

**Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**

(Online Survey - Sakai)

<b>Syrett Kristen</b> syrettk Spring 2018, 16:615:535:01 — Seminar In Semantics (index #02373) Enrollment= 9, Responses= 6  <b>Part A: University-wide Questions:</b>	Student Responses						Weighted Means			
	Strong Disagree 1				Strong Agree 5	No response	Section	Course	Level	Dept
1. The instructor was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner.	0	0	0	0	6	0	5.00	5.00	4.95	4.96
2. The instructor responded effectively to student comments and questions.	0	0	0	1	5	0	4.83	4.83	4.90	4.92
3. The instructor generated interest in the course material.	0	0	0	0	6	0	5.00	5.00	4.95	4.96
4. The instructor had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material.	0	0	0	0	6	0	5.00	5.00	4.95	4.96
5. The instructor assigned grades fairly.	0	0	0	0	5	1	5.00	5.00	4.84	4.87
6. The instructional methods encouraged student learning.	0	0	0	0	6	0	5.00	5.00	4.95	4.96
7. I learned a great deal in this course.	0	0	0	1	5	0	4.83	4.83	4.95	4.96
8. I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course.	0	0	1	2	3	0	4.33	4.33	4.71	4.76
	Poor				Excellent					
9. I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor as:	0	0	0	0	6	0	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
10. I rate the overall quality of the course as:	0	0	0	0	6	0	5.00	5.00	4.95	4.96

**What do you like best about this course?:**

“It broadened my perspective on natural language processing (my course of study), and it made me aware of a domain of research I never knew existed (Semantics in Language Acquisition). It was also my first non-CS course at Rutgers. ”

“coverage of broad topics”

“Everything! This course was stellar in basically every respect!”

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**If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?:**

“I would probably ruin the fun of it by assigning more corpus work and not bringing in baked goods. ”

“Actually nothing. Kristen is an absolutely stellar teacher! Will be taking whatever the next grad seminar is that she teaches.”

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**In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?:**

“HUGE. I attended a talk last week, and as I digested the paper under discussion over lunch, I found myself asking questions like, 'what licenses them to make such claims about tracking the meaning of words over time, versus tracking the context in which they're used?' I zipped through the paper, but I didn't find that question addressed, so I decided to ask it directly. I never would have thought of such a question, let alone had the nerve to ask it out loud during a talk or discussion. I would have focused more on technical and machine-learning details, like sample sizes, parameter estimation, learning methods used, code libraries used, etc., and gotten lost in the details, possibly missing out on the significance of what the studies were meant to show. Kristen is doing so much more than teaching us about the topic that she is clearly passionate about, and even more than leading insightful discussions about research in the domain. She is getting her students to think critically about research papers, and how to find new avenues and directions to explore. This is background that any graduate student would benefit from. ”

“a meeting as the preparation for the in-class presentations”

“Had an incredibly helpful and motivating exposure to a literature and subject matter. Will be pursuing several topics in semantics acquisition in the future.”

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**Other comments or suggestions::**

“Despite her significant contributions in this sub-domain of language acquisition and semantics research (and clearly, her close personal ties to some of the few names in this sub-domain), Kristen did a fantastic job of presenting balanced representations of the research and the issues and questions that arise from reviewing it. ”

“Thank Kristen for being so inviting to class participants outside of the linguistics department. This is by far one of the classes I have enjoyed most in the linguistics department thus far.”

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