

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

Department: Department of Geography

Term: Fall 2018

Form: Geography Department Teaching Assistant Evaluation

Instructor: Aslamy,Sohrob Tosh

CROSS-LISTED: Aslamy,Sohrob Tosh GEO171 M009 and GEO171 M014

Responses: 31 Enrollment: 38 Response Rate: 81.6%

	1		2		3		4		5		Summary Stats		
	Strongly Disagree		Disagree		Neutral		Agree		Strongly Agree		N	Mean	StD
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%			
1. TA was prepared for class.	1	3.2%	0	0.0%	2	6.4%	13	41.9%	15	48.4%	31	4.32	0.87
2. TA encouraged participation and questions.	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	3.2%	12	38.7%	18	58.1%	31	4.55	0.57
3. TA communicated concepts, content, and issues clearly.	2	6.4%	0	0.0%	4	12.9%	11	35.5%	14	45.2%	31	4.13	1.09
4. TA provided clear and interesting questions for discussion.	1	3.2%	2	6.4%	2	6.4%	13	41.9%	13	41.9%	31	4.13	1.02
5. TA created an effective environment for discussion.	1	3.2%	1	3.2%	4	12.9%	11	35.5%	14	45.2%	31	4.16	1.00
6. TA showed concern that I was learning course material	2	6.4%	1	3.2%	4	12.9%	9	29.0%	15	48.4%	31	4.10	1.16
7. TA demonstrated knowledge of the subject matter.	1	3.2%	0	0.0%	1	3.2%	11	35.5%	18	58.1%	31	4.45	0.85
8. TA showed enthusiasm for subject and teaching.	0	0.0%	1	3.2%	2	6.4%	13	41.9%	15	48.4%	31	4.35	0.75
9. TA's grading was fair and justified.	2	6.4%	2	6.4%	7	22.6%	7	22.6%	13	41.9%	31	3.87	1.23
10. Discussion section provided a fuller understanding of course material.	1	3.2%	1	3.2%	8	25.8%	5	16.1%	16	51.6%	31	4.10	1.11
11. I felt comfortable talking in section/lab.	0	0.0%	2	6.4%	4	12.9%	9	29.0%	16	51.6%	31	4.26	0.93
12. I felt comfortable talking to my TA.	0	0.0%	4	12.9%	3	9.7%	8	25.8%	16	51.6%	31	4.16	1.07
13. I would recommend the TA, as an instructor, to others.	2	6.4%	2	6.4%	5	16.1%	5	16.1%	17	54.8%	31	4.06	1.26

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Did the TA help you in any particular way during the semester (with papers, assignments, exam prep, etc.)? If so, please describe how.

- Discussion was helpful in getting to know what the papers were about and what was to be expected on the test. Stopping doing peer review was something I didn't like I think looking over essays with each other helped people a lot
- Gave us rubrics for the essays for what he was looking for which were very helpful.
- He always seemed willing to help
- He clarified paper prompts and broke down what he expected for the papers.
- He gave really good feed back on papers, which ultimately helped me bump up my grade on the second paper from a C to a B. Very informative and helped anchor the concepts for me during discussions.
- He helped with the essays and for the midterm
- He made sure to answer any questions I had.
- he was a tremendous help with prep for the midterm and finals. He would always ask our opinion on how we would learn best and many times asked if there was anything from the lecture that we wanted to discuss.
- He was able to break down some of the writing assignments into a more simple explanation, which helped me greatly in writing them.
- He was very helpful in explaining what expectations of our papers.
- Helped explain and clarify any questions I had regarding the essay papers.
- helped me with my papers and how to properly cite.
- Helped with paper writing, provided time for peer review
- Helped with papers
- I spoke with him about an assignment once during the semester.

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Did the TA help you in any particular way during the semester (with papers, assignments, exam prep, etc.)? If so, please describe how.

- no
- Nope!
- Other than replying to an email with questions on a paper, no
- Sohrob helped our class to prepare for the midterm by leading a review session. He was also very good about answering emails with questions about assignments in a timely manner.
- The TA helped us prepare for exams by hosting a study session before.
- very accommodating!
- We did peer review before the week before our first two essays were due on rough drafts.
- Yeah, he replied my emails quickly and clearly
- Yes, he helped make essay prompts clear and helped us better comprehend class topics
- Yes, he helped me prepare for both the midterm and the final. He also helped us understand what was required for the essays and how we could get the most points for it.
- Yes, he helped with the essay papers that were assigned to us. If I needed to clear a doubt, he guided me in the right direction.
- Yes, he taught us many things. How to properly structure an essay was probably my most valuable takeaway.

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What were the TA's strengths?

- Answering questions and help further understanding of lecture
- Can talk for literally days
- eh nothing really
- Elaborating on power point
- Encouraged us to think outside the box, he cared about what we were struggling with and wanted to help and made the class entertaining.
- Good speaker
- Great communicator, make it easier to understand the hard concepts
- He did a good job of clarifying the instructions for essays and study guides. He also led discussion effectively and provided interesting insight that supplemented Professor Rutherford's lectures.
- He had a good knowledge of the material and was able to communicate that knowledge with us pretty easily.
- He is hospitable, and patient
- He seemed prepared for class and tried to enable discussion.
- He seemed to be very knowledgeable on the material.
- He was knowledgeable of the subject itself.
- He was nice
- He was personable and encouraged questions/discussions.
- He was very clear and helpful with helping us improve and meet the requirements of papers, and was enthusiastic about helping the students.

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What were the TA's strengths?

- He was very engaging. We had a pretty quiet discussion group, but he was able to get people talking. He was also very good at explaining concepts.
- Helpful feedback on papers, supportive
- helping pre essay and pre exam
- His strengths included have a lot of knowledge on the course material and being able to help the class understand concepts that were being talked about in lecture. He also had good activities to complete in our discussion.
- lively, communicative, interested in the topic and the students opinions.
- Openness to the students and the ability to be approached easily.
- Passionate about the subject and gets his message across concisely.
- Seems to understand the material vey well and encourages discussion
- Sohrob is very knowledgable in the content of the course. If there were any doubts that we had about the course he would always have an answer and/or contact the Professor for further clarification.
- Sohrob was a very easy TA to talk to and he was good at clarifying confusing topics or questions when they were not understood.
- super nice!
- The TA's strengths were making discussion fun and worthwhile.
- understanding course material
- Very enthusiastic and knowledgable.

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What suggestions would you make to the TA for future teaching?

- Be aware of when a small group of students are dominating the discussion and don't really give others a chance to speak.
- Be more prepared in lesson planning and making class engaging.
- describe grading more
- Don't play jeopardy, it gets too intense.
- dont be a TA.
- Don't let class run late let people out on time because they have other classes to go to
- Have a better plan of what you are going to be teaching and doing in class don't just repeat the lecture slide
- He was a great TA, I would hope he would keep the same focus he currently has.
- I think section would be more interesting if we went over the material in different methods or activities.
- I thought the grading was a little tough, but that is probably my bias opinion.
- I would suggest he make the classes more interactive. Besides that he was very helpful.
- Know the material better
- maybe have more group based activities. it was pretty easy to just sit there and say nothing at all
- n/a
- Nothing special
- Please actually grade papers using the rubric! I felt that the TA pulled grades on significant writing assignments out of thin air! Do not thoroughly describe the rubric and then disregard it when you actually grade the assignments. I felt that the TA was vindictive when it came time for grading.

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What suggestions would you make to the TA for future teaching?

- Try to make the discussion more engaging
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If you have any other comments, please make them here:

- classes were boring
- great TA!
- I enjoyed the jeopardy review we did in discussion and think it could be beneficial to use for future classes.
- N/A
- n/a
- None
- Nothing special
- Please find another TA. I am not someone who complains about unfairness, but he did not facilitate further learning at any point during the semester.
- sense of favoritism
- Thank you for a great semester!
- Thank you for your help and advice!
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