

Virginia Tech
Spring 2020 VT Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT)

Course: ENGL_6364_19935_202001: Research Design in Rhetoric and Writing-ENGL_6364_19935_202001
 Instructor: Derek Mueller *
 Response Rate: 9/12 (75.00 %)

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1A - The instructor was well prepared.

Derek Mueller

| Response Option | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------|-----------|---------|-------------------|-------|------|--------|------------|----------|---------|------------|------|-----|--------|
| Strongly disagree | (1) | 0 | 0.00% | | | 5.56 | 5.50 | 5.49 | Question | College | Department | Mean | STD | Median |
| Disagree | (2) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat disagree | (3) | 1 | 11.11% | █ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat agree | (4) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Agree | (5) | 1 | 11.11% | █ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly agree | (6) | 7 | 77.78% | ██████████ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | College | Department | Mean | STD | Median |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | College | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | | | |
| 9/12 (75.00%) | 5.56 | 1.01 | 6.00 | 19682 | 5.50 | 0.85 | 6.00 | 3745 | 5.49 | 0.86 | 6.00 | | | |

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1B - The instructor presented the subject matter clearly.

Derek Mueller

| Response Option | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------|-----------|---------|-------------------|-------|------|--------|------------|----------|---------|------------|------|-----|--------|
| Strongly disagree | (1) | 0 | 0.00% | | | 5.33 | 5.37 | 5.41 | Question | College | Department | Mean | STD | Median |
| Disagree | (2) | 1 | 11.11% | █ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat disagree | (3) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat agree | (4) | 1 | 11.11% | █ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Agree | (5) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly agree | (6) | 7 | 77.78% | ██████████ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | College | Department | Mean | STD | Median |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | College | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | | | |
| 9/12 (75.00%) | 5.33 | 1.41 | 6.00 | 19589 | 5.37 | 0.99 | 6.00 | 3725 | 5.41 | 0.95 | 6.00 | | | |

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1C - The instructor provided feedback intended to improve my course performance.

Derek Mueller

| Response Option | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------|-----------|---------|-------------------|-------|------|--------|------------|----------|---------|------------|------|-----|--------|
| Strongly disagree | (1) | 0 | 0.00% | | | 5.78 | 5.33 | 5.50 | Question | College | Department | Mean | STD | Median |
| Disagree | (2) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat disagree | (3) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat agree | (4) | 1 | 11.11% | █ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Agree | (5) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly agree | (6) | 8 | 88.89% | ██████████ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | College | Department | Mean | STD | Median |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | College | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | | | |
| 9/12 (75.00%) | 5.78 | 0.67 | 6.00 | 19607 | 5.33 | 1.07 | 6.00 | 3731 | 5.50 | 0.91 | 6.00 | | | |

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1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1D - The instructor fostered an atmosphere of mutual respect.

Derek Mueller

| Response Option | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|--|--|
| Strongly disagree | (1) | 0 | 0.00% | | | 5.44 | 5.59 | 5.63 | | | | | |
| Disagree | (2) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat disagree | (3) | 1 | 11.11% | █ | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat agree | (4) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | | |
| Agree | (5) | 2 | 22.22% | █ | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly agree | (6) | 6 | 66.67% | █ | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | College | Department | | |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | College | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | | |
| 9/12 (75.00%) | 5.44 | 1.01 | 6.00 | 19572 | 5.59 | 0.81 | 6.00 | 3723 | 5.63 | 0.78 | 6.00 | | |

1 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

1E - Overall, the instructor's teaching was effective.

Derek Mueller

| Response Option | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|--|--|
| Strongly disagree | (1) | 0 | 0.00% | | | 5.33 | 5.38 | 5.43 | | | | | |
| Disagree | (2) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat disagree | (3) | 1 | 11.11% | █ | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat agree | (4) | 1 | 11.11% | █ | | | | | | | | | |
| Agree | (5) | 1 | 11.11% | █ | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly agree | (6) | 6 | 66.67% | █ | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | College | Department | | |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | College | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | | |
| 9/12 (75.00%) | 5.33 | 1.12 | 6.00 | 19475 | 5.38 | 1.01 | 6.00 | 3703 | 5.43 | 0.95 | 6.00 | | |

2 - 2A - What did the instructor do that most helped in your learning?

Derek Mueller

Response Rate 7/12 (58.33%)

- Very insightful feedback on projects
- I really appreciated the way that Dr. Mueller offered smaller assignments to help us develop our ideas about research over time. I felt like I had the space to think through a couple of ideas instead of devoting more time to one possibility.
- Provided organization and structure, diversity amongst course texts, and generative feedback on writing assignments.
- Feedback on written assignments was very helpful in terms of determining which parts of my work had the potential for expansion, as well as finding the literature that would help me do that work.
- Dr. Mueller's feedback on my research topic has helped me foster a better understanding of the academic communities I hope to contribute to and has helped me develop a better idea of what methodologies would be the most appropriate as I continue to progress in my area of interest.
- Provided adequate resources for further research and feedback on assignments; was lenient with deadlines and understanding.
- Dr. Mueller asked us to do a series of Connect Four assignments, which allowed me to create mini research studies. Each one he gave timely and specific feedback, and by the third installment, I really started to gain confidence in what I was doing. Dr. Mueller's comments also assured me that I had improved in my research design, and he even offered to talk to me about possibilities for taking the next steps in my third Connect Four pitch, which I plan to take him up on this summer. Without a doubt, this class has made me feel like I can complete a dissertation and that I wasn't picked to be here by mistake. Thank God for this class.

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3 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

3A - I have a deeper understanding of the subject matter as a result of this course.

| Response Option | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|--|
| Strongly disagree | (1) | 0 | 0.00% | | 5.56 | 5.35 | 5.28 | | | | | |
| Disagree | (2) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat disagree | (3) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat agree | (4) | 1 | 11.11% | | | | | | | | | |
| Agree | (5) | 2 | 22.22% | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly agree | (6) | 6 | 66.67% | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | College | Department | |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | College | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | |
| 9/12 (75.00%) | 5.56 | 0.73 | 6.00 | 18278 | 5.35 | 0.96 | 6.00 | 3731 | 5.28 | 0.97 | 6.00 | |

3 - Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

3B - My interest in the subject matter was stimulated by this course.

| Response Option | Weight | Frequency | Percent | Percent Responses | Means | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|--|
| Strongly disagree | (1) | 0 | 0.00% | | 5.44 | 5.14 | 4.97 | | | | | |
| Disagree | (2) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat disagree | (3) | 1 | 11.11% | | | | | | | | | |
| Somewhat agree | (4) | 0 | 0.00% | | | | | | | | | |
| Agree | (5) | 2 | 22.22% | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly agree | (6) | 6 | 66.67% | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 0 | 25 | 50 | 100 | Question | College | Department | |
| Response Rate | Mean | STD | Median | College | Mean | STD | Median | Department | Mean | STD | Median | |
| 9/12 (75.00%) | 5.44 | 1.01 | 6.00 | 18198 | 5.14 | 1.18 | 6.00 | 3716 | 4.97 | 1.24 | 5.00 | |

4 - 4A - What could you have done to be a better learner?

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Response Rate | 5/12 (41.67%) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a • I have had trouble keeping up with the readings since Spring Break; at least part of that is that my executive dysfunction is more obvious/extreme in this lockdown situation. Finding a way to manage those problems would definitely have made my work in the course more productive. • The unusual circumstances of the semester (COVID) made it difficult for me to focus as well as I usually do in an academic environment; I wish I had been able to motivate myself more effectively to learn virtually at home. • N/A • I think I could have experimented with different types of notetaking a little bit more. Dr. Mueller introduced us to Scrivener and Zotero, which I think are great tools, but I didn't have enough time to experiment with them this summer. I stuck to my normal note taking strategies (Brookenotes, which I keep in my OneNote Folder), but that doesn't help me file away my sources. | |

5 - 5A - Please add any additional comments regarding the course and/or instructor here:

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Derek Mueller | |
| Response Rate | 7/12 (58.33%) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent job facilitating conversation on course content. The idea of connect 4 reduced the workload near the end of the semester. • It's a shame that this class was disrupted by the pandemic, but I really appreciated how accommodating and understanding Dr. Mueller was following the shift to online instruction. • n/a • Derek Mueller is an exceptional educator and an even more impressive scholar, and it was an absolute honor, privilege, and pleasure coming under his tutelage this semester. • I enjoyed the conversations we had, but I do feel that perhaps keeping them more focused, especially when we are conversing over video chat, would be helpful. I found that I had a tendency, over Zoom, to lose my train of thought when we went off topic, and it was difficult for me to maintain my attention because I wasn't in the classroom environment. • Dr. Mueller was the most understanding professor this semester when it came to deadlines and course load. He was so flexible and always willing to meet virtually to discuss any difficulties we (as a class) might have been facing due to the situation and pandemic. I am really grateful that he allowed us the time to complete assignments and still provided really detailed feedback meant to help in future research endeavors. • I also enjoyed the reading list for this class. Really helpful for someone who didn't have a lot of experience in various types of research. | |