Individual Report for Instructor Baggott 37823-20163 : IR-333 China in International Affairs (37823)

USC Student Course Evaluations - Fall 2016

Project Audience 15
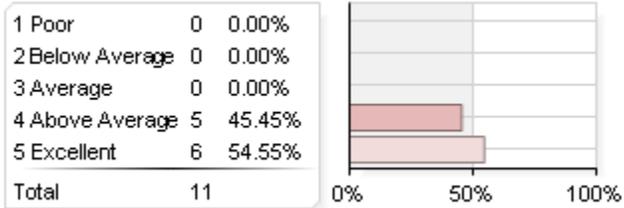Responses Received 11
Response Ratio 73.33%

Subject Details	
Name	IR-333 China in International Affairs (37823)
Section	37823-20163
Course_ID	IR-333
Course Type	Lecture
Course Department	IR
School	LAS
Session	001
First Name	Erin
Last Name	Baggott
Email	baggott@usc.edu

Creation Date   Tue, Jan 24, 2017

How would you rate the instructor's effectiveness on the following items?
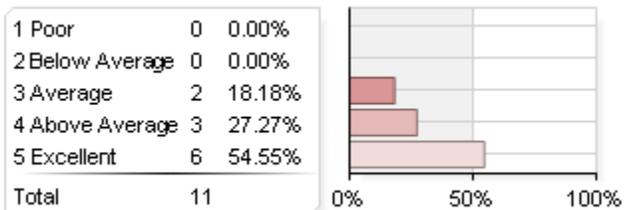
1. Clearly articulated course goals.

1 Poor	0	0.00%
2 Below Average	0	0.00%
3 Average	0	0.00%
4 Above Average	5	45.45%
5 Excellent	6	54.55%
Total	11	

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.55
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.52

2. Organized course to achieve those goals.

1 Poor	0	0.00%
2 Below Average	0	0.00%
3 Average	0	0.00%
4 Above Average	4	36.36%
5 Excellent	7	63.64%
Total	11	
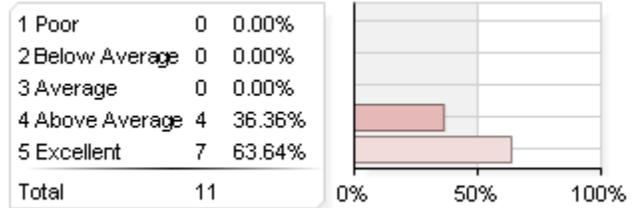
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.64
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.50

3. Carefully explained difficult concepts, methods, and subject matter.

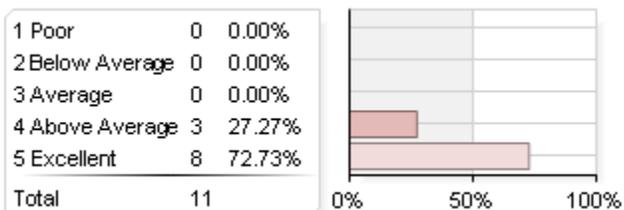|		
1 Poor	0	0.00%
2 Below Average	0	0.00%
3 Average	2	18.18%
4 Above Average	3	27.27%
5 Excellent	6	54.55%
Total	11	

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.36
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.81

4. Encouraged students to participate in their learning (e.g., through discussion, projects, study groups and other appropriate activities).
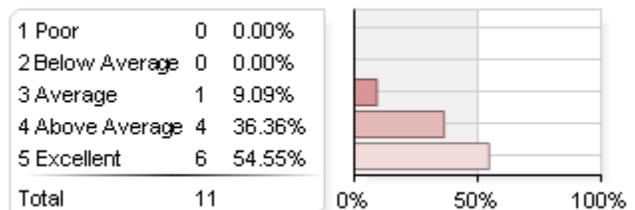
1 Poor	0	0.00%
2 Below Average	1	9.09%
3 Average	0	0.00%
4 Above Average	3	27.27%
5 Excellent	7	63.64%
Total	11	
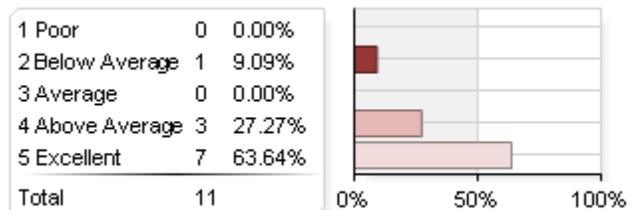
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.45
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.93

5. Was accessible to students (e.g., during office hours, before and after class, etc.).

1 Poor	0	0.00%
2 Below Average	0	0.00%
3 Average	0	0.00%
4 Above Average	3	27.27%
5 Excellent	8	72.73%
Total	11	

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.73
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.47

6. Evaluated student work in fair and appropriate ways.

1 Poor	0	0.00%
2 Below Average	0	0.00%
3 Average	1	9.09%
4 Above Average	4	36.36%
5 Excellent	6	54.55%
Total	11	

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.45
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.69

7. Was enthusiastic about communicating the

8. Stimulated student interest in the subject matter.

subject matter.

1 Poor	0	0.00%
2 Below Average	0	0.00%
3 Average	1	9.09%
4 Above Average	2	18.18%
5 Excellent	8	72.73%
Total	11	

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.64
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.67

1 Poor	0	0.00%
2 Below Average	0	0.00%
3 Average	1	9.09%
4 Above Average	3	27.27%
5 Excellent	7	63.64%
Total	11	
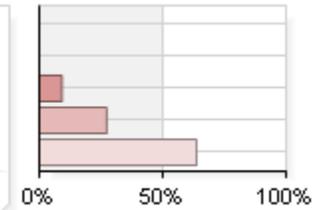
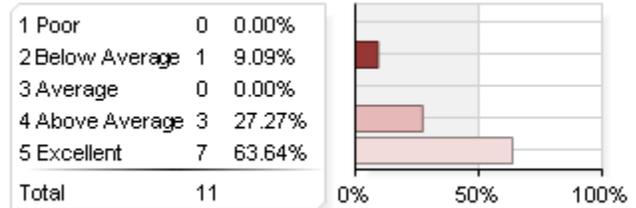| Statistics	Value
Mean	4.55
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.69

How would you rate the instructor's effectiveness on the following items? (continued)

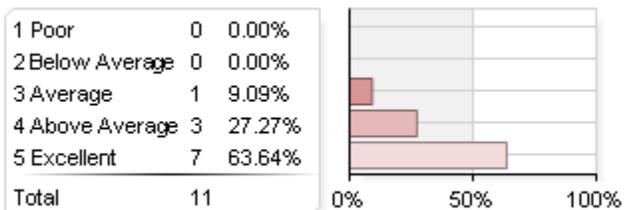**9. Presented subject matter in ways that were academically challenging.**

1 Poor	0	0.00%
2 Below Average	0	0.00%
3 Average	1	9.09%
4 Above Average	3	27.27%
5 Excellent	7	63.64%
Total	11	
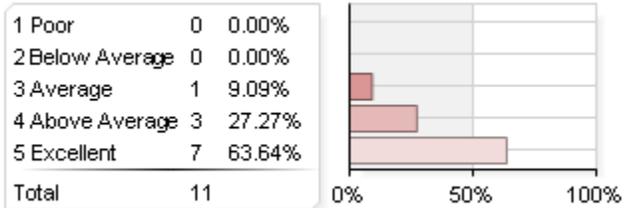
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.55
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.69

10. Provided students a valuable learning experience.

1 Poor	0	0.00%
2 Below Average	1	9.09%
3 Average	0	0.00%
4 Above Average	3	27.27%
5 Excellent	7	63.64%
Total	11	

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.45
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.93

Overall, how would you rate this instructor?

1 Poor	0	0.00%
2 Below Average	0	0.00%
3 Average	1	9.09%
4 Above Average	3	27.27%
5 Excellent	7	63.64%
Total	11	

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.55
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.69

Overall, how would you rate this course?

1 Poor	0	0.00%
2 Below Average	0	0.00%
3 Average	1	9.09%
4 Above Average	4	36.36%
5 Excellent	6	54.55%
Total	11	
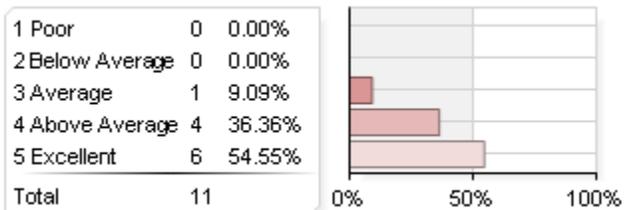
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.45
Median	5.00
Mode	5
Standard Deviation	+/-0.69

What were this instructor's main strengths?

Comment
Her main strength was her overall enthusiasm and knowledge of the subject matter. This definitely made the class

more interesting since she was engaged in the material herself. Additionally, the class was well structured and covered a lot of interesting material over the course of the semester.

Very smart and informative and academically challenging

very smart, taught a lot about china

Honestly, I think this class is one of the best classes I have ever taken here at USC. Professor Baggott Carter has a deep understanding of US-China relations, and yet despite her knowledge, she cannot be more encouraging for open discussions and different opinions. She is the best professor I have ever had in terms of her ability to explain concepts in a straightforward, comprehensive yet concise manner. Her class is demanding in terms of the amount of reading and in terms of the things we have to know for mid-terms and finals, but after this semester, I can say for sure that I have known so much more about China and feel more confident in talking with other people about US-China relations. The fact that she has a high expectation for students is really valuable in the IR department and just in SC in general, since I have taken classes where professors just don't care, don't organize lectures, ramble on and give random inflated grades.

Everything

Her wealth of information

Super knowledgeable, willing to explain concepts and answer any questions. Provide discussion time during class that really keep the perspective unbiased and fair. LOVE the UN emergency crisis simulation! (WISH we had more time to prepare though) Super friendly and respectful towards students

Lectures and facilitating class discussion

Great lecturer and applied her own experiences to the material we were learning which was helpful in better understanding the information

Professor Baggott Carter is extremely sharp and erudite in IR theories. Her ability to deliver an insane amount of information is just mind-blowing. Also, she is a very nice person and an accessible professor. She encourages students to collaborate with each other. And I especially like the fact that there were various activities that were designed to challenge us to think more strategically. For example, the UN Crisis Simulation was a very amazing opportunity to glimpse into how countries would interact with each other when their interests collide with others' interests. Not to mention that US-China Conference we had attended was an eye-opening event.
I especially like the fact that readings were written by individuals from different walks of life: scholars, diplomats, and policymakers etc.

-Caring, enthusiastic and very knowledgable about subject matter, fostered a positive learning environment, engaging, very approachable
-Challenged students and encouraged critical thinking through class discussions and open-ended questions
-Readings with different arguments provided us holistic and critical thinking that is necessary for IR majors
-Lectures were very well organized, concepts were clear and easy to understand
-Provided great examples to develop further understanding of concepts

How might this instructor improve their teaching effectiveness?

Comment
She might prep the class better for smaller discussions or warn students that their participation will be expected more at the beginning of the semester. I think the expectation was that it would be a lecture style, which would have been effective, however the smaller class size made it more conducive to integrated discussion as well (which did happen throughout the semester). The class was excellent but it did take some adjustment to incorporate a discussion aspect.
Feel like reading was too much
less reading, less discussion, or at least organize it better so that only 3 people for china are the only students participating
I would suggest Professor Baggott Carter upload the readings at least two days before classes, or even to upload all of them at the beginning of the semester, just so that students may have more latitude in scheduling time to read them. Also, I have taken a couple of classes on China and East Asia before taking this class, so I had no problem immediately adapting to the pace of the class, but I noticed that some of my classmates were overwhelmed by the amount of information contained in the lectures, especially the first couple of classes (i.e. the IR theory). I would suggest that Professor Carter slows down a little for students coming from non-Chinese background or non-IR background.
N/A
Structure in grading and slowing down for students to comprehend complex theories and definitions.
More visual teaching material such as videos instead of just lecture (ppt slides). Suggest to star discussion after

playing a video of a speech or news that is related to the discussion topic so its easier for students to have a reaction and understanding of the content. should give more time for student to prepare for presentation and crisis simulation

More class discussions

More notice between the time assignments are given and the due dates

I think if the weekly reading assignments can be reduced to 100-page-ish, it would be much nicer. There were some weeks when I felt that I was never be able to finish all the assigned readings before class (because I am juggling four reading-intense classes this semester). But in hindsight, it was a great training in speed reading.

-Avoid "surprise" debates or last minute assignments(i.e. crisis simulation). Although it is understood that the intent is to simulate a real crisis, it ends up becoming more stressful for students who have other assignments on their plate that same week. Additionally, students are not able to benefit as much when they lack time to fully prepare.

-Because many of the students use background knowledge or research to contribute to discussions, and taking consideration into the fact that the midterm and final exam is graded based on references from the readings or lecture, it would be helpful if the professor provides her own answers at the end of discussions.

Additional comments?

Students
Love the class!!
Most fun class this semester and my favorite type of lecture style
Not to Prof. Baggott but to IR department if the department can see it: it is just not okay for the department to schedule three courses on China next semester - IR 333 with Lynch and IR 407 & IR 340 with Prof. Baggott. It just seems like we don't have that many students interested in China to fill all three courses. Also, the department should do a better job helping students distinguishing between IR 333 and IR 407 - both are on Chinese foreign policy but how different are they? I really really appreciate Professor Baggott's class this semester, and somehow I just wish the department would do a better job promoting her class - for example, working with the Econ department on making IR340 an elective for ECON minors.
i personally LOVE professor Baggott Carter, she is so sweet and super open to students opinion and did a great job to make everyone comfortable and is able to gear students with wrong info towards the right direction in a super polite way. Although, i wish she is more clear on what she is looking for on the midterm and final. Hope she could give a little more background on material she lectures on to people who have no idea of the event
It is a pleasure to have you as my professor. You are very inspirational.
Thank you for a fantastic semester. I was always interested in China, but this course has taught me to critically think about China's role in international relations and hope to continue a government career focused on the region.