
WGSS 211: Intro Women, Gndr, Sxltly Studies (CRN 41771)

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?
I loved the open discussions we were able to have to build knowledge and understanding of the class material and also our colleagues experiences.
What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?
I would love more space to be made for student's to speak. The class was often overrun by the same people speaking.
Other comments:
Thank you for an amazing Fall Quarter

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. Paulina is an incredible teacher. She formats class in such a way that discussion, lecture, and reading are all appropriately balanced, engaging, and memorable. I really enjoy and appreciate the way the reading is split up to allow more in depth focus on specific parts of the reading and to increase class discussion and participation. This technique really increased my learning because discussion allows for students to learn from and teach one another. The content was phenomenal! My roommate is in another WGSS 211 class and his class does not cover such a wide range of topics. His class is very focussed around women and feminism, while this class really delved into all aspects of WGSS. I especially enjoy the inclusion of BIPOC education in the class. The book is so engaging and educational that, although I rented it originally, I have decided to buy the book.

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

Honestly the only thing I can imagine making the class better would be making it longer. The class is never long enough and I always want to stay and learn more and share more.
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Other comments:

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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They are very productive and thorough in presenting the material, the way in which you interact and participate in this class is open and welcoming which encourages everyone to interact.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

They have already made an improvement that has helped greatly in future assignments by creating a group google doc for everyone to put a quote and their ideas into for future reference.

Other comments:

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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The teacher was very good at ensuring that students become more involved with the topics that were addressed during each class. Paulina also did a wonderful job ensuring that not just one voice was heard and that we are respectful of everyone regardless of their background. If an incident occurred she was able to diffuse the situation and ensure that each student's voices were heard. This is especially important due to the topics that are discussed in class.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

The participation points is the only thing that I would change. She wants everyone in class to participate every day, but also makes statements that if you take space you make space. I think to ensure that everyone is communicating then people should be graded on whether or not they spoke each week instead of on a daily basis since the class size was large and the amount of time each class is limited.
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Other comments:

I enjoyed the class.

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?
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Dr. Paul did an amazing job in leading this class. They emphasize the importance of our own identities and how we can see ourselves through the content we learn in class. While it was a class focusing on women's, gender, and sexuality studies, Dr. Paul created an intersectional curriculum that highlighted race, disability, class, and other identity components. By consistently looking through multiple lenses at oppressive systems, I was able to strengthen my ability to analyze information from different angles and see how they intersected. The class structure allowed for small and large group discussions during which we were expected to provide a quote from a primary reading and give our original analysis. This class opened the door to ways I could use my biology degree for social change. Because of this class, I was able to create a research agenda that combines hard science with social science.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

The only thing that would improve this course would be some way to initiate and propel conversation in smaller breakout rooms. It was hard to participate when there was not a lot of feedback from peers.
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Other comments:

Thank you, Dr. Paul! This class was so insightful and has strengthened my everyday perspective to be more critical and think intersectionally.
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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?

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

Other comments:

Survey response 7

Response ID
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Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?

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

Other comments:

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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I liked how this class was very accessible and flexible to accomodate all students. Especially in terms of class participation, there were multiple ways to participate in class that catered to the needs of the students. This made it easier to be involved in the class and earn participation credit.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

Sometimes the lectures were too quick and it was difficult to take notes and fully understand the content.
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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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All the material that was provided was relevant and engaging. I loved the sharing of music videos and the movies chosen for the quarter. Those films will stick with me. The text book was great too because I actually wanted to read it.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

I would say credit for class participation could be more simplified and consistent. I understand that we are in difficult transitioning times and it's difficult to engage students right now, so it's just the way things are as well.

Other comments:

Overall a great class! The professor was so thoughtful and understanding. They picked great material and really worked on keeping students engaged. I would take a class from them again.

Survey response 10

Response ID

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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 that the professor had a perfect balance of teaching and still made lots of space for discussion. Also the choice of course materials was great and they were always so open for new opinions even if it contradicted their own.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

I liked the discussions a lot, I felt they were more impactful. I wish that how we made up missed classes was the same as how it was in the beginning. (Telling the professor an analysis of what you missed instead of writing two paragraphs) or at least having it as an option to do either two. It would be more nice and flexible.
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Other comments:

Great professor overall! Always looked forward for this class because they made education interesting!
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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 the readings, lecture, and group discussions all played a part in helping me learn the content better rather than just doing one of those things. I thought that the wide variety of teaching methods used in this class really helped me grasp the concepts of each chapter and it helped me learn the concepts better as well.

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

I don't have many changes to add because I thought that this class was very functional and the work load was pretty good, but if I had to add something maybe adding in some weekly discussions on the discussion board, or making it required would be even more helpful in learning new concepts and also it helps us engage more with our peers.

Other comments:

Overall, I really enjoyed this and every WGSS class I have taken so far at Wetsern. I learned so many new and important things this year because of how amazing your teaching methods are. I really liked how we had a wide variety of ways of learning the content in class such as readings, group discussions, movies, etc. it helped me learn the content better by having a wide variety of teaching methods. I hope I can take one of your classes again because this semester truly was amazing and I really enjoyed this class very much, and I would definitely recommend this class to my friends to take!
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Survey response 12

Response ID

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Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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The workload was great, it was distributed nicely, and the google docs toward the end were really helpful.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

I would honestly leave the course like this, I think it is great.

Other comments:

Have a great winter break! :)

Survey response 13

Response ID

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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 was incredibly accommodating and listened very well to our feedback. The format of the class was also presented in a very organized fashion and was easy to comprehend.

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

More due date in the Canvas calendar may have helped with students remembering to do assignments and readings.
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Other comments:

Dr. Abustan was one of the best professors I've ever had at WWU.
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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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The accessibility for this class was AMAZING. Dr. Paul put in so much effort to make sure that everyone could complete assignments in ways that were comfortable for them. I really appreciated having a google docs where we could compile quotes and comments about course materials. Dr. Paul was also very respectful of every student and their preferred names and pronouns, as well as being a great listener and taking people's personal experiences into account when teaching about a subject. Overall, this class was wonderful and taught me so much.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

Honestly, I can't really think of anything. Dr. Paul put in more effort for their students than I have seen any other professor do.

Other comments:

Survey response 15

Response ID

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Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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I like the small group discussions we do on zoom.

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

I feel like I'd learn a lot more if this class were in person.
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Other comments:

Survey response 16

Response ID

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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 enjoy the lectures, usually i cant stay awake for lectures, but it was pretty easy in this class.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

There is definitely a lot of reading, but I think most of that can be mitigated by better time management skills on my part.
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Other comments:

No!

Survey response 17

Response ID

17

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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Dr. Paul Abustan has done a phenomenal job of making a class that is accepting and accessible. The classroom environment is unlike any other class I've been in so far, and the emphasis on community building has made it maybe my favorite class through all my education so far. Dr. Paul also works really well individually with students to make things more accessible, or for extensions, and is overall so kind. I had some medical issues this term and, with Dr. Paul's help, I was able to push through and make up my work properly. I appreciate this class a lot, incredibly eye-opening.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

Maybe some more work on the structure, but as Dr. Paul learns more about programs at Western and what we use, I'm sure it would be no problem, it is hardly an issue now. I would not change much of anything.
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Other comments:

Dr. Paul Abustan is a gift to WWU, and I cannot imagine a better way to have spent this quarter. I'm hoping to keep in touch and continue taking their classes in the future.

Survey response 18

Response ID

18

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 was exceptionally good at contextualizing the course material and concepts and relating it directly to student's lives. As many of the students were new to WGSS or Western as a whole I think this course did a great job at preparing them for future classes.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

I do not do well in online classes and although Dr. Abustan went above and beyond my expectations on making the class as accessible as possible I still think I would have been more engaged in the class content if it were in person.

Other comments:

I have taken other, upper division, WGSS classes in the past. I wish I had taken this first. I would have been much more prepared for the concepts and content.

Survey response 19

Response ID

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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 20

Response ID

20

Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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An aspect I seemed to notice is most of the teaching was always open for questions and students were encouraged to share their opinions.
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What changes could be made to improve the teaching or the content of this course?

One improvement would be to have more of a direct prompt for assignments.

Other comments:

Survey response 21

Response ID

21

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 22

Response ID

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Western Course Evaluation

What aspects of the teaching or content of this course do you feel were especially good?
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The contents were really interesting, the teacher was lax with the assignments but also gave us assignments that challenged us to think about what we learned during the lectures. The way Dr. Paulina made the class feel safe, unbiased, and overall an enjoyable environment to learn in was also very good.

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

Overall, I think the current teaching procedure Dr. Paulina has going right now is perfect. I hope that they don't change it anytime soon.
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Other comments:
