

Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating

(Online Survey - Sakai)

<div>Syrett Kristen</div> <div>syrettk</div> <div>Spring 2019, 01:615:350:01 — Pragmatics (index #08834)</div> <div>Enrollment= 24, Responses= 18</div> <div>Part A: University-wide Questions:</div>	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	2	16	0	4.89	4.89	4.17	4.42
2. The instructor responded effectively to student comments and questions.	0	0	0	3	15	0	4.83	4.83	4.34	4.34
3. The instructor generated interest in the course material.	0	0	0	3	15	0	4.83	4.83	4.35	4.36
4. The instructor had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material.	0	0	0	1	17	0	4.94	4.94	4.59	4.58
5. The instructor assigned grades fairly.	0	0	0	2	16	0	4.89	4.89	4.63	4.54
6. The instructional methods encouraged student learning.	0	0	0	3	15	0	4.83	4.83	4.16	4.23
7. I learned a great deal in	0	0	0	1	17	0	4.94	4.94	4.32	4.34

this course.								
8. I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course.	1	0	2	4	11	0	4.33	4.334.144.07
	Poor				Excellent			
9. I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor as:	0	0	0	3	15	0	4.83	4.834.194.24
10. I rate the overall quality of the course as:	0	0	0	2	16	0	4.89	4.894.234.24
Part B: Questions Added by Department or Instructor								
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Uncertain	Agree	Strongly agree			
15. Course participation was encouraged.	0	0	0	3	14	1	4.82	- - -
16. The instructor was accessible to students.	0	0	0	3	14	1	4.82	- - -
17. The instructor treated students with respect.	0	0	0	1	16	1	4.94	- - -

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

“My professor was very fun and funny. She made me interested in the material and her own examples made it easier to understand”

“This class was pretty challenging but I didn't necessarily mind it because the topics were interesting. I liked how it made me think about my everyday conversations in a scientific way”

“I think that the material could be very dry, but Professor Syrett does an amazing job of making the class interesting and fun.”

“This is an extremely well organized course. Between the readings, slides, forum posts, and in-class exercises, I felt that there were plenty of ways to understanding the material.”

“1”

“Extremely organized. The beginning of the course felt extremely loaded with material, but it was presented in a way to make goals of learning extremely clear. PowerPoints were always clear, and professor was always willing to go over a point if necessary & provide other examples. I really liked that we were provided with real academic papers instead of a textbook; I felt like I got a lot more hands-on knowledge, especially in the latter part of the semester with the studies. Midterm material reflected perfectly what the professor had taught and had told us to expect. Learning goals were always extremely clear.”

“The material was really unique and interesting to learn about. ”

“I enjoyed the subject matter, and the class exercises helped solidify the material. ”

“Forum posts gave us a lot of leeway and allowed us students to understand the topics in our own ways”

“I really liked how Professor Syrett was very interested in making sure that students were grasping the material, and had innovative ways to make sure that students were prepared for exams.”

“The material was presented in an enjoyable manner and everything was taught well before assignments were due. I also like the in-class activities.”

“Dr. Syrett did an outstanding job of not only teaching the material in a manner that was clear and thorough, but also generating interest in the course material and encouraging participation through activities such as in class group activities, forum posts, use of videos, and of course, pragmatics bingo. She treated each student with respect and provided a challenging, yet fun and thought provoking semester.”

“The forum discussions helped understand the class topics better. ”

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

“I would give out the quizzes after the class to see if the class understood the lesson. It's okay if it is a bit harder. It is hard for students to catch up if they didn't understand the last lesson. The reading quizzes weren't easy too.”

“I wish she would put the slides up before class so that I could take notes as she went along”

“I would spend a bit more time on Gricean pragmatics. I may just prefer Grice's approach to pragmatics because of how comprehensive it is, but I think that "Logic and Conversation" is written very clearly and with helpful examples.”

“1”

“Not a lot of comprehension checks throughout the course. Forum postings felt superfluous and not super helpful. Class was very often summarizing the papers that we had read. Although this was sometimes helpful for comprehension, especially at the beginning of the class, it felt a bit less helpful for the studies. That is, the studies seemed straightforward enough to have been summarized in a few slides, and then maybe be presented other studies (which was, in fact, done in a few classes; that is, other studies that were optional to read were presented, and I found this to be better than reviewing the ones that we were assigned to read).”

“The first couple months of the class were quite information heavy and the lectures were delivered in an excessively wordy way at a very fast pace. It was tough to keep up. If I taught this class I would present the concepts in a more easily digestible fashion.”

“pretty much nothing to change!”

“I would do more group activities to help remember the information more efficiently.”

“I would try possibly having a short preview on what our next topic is going to be about, and the significance that the articles that we are going to read have on this topic. I feel that this would allow us to have a handle on these articles before we dive into them, because I found that some of the articles were a bit hard to understand. I also really liked the in class assignments/worksheets. I feel that putting what we learned into practice really helped me to learn the course material, and I think that more of those would be better.”

“Give more examples for concepts. ”

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

“She gave her own examples and made it easy to understand the material.”

“I am much more comfortable with reading academic papers and I now am more vigilant about pragmatics in the wild.”

“1”

“Provided us with a lot of papers that we will be able to reference in the future. ”

“Prof. Syrett's enthusiasm and knowledge made pragmatics topics comprehensible and relevant. The class interaction with the material in various ways was very helpful (such as the weekly discussion).”

“Dr. Syrett is a fabulous instructor. By being thorough and exposing us to old and new research, we students are sure to achieve a great understanding of pragmatics as well as linguistics as a whole”

“Professor Syrett encouraged looking for linguistic phenomena "in the wild" so to speak, which allowed us to take the theories we were learning about and apply them in more natural ways, and see how the meanings in speech we take for granted have roots in pragmatic theories. ”

“It has taught me a lot about how language works in discourse and I am able to identify many concepts outside of class.”

“Dr. Syrett encouraged us not only to learn or memorize the course material, but to think critically about it as well. She showed us not only the benefits of certain experiments and experimenters, but also their possible flaws in order to help us to learn not just to accept conclusions at face value, but to be able to evaluate, and possibly even come up with ways to improve upon, their methods.”

“Its a different perspective on human communication, and their language which varies by age. ”

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**Other comments or suggestions::**

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“I really liked how organized Professor Syrett was and how organized the class schedule was in general. ”

“Make Pragmatics and Semantics both required for the linguistics degree instead of interchangeable. They are very different courses and I believe all linguistics majors can benefit from learning the differences between them.”

“Amazing class”

“One of my favorite classes that I have taken in my time as an undergrad, along with Advanced Topics II. Thank you :)”

“I enjoyed the course. ”

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