
WGSS 358: Women of Color in the U.S. (CRN 14170)

Survey response 1

Response ID
1

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
Dr. P is always available and understanding with resources and helping us succeed. They are super inclusive and allow for us to be comfortable in class.
What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?
I think meeting more frequently would be helpful!
Other comments:

Survey response 2

Response ID

2

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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Dr. Abustan is an amazing professor. The layout/organization of WGSS 358, the assigned readings, the flexibility of participation, flexible and guided writing assignments, and most of all their lectures and teaching were all excellent. I learned so much from this course and so appreciate how we were encouraged to engage with the material and participate/connect with each other.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

I wouldn't change a thing. I really loved this course and love learning from Dr. Paul.
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Other comments:

Thank you so much for everything, Dr. Paul! I hope to learn from you more in the future. Good luck with all your endeavors and I hope you get a teaching position for next year that you are happy with. With care and gratitude, Vivika

Survey response 3

Response ID

3

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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The professor was extremely kind and accommodating. The professor highlighted the importance of accessibility in the class and normalized it. The professor also encouraged us and taught us how to advocate for ourself and our needs. I've never had a professor do that before. The professor uplifts voices not only in the taught content, but also uplifts voices of those in the class. The professor encouraged us to question what we read and learned, as well as think about who has been left out of history. The content was engaging and inclusive. All assigned work made sense, no busy work.

What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

Nothing.

Other comments:

Dr. Abustan is an absolute gem and deserves to be paid more. Representation matters so much and seeing a professor who has shared experiences similar to my own was such a wonderful experience. Dr. Abustan is the only professor I've ever had with a similar identity as my own. Dr. Abustan has made me feel seen and supported, which quite frankly, has not been my usual experience at Western. Western has been talking a lot about diversity, equity, and inclusion, but has not done much to support professors and students of color and marginalized identities. Western needs to do better in supporting marginalized and oppressed students and faculty. Dr. Abustan would be a fantastic addition to Western and deserves to be offered a full time tenured track position. Western needs more amazing BIPOC professors like Dr. Abustan. Dr. Abustan is easily the best professor I have ever had the privilege of learning from and it is so clear how loved they are by all of their students. That is not an easy accomplishment especially considering this class is fully online.
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Survey response 4

Response ID

4

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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I loved every single aspect of this course. Dr. Abustan is the most amazing professor I have ever had, and I can say without a doubt that they care deeply for each and every student in their classes. I learned so much about not only women of color in history, but also ways to be more inclusive and imagine a brighter future for all. The structure of the course was phenomenal and catered to every learning style. Staying in the same small group all quarter fostered deep connections with others in class and created a welcoming atmosphere. I felt comfortable and that my opinions and ideas really mattered. Dr. Abustan is an absolute gem, and has inspired me to be a better person and lead a life of advocacy and action. I am incredibly grateful to have had an opportunity to be in this class and learn from them, and can't wait for another quarter in their class. Thank you for everything!!
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

Nothing :)

Other comments:

Again, I love love loved this course. It is such an asset to the WWU community as is Dr. Abustan!!!

Survey response 5

Response ID
5

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
Known weekly schedule, stuck to a really well-planned syllabus, accommodations and communication were really great.
What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?
More lectures, more small groups time!
Other comments:

Survey response 6

Response ID

6

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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The accessibility!! the way the content was divided up and allowed for breaks if we were tired that day

What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

Other comments:

definitely one of my favorite professors I lovedddd this class
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Survey response 7

Response ID

7

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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I really enjoyed Dr. Paul's course. They did an amazing job of creating an inclusive environment as well as being new material for me to explore. I enjoyed how he allowed us to have small group time which allowed those of us not as comfortable speaking in a large group to have a wonderful conversation.

What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

I have nothing that I would truly change about this course She did an amazing job of listening and making changes through out the quarter.
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Other comments:

Thank you for an amazing quarter!

Survey response 8

Response ID

8

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

Other comments:

Survey response 9

Response ID

9

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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I honestly wish that every class was modeled the way Professor Abustan's was. The deep regard for community and care was always the first priority in this class, and they cultivated an extremely safe environment to learn. I wish I could have met them in person! The consistent setup week by week was very helpful to me, and it was the first time I had a class that gave the choice between speaking aloud and or on a google doc. Dr. P would respond to all of our thoughts/questions with kind affirmations and suggestions.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

None. I hope more professors start valuing humanity above academia as Dr. P does.

Other comments:

They are at the forefront of rebuilding the foundation of how academia is handled in the United States, and I am honored to have taken their class.

Survey response 10

Response ID

10

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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The inclusivity and openness of Dr. Abustan was particularly helpful. I felt respected for my time, effort and abilities and felt that Dr. Abustan had a valuable understanding of the challenges students face. I wish more professor recognized how hardship can challenge a students education and I felt that the professor offered many opportunities to raise a grade on our own merit that I have not seen in many other courses outside of WGSS department.

What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

More time for discussion would have been appreciated. I love that Dr. Abustan allowed us to have easier days by watching a film together, but I would have happily watched the film beforehand so that I could have participated in a longer discussion.
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Other comments:

Dr. Abustan is an amazing professor who seems to value individual experiences and integrates them into their course. I felt seen, heard, and supported by Dr. P and feel they offer a representative of what more instructors in higher education should offer. I thank them for their understanding, humbleness, and personal and academic knowledge that they have offered. What a great course!
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Survey response 11

Response ID

11

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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I thought that Dr. P was a great professor. I also liked our format of learning and how we looked at media/films, read theory, had discussion posts, etc. The course definitely felt like a safe space and Dr. P played a big part in making this happen. I also liked the format of participating everyday so that we could either share verbally, or non-verbally in the google doc.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

I am honestly not sure. I thought this was a great course and I enjoyed the format of it.

Other comments:

Dr. P is a great professor and I hope that Western keeps them around!! I learned a lot from them.

Survey response 12

Response ID

12

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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I enjoyed this course a lot! I appreciated that there was little to no pressure to talk with large or small groups. The readings for this class were great too! It was great to read these texts from different communities and to learn from their experiences. The activities we did helped us reach beyond the classroom to think about ideal worlds and hopes for our system, and it was a great experience.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

I would not make any changes to the course; if it were to ever be taught in-person then it would need to adapt slightly but it was a great class.

Other comments:

Dr. Abustan did an amazing job with this class. The class was engaging with the videos, readings, lectures, and group time. Dr. Abustan helped create a safe and comfy space for all students, and I would absolutely take another class from them again.

Survey response 13

Response ID

13

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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Dr. Abustan created a very inclusive and safe learning environment and the class was structured really well. The course texts, films, and lectures were all excellent. I really enjoyed this class!

What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

Nothing, I loved this class!

Other comments:

Dr. Abustan is an amazing professor and I'm so glad I got the opportunity to take their class!
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Survey response 14

Response ID

14

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

Other comments:
