

Evidence of teaching effectiveness

Nicolas Delon

Please find attached a summary of course evaluations for the 2014-16 period at New York University and a detailed report of evaluations for the most recent term (Spring 2017).

According to NYU's course evaluations office:

Instructor teaching performance is scored from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). For a typical course [here, with about 8 of 16 students responding] the 90%-confidence interval for each score reported here is +/- 0.5. Courses with lower response rates would range even more widely.

Instructor Name:	Term:	Evaluation Type:	Class Description:
Nicolas Delon	Spring 2017	Final	ANST-UA 410-001 (8821) - Animal Minds (Lecture)

14 out of 17 students eligible to evaluate completed the survey.

Survey Response Rate: 82.4%

Question	Average	Standard Deviation	Response % of 2 Highest Ratings	# of Students Who Answered the Question	Question Response Rate	Answer	# of Responses to the Answer	Answer %
Overall evaluation of the instructor(s).	4.8	0.4	100.0%	14	100.0%	Very Poor	0	0.0%
						Poor	0	0.0%
						Adequate	0	0.0%
						Good	3	21.4%
						Excellent	11	78.6%
Overall evaluation of the course.	4.6	0.5	100.0%	14	100.0%	Very Poor	0	0.0%
						Poor	0	0.0%
						Adequate	0	0.0%
						Good	6	42.9%
						Excellent	8	57.1%
The instructor(s) provided an environment that was conducive to learning.	4.6	0.6	92.9%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	1	7.1%
						Agree	4	28.6%
						Strongly Agree	9	64.3%
The instructor(s) provided helpful feedback on assessed class components (e.g., exams, papers).	4.5	0.7	92.9%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	1	7.1%
						Agree	5	35.7%
						Strongly Agree	8	57.1%

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Question	Average	Standard Deviation	Response % of 2 Highest Ratings	# of Students Who Answered the Question	Question Response Rate	Answer	# of Responses to the Answer	Answer %
The course objectives were clearly stated.	4.7	0.5	100.0%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	4	28.6%
						Strongly Agree	10	71.4%
The course was well organized.	4.6	0.6	92.9%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	1	7.1%
						Agree	3	21.4%
						Strongly Agree	10	71.4%
The course was intellectually stimulating.	4.5	0.7	92.9%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	1	7.1%
						Agree	5	35.7%
						Strongly Agree	8	57.1%
The course was effective at helping me learn.	4.4	0.6	92.9%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	1	7.1%
						Agree	6	42.9%
						Strongly Agree	7	50.0%
The classes were informative.	4.6	0.5	100.0%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	5	35.7%
						Strongly Agree	9	64.3%
The course was challenging.	4.2	0.7	85.7%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	2	14.3%
						Agree	7	50.0%
						Strongly Agree	5	35.7%

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Question	Average	Standard Deviation	Response % of 2 Highest Ratings	# of Students Who Answered the Question	Question Response Rate	Answer	# of Responses to the Answer	Answer %
The course increased my knowledge of the subject.	4.9	0.4	100.0%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	2	14.3%
						Strongly Agree	12	85.7%
The instructor was effective at helping me learn.	4.6	0.6	92.9%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	1	7.1%
						Agree	4	28.6%
						Strongly Agree	9	64.3%
The instructor encouraged student participation.	4.7	0.8	92.9%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	1	7.1%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	1	7.1%
						Strongly Agree	12	85.7%
The instructor was effective at facilitating class discussion.	4.5	0.9	85.7%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	1	7.1%
						Neutral	1	7.1%
						Agree	2	14.3%
						Strongly Agree	10	71.4%
The instructor was open to students' questions and multiple points of view.	5.0		100.0%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	0	0.0%
						Strongly Agree	14	100.0%
The instructor was accessible to students (e.g., via e-mail and office hours).	4.9	0.4	100.0%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	2	14.3%
						Strongly Agree	12	85.7%

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Question	Average	Standard Deviation	Response % of 2 Highest Ratings	# of Students Who Answered the Question	Question Response Rate	Answer	# of Responses to the Answer	Answer %
The instructor created an environment that promoted the success of students with diverse backgr	4.9	0.3	100.0%	14	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	1	7.1%
						Strongly Agree	13	92.9%

Course Comments

Instructor Comments

Describe the best thing about the course/instructor that was effective in helping you learn.

- Super organized Powerpoints and visual aids.
- The various videos we watched were very helpful!
- He was clearly extremely knowledgeable of the subject, which made it easier to learn. I would suggest a little bit less details on certain topics.
- Professor Delon was very accessible and accommodating. I loved the format of the class, the amount of work was just right and allowed me to actually learn the material rather than memorizing for the sake of an exam. The class forums were really nice too.
- Professor Delon is very effective in facilitating discussions, and he is not afraid to respectfully disagree with students' opinions.
- Professor Delon was very enthusiastic and knowledgeable about the material. It was a very enjoyable class to participate in.
- The conversations between students and the professor in class, and how they added additional topics to discuss.
- He was able to explain concepts and ideas very clearly, and made class very fun by incorporating multiple different medias.

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- The best thing about the course was the group presentation the end. It gave us a way to explore a topic that we wanted to learn more about. If I could suggest one thing to improve the course, it would be to have more class discussions within our peers.
- The course was comprehensive and expansive. It was a lot more philosophical/sociological than I anticipated. I would have like to have discussed the more scientific aspects of Animal Minds, but it was interesting none the less. I felt that I was not sure what Delon wanted from my writing assignments, especially the exam. It all worked out well, but more clarity would have been helpful.
- prof Delon created a space for creative thinking and getting out of our comfort zone with the idea of animal minds. The only change is that I would have liked the project descriptions to be slightly less vague. Overall, wonderful class and instructor.
- Professor Delon is extremely passionate about animals and conveys this passion to his students in way that makes learning about animal minds captivating. Great class overall.
- The best thing about the course was definitely group discussions. It's really interesting to hear what other people have to say, and why. I also loved the documentaries we watched, which were highly-educational and enjoyable. One thing I would suggest to improve this class would be more discussion/interaction, and less lecturing.
- I think the best thing about the course was how much time the class would be given to casually discuss the readings we had or whatever we might've done in class. That's helped me remember so much of the material much easier.

Instructor Name:	Term:	Evaluation Type:	Class Description:
Nicolas Delon	Spring 2017	Final	ANST-UA 600-001 (8928) - Topics in AS: (Seminar)

13 out of 15 students eligible to evaluate completed the survey.

Survey Response Rate: 86.7%

Question	Average	Standard Deviation	Response % of 2 Highest Ratings	# of Students Who Answered the Question	Question Response Rate	Answer	# of Responses to the Answer	Answer %
Overall evaluation of the instructor(s).	4.8	0.4	100.0%	13	100.0%	Very Poor	0	0.0%
						Poor	0	0.0%
						Adequate	0	0.0%
						Good	3	23.1%
						Excellent	10	76.9%
Overall evaluation of the course.	4.6	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Very Poor	0	0.0%
						Poor	0	0.0%
						Adequate	0	0.0%
						Good	5	38.5%
						Excellent	8	61.5%
The instructor(s) provided an environment that was conducive to learning.	4.7	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	4	30.8%
						Strongly Agree	9	69.2%
The instructor(s) provided helpful feedback on assessed class components (e.g., exams, papers).	4.7	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	4	30.8%
						Strongly Agree	9	69.2%

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Question	Average	Standard Deviation	Response % of 2 Highest Ratings	# of Students Who Answered the Question	Question Response Rate	Answer	# of Responses to the Answer	Answer %
The course objectives were clearly stated.	4.5	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	6	46.2%
						Strongly Agree	7	53.8%
The course was well organized.	4.5	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	7	53.8%
						Strongly Agree	6	46.2%
The course was intellectually stimulating.	4.5	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	6	46.2%
						Strongly Agree	7	53.8%
The course was effective at helping me learn.	4.6	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	5	38.5%
						Strongly Agree	8	61.5%
The classes were informative.	4.6	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	5	38.5%
						Strongly Agree	8	61.5%
The course was challenging.	4.0	0.7	76.9%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	3	23.1%
						Agree	7	53.8%
						Strongly Agree	3	23.1%

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Question	Average	Standard Deviation	Response % of 2 Highest Ratings	# of Students Who Answered the Question	Question Response Rate	Answer	# of Responses to the Answer	Answer %
The course increased my knowledge of the subject.	4.7	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	4	30.8%
						Strongly Agree	9	69.2%
The instructor was effective at helping me learn.	4.6	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	5	38.5%
						Strongly Agree	8	61.5%
The instructor encouraged student participation.	4.5	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	7	53.8%
						Strongly Agree	6	46.2%
The instructor was effective at facilitating class discussion.	4.2	0.7	84.6%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	2	15.4%
						Agree	7	53.8%
						Strongly Agree	4	30.8%
The instructor was open to students' questions and multiple points of view.	4.8	0.4	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	3	23.1%
						Strongly Agree	10	76.9%
The instructor was accessible to students (e.g., via e-mail and office hours).	4.5	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	6	46.2%
						Strongly Agree	7	53.8%

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Question	Average	Standard Deviation	Response % of 2 Highest Ratings	# of Students Who Answered the Question	Question Response Rate	Answer	# of Responses to the Answer	Answer %
The instructor created an environment that promoted the success of students with diverse backgr	4.6	0.5	100.0%	13	100.0%	Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
						Disagree	0	0.0%
						Neutral	0	0.0%
						Agree	5	38.5%
						Strongly Agree	8	61.5%

Course Comments

Instructor Comments

Describe the best thing about the course/instructor that was effective in helping you learn.

- Reading the articles before class was a very effective way of having a background information about the topic so I thought that was effective. I wouldn't suggest anything to improve the course.
- I really liked the discussions that we had as a class! I would definitely try to split the class so that it is twice a week for the same amount of time, It was hard to maintain energy at the end of 2 and a half hours
- Very informative slides
- The best thing was that the course was clearly organized, and that Professor Deleon was so well prepared for every discussion. My only suggestion would be to have a field trip!
- Diversity of topics. More modern media would be even more fun
- This course helped me to contemplate on topics that had never even crossed my mind before. It really helped broaden my knowledge on the subject of ethics and animals in the context of keeping them in captivity. The course is great the way it is.
- the best thing was the guest lecturers/documentary screenings. one thing to improve would be nothing, i really enjoyed this class

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- nicolas is a great professor and i am often surprised by his ability to take multiple points of view into account. sometimes students say ridiculous things but he rolls with it and doesn't make anyone feel weird for their viewpoint. he is great at breaking down arguments and coming up with counterarguments on the spot. one thing to improve would be focusing more on class discussion (in small classes) rather than just read the slides.
- Topics for lectures and readings were really interesting. Course could be organized a little better with more class discussions.
- The best thing about the course was the environment that the professor created. Everyone felt free to express their opinions and offer up new ideas. One thing to improve the course might be more time set aside for purely discussion.
- The course was very relevant and incorporated current events that related to the topics
- Best thing- Keeping the course up to date with great guest speakers and interactive elements, i.e.- documentaries, talks in other schools, etc.
improvement- Even more interactive elements and the ability to see real animals during the course to study. Being stuck inside a white room all class with a boring powerpoint format is not very conducive to learning about animals, even if it is more theory based.
- This course was by far one of my favorites during four years at NYU. It made me wish I had gotten into the Animal Studies minor earlier. The professor was very effective and the course readings were definitely engaging and added a lot to my learning process. I enjoyed the fact that the professor would take us to any opportunities beyond the classroom that could add to our knowledge about animal studies, from film screenings to talks with professionals, this was one of my favorite classes this semester. I can't think of anything to change in order to improve the course.

COURSE EVALUATIONS (NYU FALL 2014 - SUMMER 2016)

From 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). For a typical course (with about 8 of 16 students responding) the 90%-confidence interval for each score reported here is +/- 0.5. Courses with lower response rates would range even more widely.

Course Name	# of responses / enrollment	Response rate	Overall, the course was effective at helping me learn	The objectives of the course were achieved	The classes were well organized	The classes were informative	The course was intellectually challenging	The course increased my knowledge of the subject	The course stimulated my interest in this subject	Overall, ND was effective at helping me learn	ND created a supportive learning environment	ND encouraged student participation	ND was effective at facilitating class discussion	ND was open to students' questions and points of view	ND provided helpful feedback on assignments	ND was accessible to students (e.g., via e-mail and office hours)	Average
Food, Animals, & the Environment (Summer 2016)	9/16	56%	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.6	5.0	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.92
Animal Minds (Spring 2016)	15/20	75%	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.2	4.7	4.61
Topics in Animal Studies (Spring 2016)	12/20	60%	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.3	4.8	4.5	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.6	4.8	4.66
Ethics & Animals (Fall 2015)	20/39	51%	4.1	3.9	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.7	4.0	4.5	4.30
Food, Animals, & the Environment (Summer 2015)	9/10	90%	4.4	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.7	4.6	4.3	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.52
Animal Minds (Spring 2015)	11/24	46%	3.6	3.7	3.7	4.0	4.1	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.9	4.1	3.5	4.3	3.6	4.0	3.81
Topics in Animal Studies (Spring 2015)	11/19	58%	4.2	4.3	4.0	4.2	3.8	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.5	4.1	4.6	4.21
Ethics & Animals (Fall 2014)	23/39	59%	4.0	4.1	3.8	4.1	3.8	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.3	4.3	3.7	4.6	3.8	4.6	4.13
Average	62%	4.26	4.34	4.26	4.39	4.23	4.48	4.34	4.36	4.50	4.56	4.30	4.69	4.25	4.59	4.40	