

Sci Tech & Society (Fall 2017)

Instructor: **Mariscal, Carlos**
Subject: **PHIL**
Catalog & Section: **480 1002**
Course ID: **86136**
Objectives:

Enrollment: **37**
Responses Incl Declines: **20**
Declines: **0**

Teaching (Lecture) (27 comments)

Q: Please provide your thoughts on the instructor's teaching, including strengths and areas for possible improvement.

- 1 The professor is very knowledgeable about his information and is very interested into his teaching.
- 2 The teaching was very lecture based. In addition many topics were shown without the background information needed for students who were not in science majors. A strength of teaching was the excitement he had throughout the semester on different topics.
- 3 Good class. One of my favorite college classes. It's engaging and entertaining and relevant. It was important for me to connect this to education because it can make science fun and relevant for students
- 4 more reading quizzes would be helpful
- 5 His test formatting isn't good for all kinds of learners. Fill in the blank is very specific words but the phrasing unclear at times. Quiz wording is also tricky on some learners. Main issue is on tests it isn't always clear what he is looking for, and same for some quizzes
- 6 Dr. Mariscal knows his stuff, and presents it well. This course will always be one of the most thought provoking, engaging and important classes I have taken at the University.
- 7 Mostly a history lesson - some philosophy. I feel like this class is taught for too general of an audience/student base. Should be more science-specific and technical.
- 8 The lectures for this course were amazing! I looked forward to them and the content really complimented my other teaching classes and allowed me to see how to incorporate history into my sciences courses.
- 9 You are very skilled at leading discussions and lectures. Small group work has been shown to be very effective at supporting learning. Could you incorporate more small group work into your lessons? I recommend you consult the Nevada Teach faculty to figure out an effective setup for group work.
- 10 Your class kept me consistently engaged. It was like story time with Carlos every MWF, I enjoyed it. Your sense of humor and ability to make yourself laugh was thoroughly entertaining. If I had the time, I would without question take another class by you. You were very personable, honestly I wouldn't mind being friends beyond this class. Thank you for an easy going and informative class.
- 11 Amazing teaching, do not change
- 12 Carlos is open for thoughtful discussion and encourages discussions to dig into the concepts.
- 13 Your lecture style is really impeccable. As a student who usually does not learn well with lecture, I was unusually engaged by your lectures.

Your interactions with all students were consistently positive and fair. Deliberate practices like learning students' names demonstrated caring for your students.
- 14 Lecture was fun and mostly entertaining. I liked that you kept lecture mostly informal (though we often became stuck on tangential discussions that really didn't relate back to the theme of the lecture). I think that the open forum is interesting but I would have liked more "directed" discussion like the role play exercise we had that sort of forces us to consider the theme in our discussions. I also don't know about my fellow classmates, but I would have loved to hear more about what philosophers and philosophy in general had to say about each of the topics, and it sometimes felt we were mired in just the science/politics to really dive into the arguments of each topic and describe their philosophies thoroughly, but perhaps that is beyond the scope of the class.
- 15 I thought the teacher was excellent in his teaching methods. It was never a dull moment in his class. I learned quite a bit from this class.

Q: Please provide your thoughts on the course as a whole, including strengths and areas for possible improvement.

- 1 The class was always fun including the discussions within all the students.
- 2 Overall the points did not work. I did not like the quizzes on the reading being the only attendance points. I came to more classes and learned more than many students in the class but my efforts will not reflect in my grade. I however do not think this class was useful to my emphasis of social studies. The course was too much of a science class and not a History class.
- 3 Good course
- 4 This class is fair and the structure works perfectly. I would only prefer quizzes close to everyday only because the quizzes also help clarify if I had truly comprehended the reading and if not the quizzes generally clarified the meaning of the reading.

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- 5 Great course. Again, should be more science and philosophy! There should be an expectation or requirement that students be knowledgeable of biology and science more generally -- will allow professor to get more in-depth with the lectures.
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- 6 Improvement could be more focus on the readings for the quizzes as this is a 20% portion of the grade. Also on the exams an essay is a big focus so assigning one short essay in advance would be nice to have him review it for areas to improve prior to being graded on an exam.
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- 7 Overall, the class is very heavy on lecture. I would suggest adding more activities or differentiating the method of delivery during lecture. The activities that were executed during this class were fun and engaging--do more!
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- 8 As stated previously, I do not usually learn well in lectures. I would encourage inclusion of more student-driven activities such as the carbon policy role-playing activity.
- Communication of expectations for assessments were not always clear. With respect to the exams, receiving rubrics beforehand and then detailed feedback and a marked rubric afterward will help students understand your expectations and how to improve in the future.
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- 9 The material is super interesting. We all disengaged when we read about the boring philosophic details though. It wouldn't do any harm to get rid of those because we didn't pay attention anyway.
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- 10 The subject matter in this class was interesting and worthwhile to learn about. While the topics were pretty damn depressing, it's reality and well, reality sucks. My only major critic is that the exams did not align with the class. Getting asked questions about dates and people when we were informed that dates weren't going to matter was really disappointing. Please consider not asking about a bunch of dates on your exams and asking multiple choice questions about the ideas and things covered in class.
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- 11 Great course. I would maybe specify that dates need to be known for exams at the start
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- 12 I liked all the topics. However, the space race felt a little off in terms of scope until the end of class payoff. I also find the topic compelling even though it blankets basically everything. Again I really wish there had been more directed discourse or even arranged debate, as the general discussion often trailed off and felt a little hard to enter by just doing the readings and paying attention to class. I especially find that some of the more opinionated writings would have been a great place for debate so as to highlight the strengths but also weaknesses of some of the arguments presented for these topics.