varied rating scale responses are statistically reliable as individual questions.

Course difficulty relative to other courses was
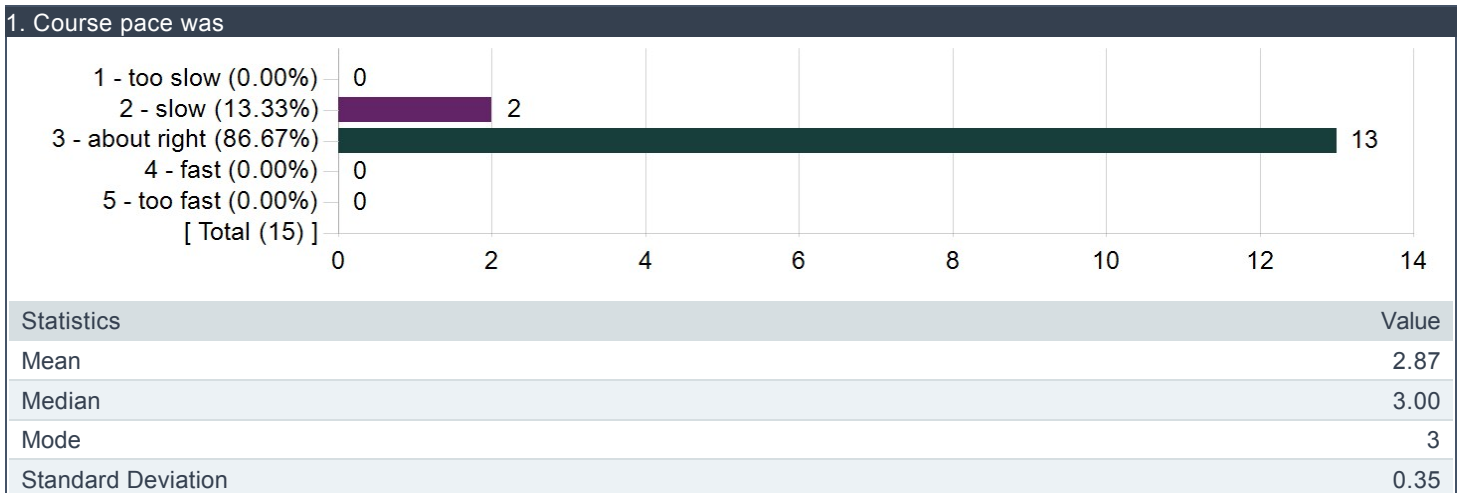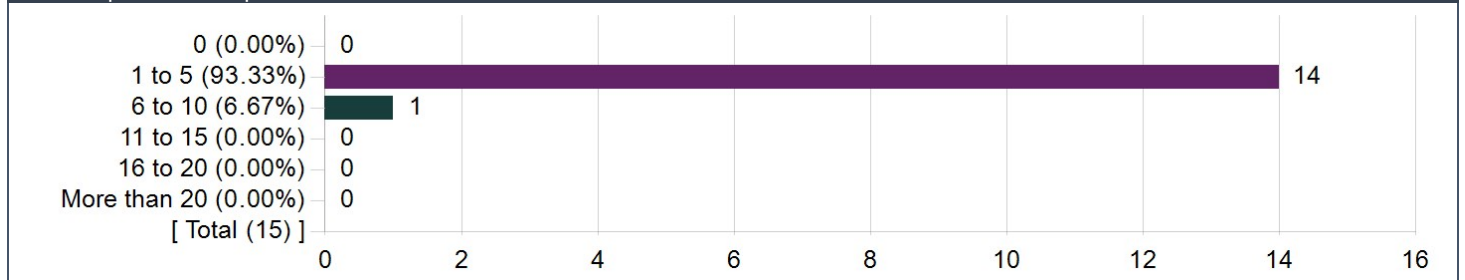
1. Course difficulty relative to other courses was

Response	Count
1 - very easy (6.67%)	1
2 - easy (46.67%)	7
3 - average (40.00%)	6
4 - difficult (6.67%)	1
5 - very difficult (0.00%)	0
[Total (15)]	

Statistics	Value
Mean	2.47
Median	2.00
Mode	2
Standard Deviation	0.74

Course workload relative to other courses was

1. Course workload relative to other courses was

Response	Count
1 - very light (6.67%)	1
2 - light (46.67%)	7
3 - average (46.67%)	7
4 - heavy (0.00%)	0
5 - very heavy (0.00%)	0
[Total (15)]	

Statistics	Value
Mean	2.40
Median	2.00
Mode	2, 3
Standard Deviation	0.63

Course pace was

1. Course pace was

Response	Count
1 - too slow (0.00%)	0
2 - slow (13.33%)	2
3 - about right (86.67%)	13
4 - fast (0.00%)	0
5 - too fast (0.00%)	0
[Total (15)]	

Statistics	Value
Mean	2.87
Median	3.00
Mode	3
Standard Deviation	0.35

Hours per week required outside of class

1. Hours per week required outside of class

Response	Count
0 (0.00%)	0
1 to 5 (93.33%)	14
6 to 10 (6.67%)	1
11 to 15 (0.00%)	0
16 to 20 (0.00%)	0
More than 20 (0.00%)	0
[Total (15)]	

Statistics	Value
Mean	2.07
Median	2.00
Mode	2
Standard Deviation	0.26

Comparison Detail for Varied Rating Scale Responses

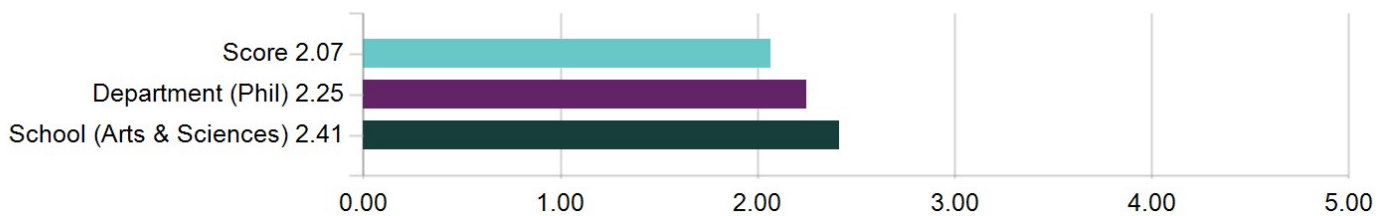## 1. Course difficulty relative to other courses was
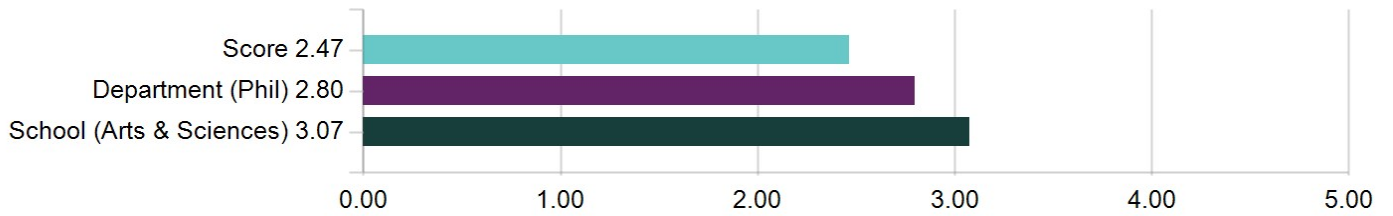
- Score 2.47
- Department (Phil) 2.80
- School (Arts & Sciences) 3.07

(Scale: 0.00 – 5.00)

2. Course workload relative to other courses was

- Score 2.40
- Department (Phil) 2.64
- School (Arts & Sciences) 2.90

(Scale: 0.00 – 5.00)

3. Course pace was

- Score 2.87
- Department (Phil) 2.94
- School (Arts & Sciences) 3.12

(Scale: 0.00 – 5.00)

4. Hours per week required outside of class

- Score 2.07
- Department (Phil) 2.25
- School (Arts & Sciences) 2.41

(Scale: 0.00 – 5.00)
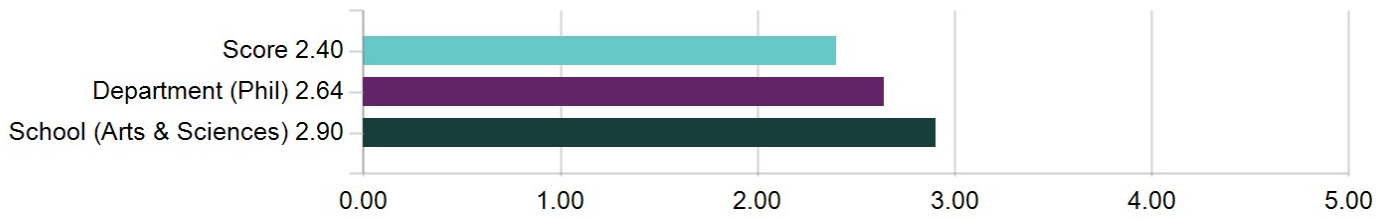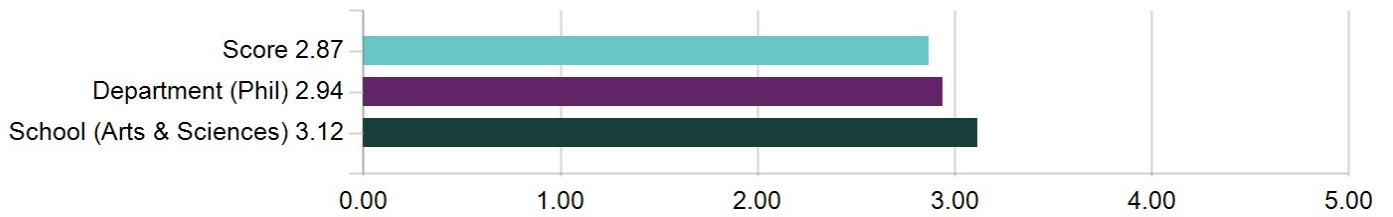
Short Answer Responses

What would you like to tell other Wash U students thinking about taking this course?

Comments
Fun class with a smart professor! Dorst does a good job facilitating discussion and explaining philosophical arguments. Good class for people new to Philosophy.
Very interesting and engaging course. Daily opportunities to participate in discussion and debate. Dr. Dorst does a great job facilitating a respectful and lively discussion space.
You really get out of it what you put in—if you find it interesting, you'll really enjoy it; if not, you can just not raise your hand
This is such a great course to open up your mind. It really introduces you to different types of arguments and ideas about many problems or thoughts you have had in the past like the existence of God.
It's a fun way to get introduced to the basics of philosophy, especially since the instructor doesn't press you one way or another, but explores the implications of every variation of the theory.
its a very fun intro into the field of philosophy, would highly recommend even just as a one–off class for fun. Readings include past and present philosophical thought and discourse about things you've probably seen or thought about ex. The Trolley Problem, religion, free will etc. Provides a great starting point for those wishing to delve deeper into philosophy.
It is a really fun course that I really enjoyed as an introduction to philosophy.
Not all of the problems presented will be interesting to all students but it is worth getting to the problems that one finds interesting.
This course is a great way to read a lot of texts and understand the foundations of philosophy in a discussion–based setting. Dr. Dorst is also a good teacher to take the class with.
I really enjoyed it as an elective. Not hard at all if you take it pass/fail

Describe at least one thing about this course that helped you learn.

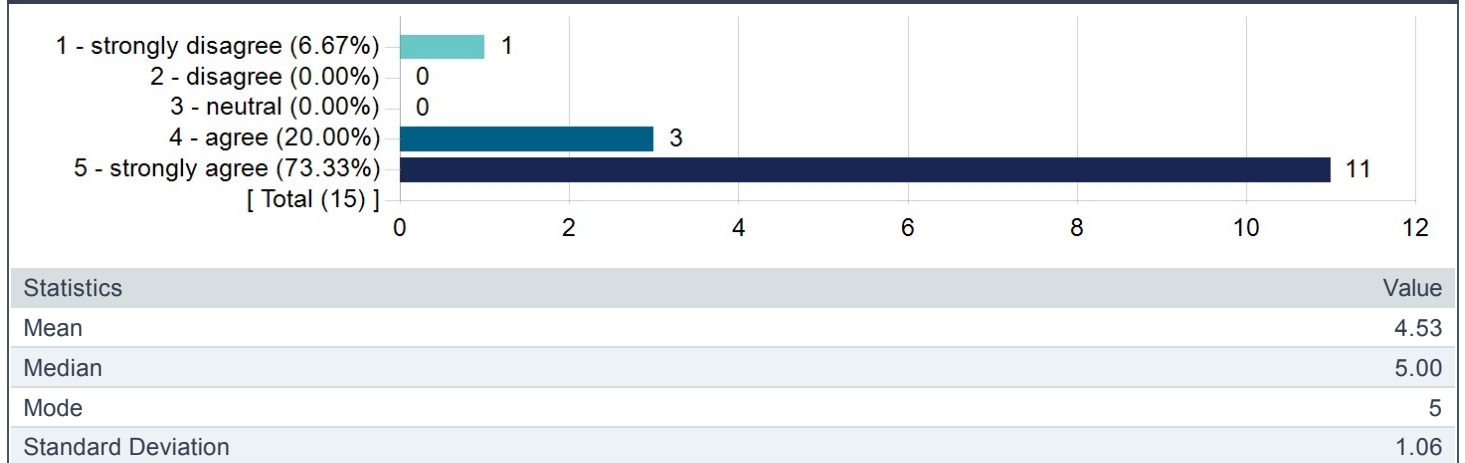| Comments |
| --- |
| Dr. Dorst's summary outlines for the topics of discussion each day were extremely helpful in clarifying unclear sections or the reading. |
| It taught me many new philosophers and many arguments I did not consider about claims I have heard about |
| Lecture summary notes are great for studying, and discussion augments the material being reviewed. |
| The professor seriously considered the arguments or contributions of every single student in the room without dismissing them. The instructor incorporated all viewpoints into the class and put them in the context of previous philosophical literature. |
| I liked the topics we discussed in the class and I feel like it helped me construct arguments better. |
| The lecture notes and the calculated mix between lecture and discussion, and the methodical way in which discussion was aided by the lecturer. |
| Dr. Dorst has nice concise note summaries that are helpful. |
| I really enjoyed each of the different hypothetical situations that brought up moral dilemmas in class |

Describe at least one thing that could be changed about this course to help you learn.

Comments
I don't have any meaningful feedback in this regard.
I feel like the pace could be sped up a bit so that we can get to all the readings
It's all good.
I don't really know.
Make sure the reading quiz always depends on the reading. This would keep students more inclined to always do the whole reading.
N/A
If possible, try to relate the newer readings to the older ones to make more connections between different authors

Classroom Environment

The instructor Chris Dorst promoted an inclusive learning environment with regard to the diversity of student personal backgrounds and identities.

1. The instructor Chris Dorst promoted an inclusive learning environment with regard to the diversity of student personal backgrounds and identities.

- 1 - strongly disagree (6.67%): 1
- 2 - disagree (0.00%): 0
- 3 - neutral (0.00%): 0
- 4 - agree (20.00%): 3
- 5 - strongly agree (73.33%): 11
- [Total (15)]

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.53
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	1.06

Where relevant, please give specific examples to explain your answer above.

Comments
Dr. Dorst was patient and friendly with all students; he was never dismissive of any of our ideas and casual enough to make it feel like a friendly learning environment.