



UC RIVERSIDE - Faculty Instruction Evaluation (iEval)

Summer Session 2 2015

Course: PHIL 112 Section: 201 - MORTAL QUESTIONS
Instructor: Taylor Cyr

Question # 25: Please comment on how the instructor's teaching helped your learning of the material in this course. Please give serious thought to your comments. Your comments will be studied by the professor after the grade and performance evaluation of your work have been submitted and may be used in changing future offerings of the course. In addition, these comments are placed in the instructor's file and may be used for purposes of evaluating the instructor's teaching. The information collected will remain anonymous.

- Taylor was amazing! He is by far the best TA that I've ever had. He already lectured like a professor. Not only was the course content really interesting, but Taylor was very knowledgeable and excited when teaching. He made the slides fun because he used pictures such as Harry Potter, Free Willy and Lion King so it woke up the class during our three hour session. He was great at answering our questions, even though they may not have made sense at times. The way he structured his class was nice, the reading quizzes actually made you read so that was good. I would take one of his courses again because Taylor made the experience so enjoyable. He is going to make a wonderful professor someday!
- In regards to the course (PHIL 112: Mortal Questions), Taylor Cyr was a spectacular instructor. Perhaps second to distinguished professor John Martin Fischer, Cyr was the most knowledgeable and gifted instructor from UCR's philosophy department that could have taught this course. I don't recall someone who taught a course in their respective field with as much enthusiasm as much as Taylor. The delivery of such a vast amount of course material in such a sophisticated level that Cyr exhibited this summer was extraordinary. The usage of PowerPoint presentations were excellent supplementary sources that only aided Cyr's pristine explanations. In addition, Cyr was considerate, clear, and attentive to every question or objection raised. I look forward to his presence while I continue to take upper division philosophy courses in the remaining two years I have here at UCR. If PHIL 112 were offered again, I would be willing to sit-in because it's such an exciting course. It is beyond a shadow of a doubt that teaching in a university setting is where Cyr belongs. Taylor, wherever you may end up being tenured at, I look forward to future contributions. Please do me a favor and host a website so that it can be easy to access your papers, because your work is timeless. Best wishes.. ~ J. A. (Undergraduate Philosophy & History major, Class of 2017)
- Taylor has done a fantastic job teaching this course. Being my first philosophy class in quite some time, I was very nervous and anxious to take this course. Those nerves were dispelled once Taylor started to teach the course. He taught the material clearly and concisely, carefully going over and spending time on the material that was confusing. The slides he provided were informative as well. The only thing I would encourage is more group work with my peers, to better discuss the material and have more opinions on the material. But I understand that this was a class with less students so it was not always the easiest.
- This instructor was very organized with his PowerPoints and syllabus. This helped my learning because I knew what he expected from me and the syllabus gave me an overview of the course so that I could prepare ahead of time. I was really engaged in his class, and although some of the readings were dense, he always clarified any questions before moving on to the next topic. His availability was flexible and he responded to e-mails in 24 hours which made communicating with him very easy. His exams reflected the material that was reviewed in the readings, quizzes, and PowerPoints. I know some students disputed some questions in the exams, but the answers were obvious in the readings and PowerPoints. However, the structure of the exam also had short answer questions, which were great because it gave room for some critical thinking. Overall the instructor greatly influenced my learning of the material in this course, and he also influenced future interest in philosophy.
- Taylor is a respectable gentleman who knows his field. He was able to present arguments and counter arguments clearly and coherently. I was surprised and in fact delighted that a person of his age was so interested and learned in a subject that very few consider today. I am grateful for the knowledge he imparted to me and I am thankful that the class was offered.
- Taylor Cyr did an excellent job preparing for his lectures. Some materials were confusing and it would have been nice to have known about the SPA at the beginning of class so we could get a better handle on the readings before class. I would have preferred having to write smaller, critical thinking papers over in class exams and quizzes.