Report for GNUR 6056 - 001 Health Policy Kimberly Acquaviva

Project Title: **2025 Fall Student Experience of Teaching**

Course Audience: **32**
Responses Received: **30**
Response Ratio: **93.75%**

Report Comments

Fall 2025 Individual Instructor Report by Section.

Final Report

Course Name: GNUR 6056 - 001 Health Policy
Instructor Name: Kimberly Acquaviva

Evaluation Start Date: Dec 2 2025 12:00AM
Evaluation End Date: Dec 12 2025 12:00AM

Creation Date: **Friday, January 2, 2026**

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Fall 2025 Questionnaire

Course Preparation:

1. The average number of hours (per week) that I spent outside of class preparing for GNUR 6056 - 001 Health Policy :

- Less than 1
- 1-3
- 4-6
- 7-9
- 10 or more

Course Questions:

Answer the following questions based on your experience in GNUR 6056 - 001 Health Policy.
(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neutral, Agree, Strongly Agree)

1)The course increased my enthusiasm for the topic.

2)Through this course I gained a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

3)I had access to the course materials I needed to learn, including access to required textbooks, course readings, technology tools, and other materials required for class assignments and projects.

* ***If the above question generates a negative response, a branching question will be generated:***

3-A) You disagreed or strongly disagreed that you did not have access to the course materials you needed to learn. Please review the options below and select any of the reasons that may better describe what affected your access to course materials.

- Internet speed and reliability
- Internet connectivity
- It was difficult to obtain hand-on materials needed for the course
- I didn’t have the funds to purchase the course materials
- The instructor didn’t provide the course materials needed to learn
- Other: Please Specify

Learning Activities Question:
To what extent did the following learning activities contribute to your learning? (A Lot, A Moderate Amount, A Little, Not At All)

- Real-time lecture
- Recorded lectures
- Recorded video demonstrations
- Hands-on activities
- Real-time, whole-class discussion
- Real-time small-group discussion
- Online discussion boards
- Office hours

Open Comment Questions (Course):

1) Please tell us briefly how any of the above learning activities (or other activities not included above) contributed to your learning in this course.

2) What would you like the instructor and university administrators to know about your experience in this course?

Instructor Questions:

Answer the following questions based on your experience with Kimberly Acquaviva. Your constructive feedback will help your instructor identify what went well and ways to improve the course in the future.
(Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neutral, Agree, Strongly Agree)

1) The instructor clearly communicated the course schedule and expectations for participation (e.g., readings, discussions).

2) The instructor clearly communicated the course learning objectives.

3) The instructor implemented learning activities and assignments that allowed me to demonstrate understanding of the course material.

4) The instructor provided me prompt and useful feedback on my learning.

5) The instructor provided opportunities for my active participation.

6) The instructor was available to help support my learning.

7) The instructor fostered an environment where I felt valued as an individual and that I belonged in the class.

8) Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.

9) The instructor created an environment that respected difference and welcomed diverse perspectives.

* ***A positive or negative response to the above question will generate a follow-up comment question.***

9A) You selected "AGREE or STRONGLY AGREE" on the previous question: Please give specific examples as to how Kimberly Acquaviva created an environment that respected difference and welcomed diverse perspectives.

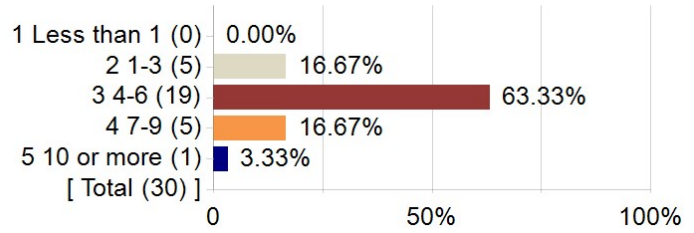
9B) You selected "DISAGREE or STRONGLY DISAGREE" on the previous question: Please give specific examples as to how Kimberly Acquaviva did not create an environment that respected difference and welcomed diverse perspectives.

Open Comment Question (Instructor):
Your response to the open-ended question below will be shared only with Kimberly Acquaviva. If this course was taught by multiple instructors, you will have the opportunity to provide feedback to each. Please avoid using instructors' names in your responses to ensure confidentiality.

1) What constructive suggestions do you have to help Kimberly Acquaviva improve this course for future students?

Student Preparation

The average number of hours (per week) that I spent outside of class preparing for GNUR 6056 - 001 Health Policy:



Statistics	Value
Response Count	30
Mean	3.07
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	0.69

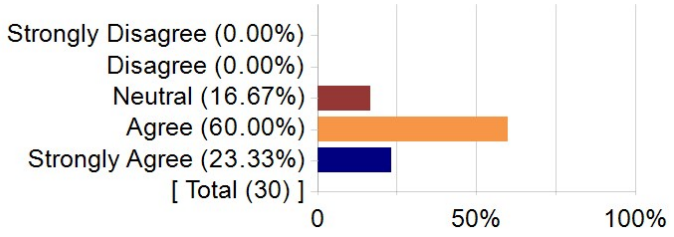
Course Questions

Mean values are displayed below.

Scale 1 = Strongly Disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Neutral 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly Agree

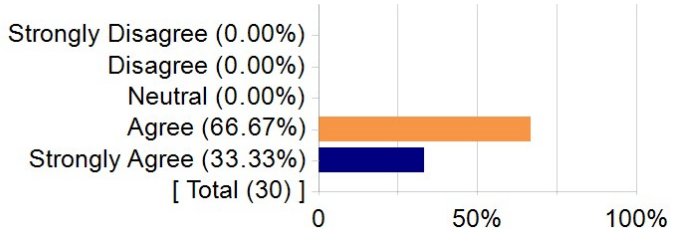
Question	Course (GNUR 6056 001)		Department (NURSD)		School (NURS)		Institution (University of Virginia)	
	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean
The course increased my enthusiasm for the topic.	30	4.07	1236	4.23	1236	4.23	61779	4.01
Through this course I gained a deeper understanding of the subject matter.	30	4.33	1240	4.45	1240	4.45	61773	4.33
I had access to the course materials I needed to learn, including access to required textbooks, course readings, technology tools, and other materials required for class assignments and projects.	30	4.53	1240	4.57	1240	4.57	61769	4.48

1. The course increased my enthusiasm for the topic.



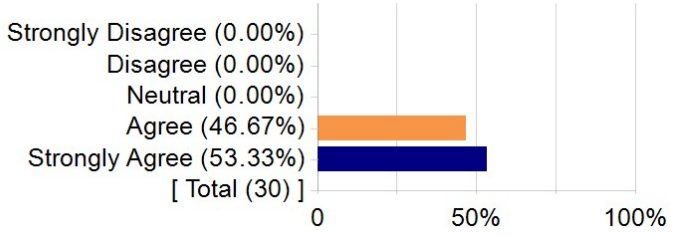
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	5	16.67%
Agree	4	18	60.00%
Strongly Agree	5	7	23.33%
Statistics			**Value**
Mean			4.07
Median			4.00
Standard Deviation			0.64

2. Through this course I gained a deeper understanding of the subject matter.



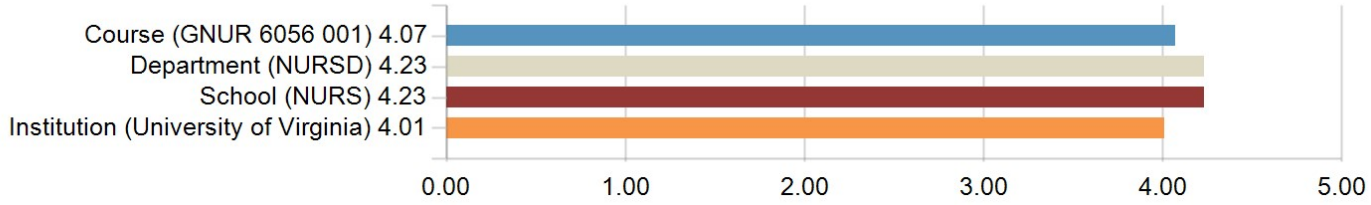
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	20	66.67%
Strongly Agree	5	10	33.33%
Statistics			**Value**
Mean			4.33
Median			4.00
Standard Deviation			0.48

3. I had access to the course materials I needed to learn, including access to required textbooks, course readings, technology tools, and other materials required for class assignments and projects.

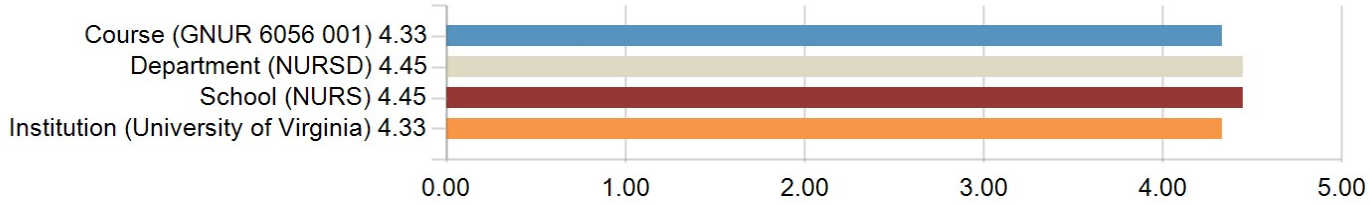


Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	14	46.67%
Strongly Agree	5	16	53.33%
Statistics			**Value**
Mean			4.53
Median			5.00
Standard Deviation			0.51

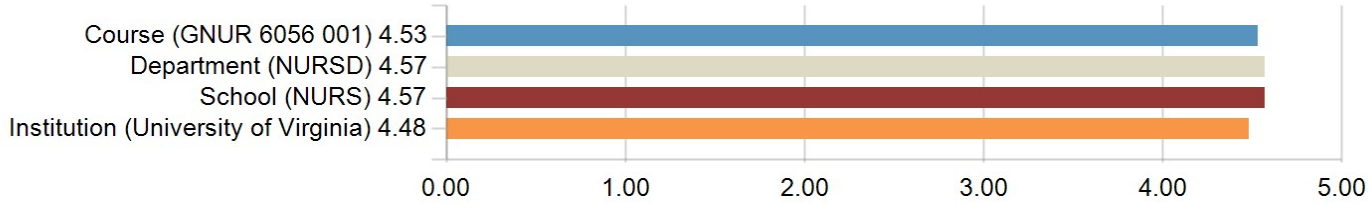
1. The course increased my enthusiasm for the topic.

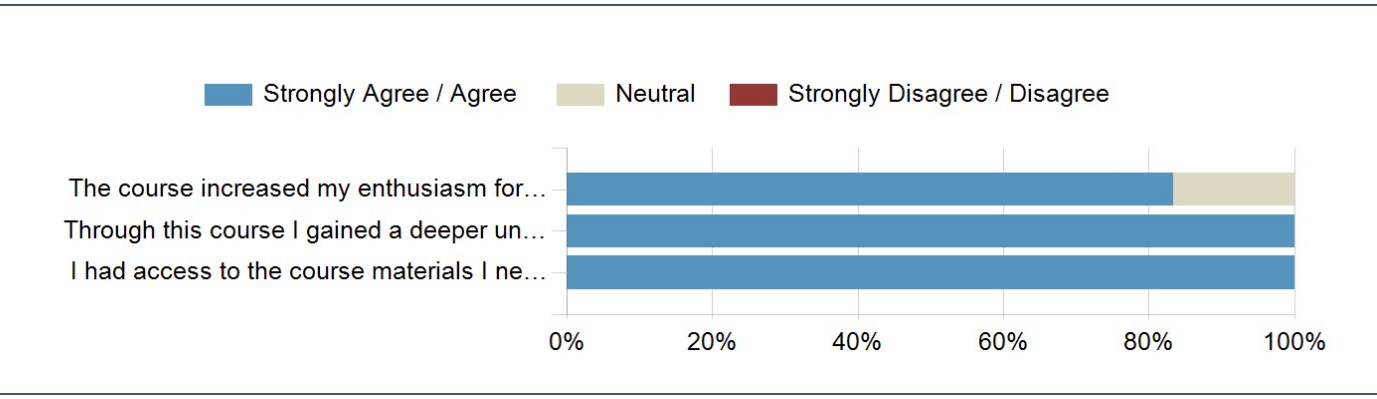


2. Through this course I gained a deeper understanding of the subject matter.



3. I had access to the course materials I needed to learn, including access to required textbooks, course readings, technology tools, and other materials required for class assignments and projects.





Learning Activities

Mean values are displayed below.

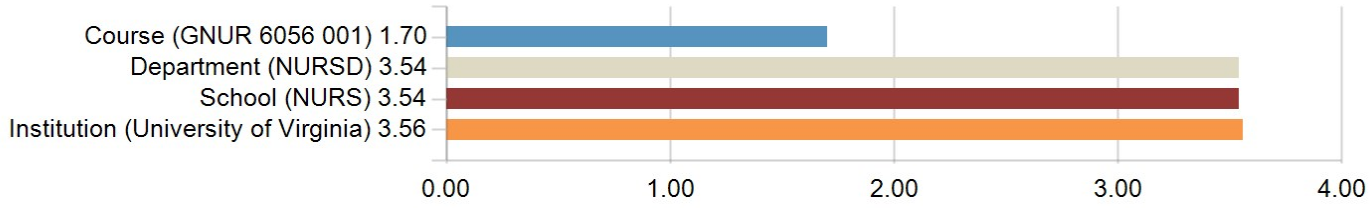
Scale: 1 = Not at All 2 = A Little 3 = A Moderate Amount 4 = A Lot

Learning Activities: To what extent did the following learning activities contribute to your learning?

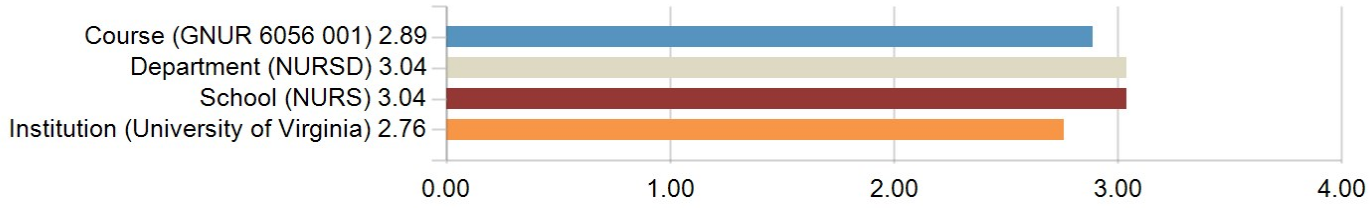
Question	Course (GNUR 6056 001)		Department (NURSD)		School (NURS)		Institution (University of Virginia)	
	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean
Real-time lecture	10	1.70	1024	3.54	1024	3.54	57228	3.56
Recorded lectures	27	2.89	526	3.04	526	3.04	28563	2.76
Recorded video demonstrations	17	2.41	531	3.09	531	3.09	26153	2.72
Hands-on activities	12	2.50	908	3.49	908	3.49	43693	3.33
Real-time whole-class discussion	13	2.46	947	3.38	947	3.38	49293	3.27
Real-time small-group discussion	14	2.50	927	3.35	927	3.35	46730	3.28
Online discussion boards	30	3.60	414	2.82	414	2.82	24564	2.52
Office hours	15	1.53	452	2.75	452	2.75	37945	2.84

Learning Activities: To what extent did the following learning activities contribute to your learning?

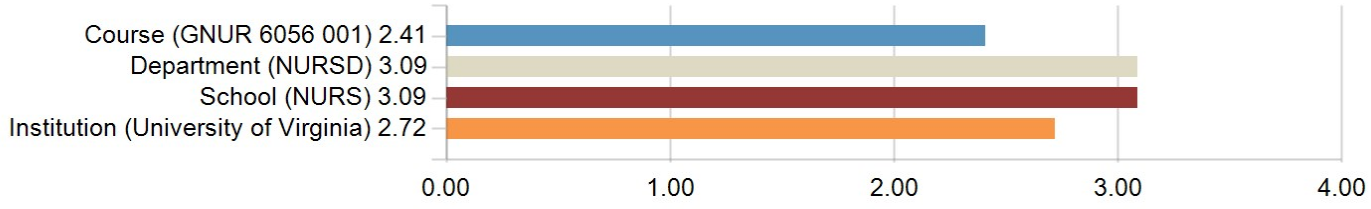
1. Real-time lecture



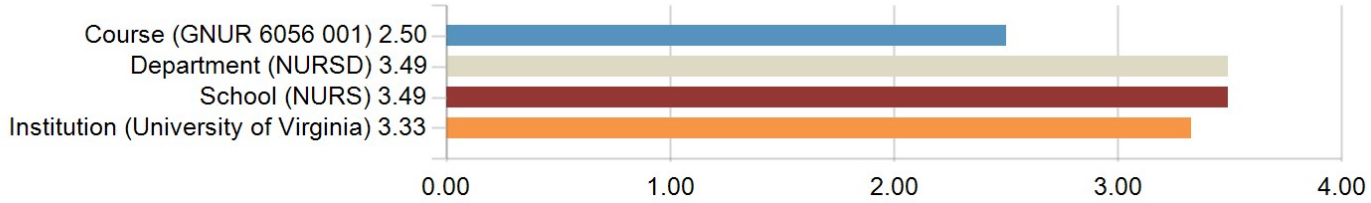
2. Recorded lectures



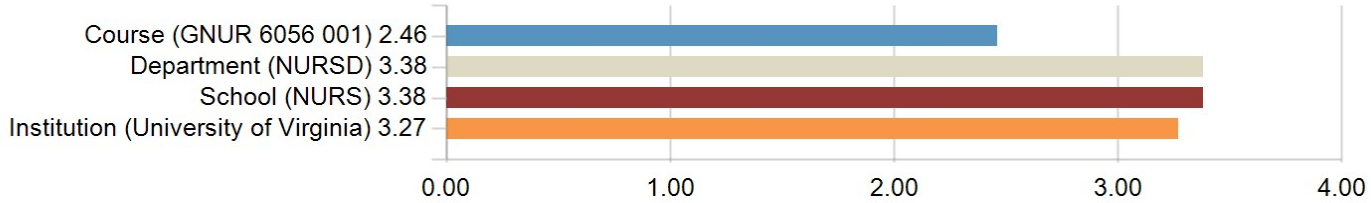
3. Recorded video demonstrations



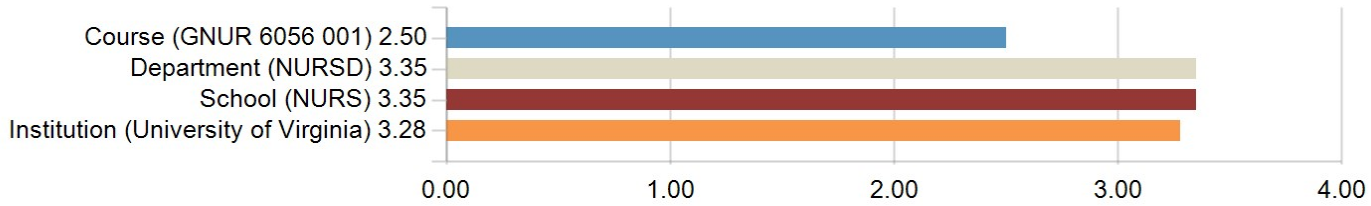
4. Hands-on activities



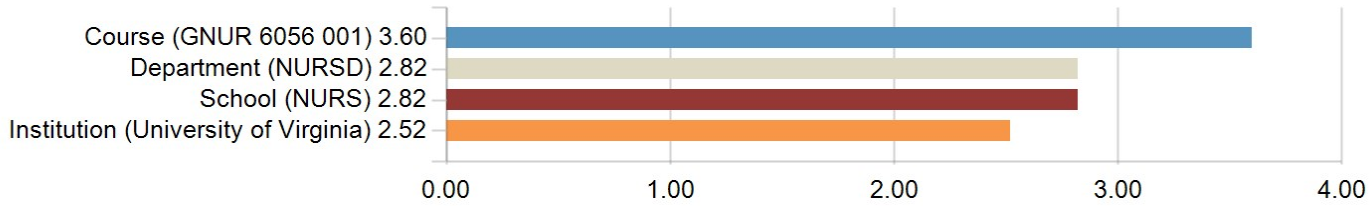
5. Real-time whole-class discussion



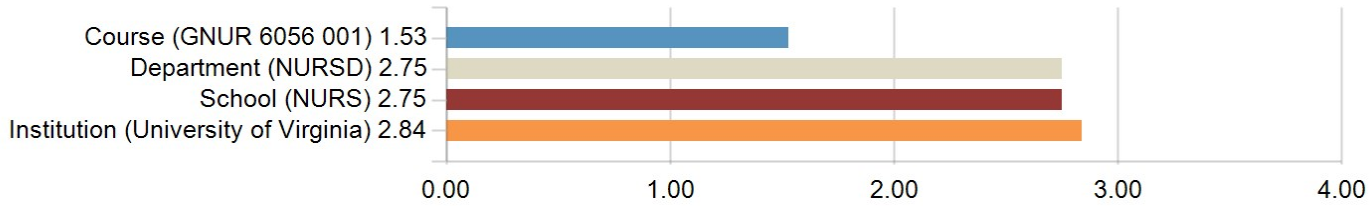
6. Real-time small-group discussion



7. Online discussion boards

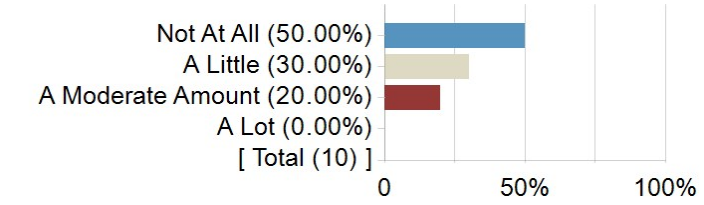


8. Office hours



Learning Activities: To what extent did the following learning activities contribute to your learning?

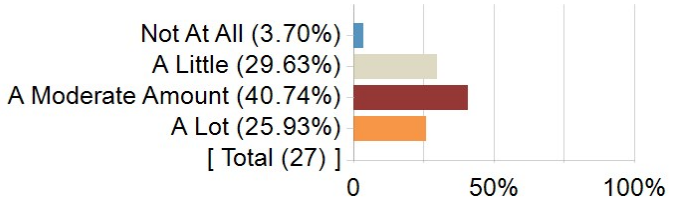
1. Real-time lecture



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Not At All	1	5	50.00%
A Little	2	3	30.00%
A Moderate Amount	3	2	20.00%
A Lot	4	0	0.00%

Statistics	Value
Mean	1.70
Median	1.50
Standard Deviation	0.82

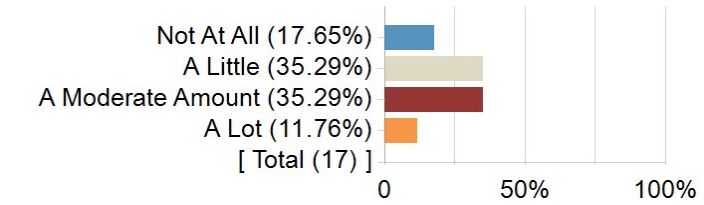
2. Recorded lectures



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Not At All	1	1	3.70%
A Little	2	8	29.63%
A Moderate Amount	3	11	40.74%
A Lot	4	7	25.93%

Statistics	Value
Mean	2.89
Median	3.00
Standard Deviation	0.85

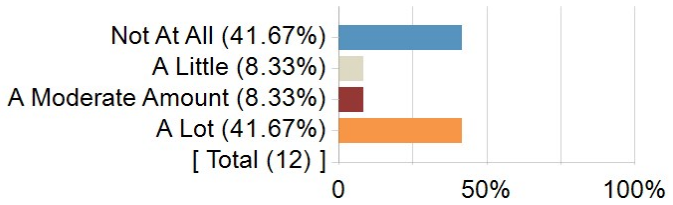
3. Recorded video demonstrations



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Not At All	1	3	17.65%
A Little	2	6	35.29%
A Moderate Amount	3	6	35.29%
A Lot	4	2	11.76%

Statistics	Value
Mean	2.41
Median	2.00
Standard Deviation	0.94

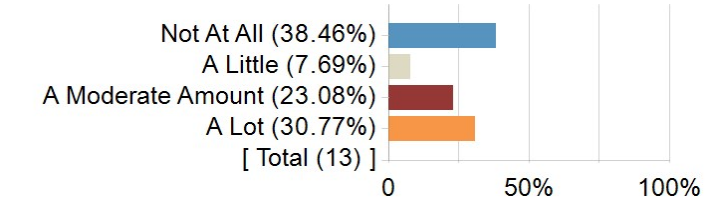
4. Hands-on activities



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Not At All	1	5	41.67%
A Little	2	1	8.33%
A Moderate Amount	3	1	8.33%
A Lot	4	5	41.67%

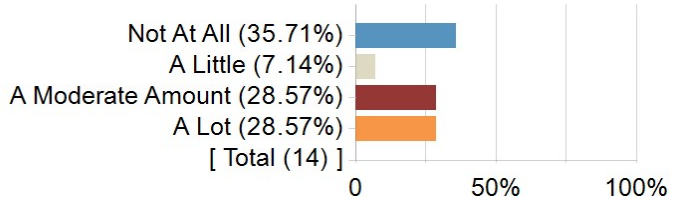
Statistics	Value
Mean	2.50
Median	2.50
Standard Deviation	1.45

5. Real-time whole-class discussion



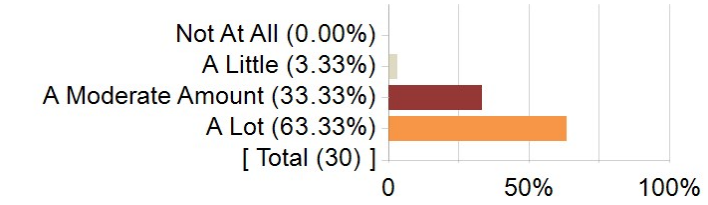
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Not At All	1	5	38.46%
A Little	2	1	7.69%
A Moderate Amount	3	3	23.08%
A Lot	4	4	30.77%
Statistics			**Value**
Mean			2.46
Median			3.00
Standard Deviation			1.33

6. Real-time small-group discussion



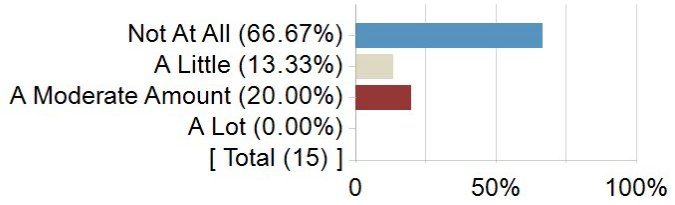
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Not At All	1	5	35.71%
A Little	2	1	7.14%
A Moderate Amount	3	4	28.57%
A Lot	4	4	28.57%
Statistics			**Value**
Mean			2.50
Median			3.00
Standard Deviation			1.29

7. Online discussion boards



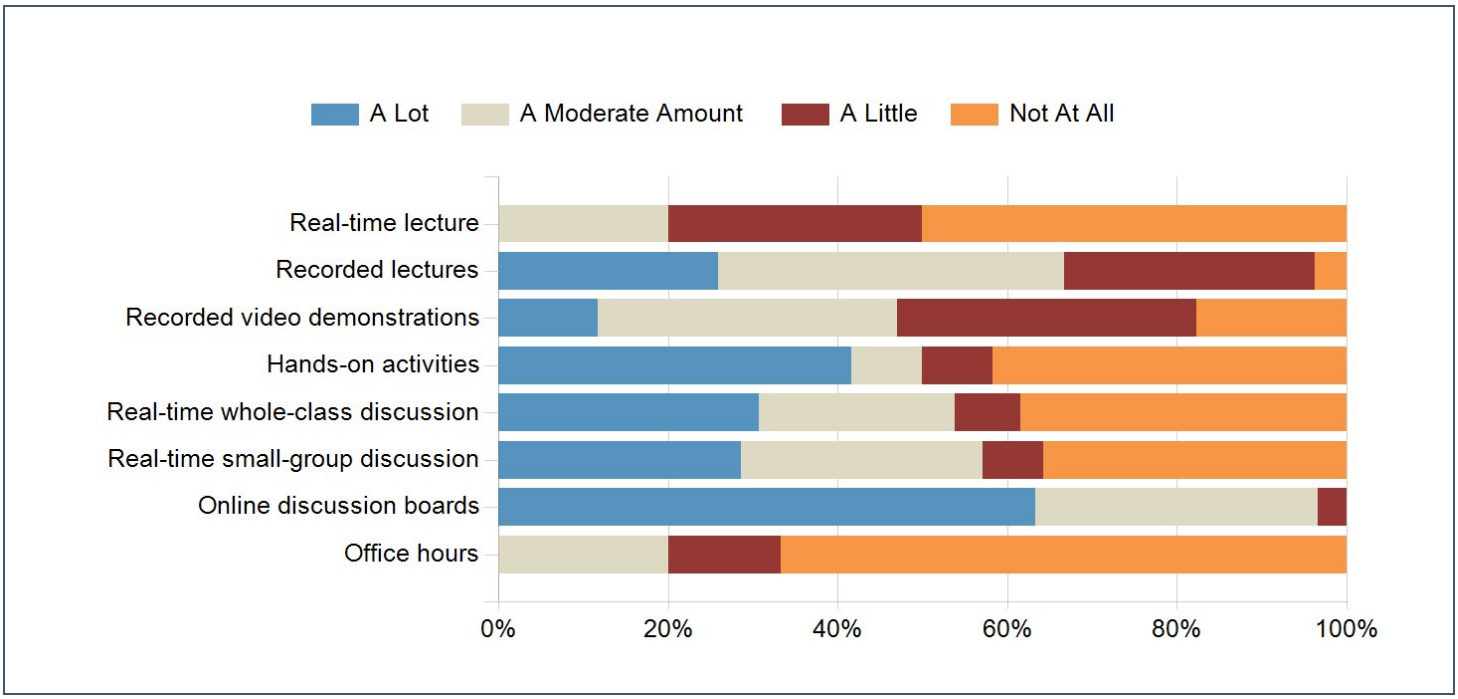
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Not At All	1	0	0.00%
A Little	2	1	3.33%
A Moderate Amount	3	10	33.33%
A Lot	4	19	63.33%
Statistics			**Value**
Mean			3.60
Median			4.00
Standard Deviation			0.56

8. Office hours



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Not At All	1	10	66.67%
A Little	2	2	13.33%
A Moderate Amount	3	3	20.00%
A Lot	4	0	0.00%
Statistics			**Value**
Mean			1.53
Median			1.00
Standard Deviation			0.83

Learning Activities: To what extent did the following learning activities contribute to your learning?



Please tell us briefly how any of the above learning activities (or other activities not included above) contributed to your learning in this course.

Comments
The discussion boards were very engaging. I was able to see my peers POV in a safe space.
The discussion prompts were very thought provoking and really helped me see others views and be comfortable sharing my own.
I really enjoyed the discussions and topics covered in this course. It really opened my mind up regarding health policy.
Discussion boards were extremely helpful in talking about the material.
The discussion boards helped is gain a deeper understanding of how to breakdown and understand health policies
Since this was a fully online course, the occasional video posting and discussion posts were helpful to stay more connected to the class and learn
Discussion boards allowed reflection and application of concepts we were learning
I appreciated the articles and video messages uploaded to further support the discussion assignments.
She engaged a lot with the class in the discussion boards and offered great resources. She helped us prepare for our policy proposal as well
Online discussion boards were the main way we contributed in class. The rest was spent reading on our own.
Preparation for and participation in online discussion boards constituted a great majority of my learning in this course.
The recorded messages allowed us to engage in class whenever we were able to instead of having to juggle work, kids, family. The flexibility in the learning environment allowed to engage in a purposeful way.
The weekly discussion post assignments increased my learning during the course. We were provided good sources – text, subscriptions, articles, government websites, to be able to understand and research the topics and were provided very well organized, structured prompts to be able to focus our discussion. We were assigned to write, or choose sometimes, from different points of view than we might have, which added to our analytical capabilities and understanding of sthe perspectives of others. The policy paper was challenging, but I learned a lot during the process. We were also encouraged to use AI for topic selection and refinement and then allowed to use it and cite it for that assignment, which was my first major use of AI and that was valuable in and of itself.
The policy report that we had to write was the biggest contributor to my learning in this course. The paper showed me how to break down a policy into it's individual parts.
The recorded lectures helped me grasp the core concepts, and the discussion boards did encourage close reading and application of ideas. However, three substantial posts every week for all 16 threads made the boards feel like a heavy writing requirement rather than genuine dialogue. In an asynchronous format, posts often repeated similar points and sometimes felt like an echo chamber rather than interactive discussion.
I feel that the policy class is a great class to be online. Kim was very attentive.
The course was 100% asynchronous. It was well structured, it was difficult sometimes because some students posted their discussion posts later in the week, not leaving much time for others to respond.
The discussion boards felt forced but I don't think there was a better way to do it. I don't enjoy them, that doesn't make them bad for the class.
The online discussion forums created a safe and open space where you felt free to space your opinions freely.
The discussion boards and projects through the year definitely contributed to my learning in this course. Your continued feedback throughout discussions was also very helpful!
The discussion boards were helpful because they were challenging enough that I would need to do research to feel like I fully contributed to the post. It helped me learn, and forced me to explore new topics.

Course Comments

What would you like the instructor and university administrators to know about your experience in this course?

Comments
I think this course is showed the instructors obvious political views and interests with topic selection/current events. Yet at the same time I felt that my opinions although differing was valued and not targeted against. I felt like that alone carriers great weight in the academic world. I have felt in the past that is my views didn't conform to what was expected on me then my grade would parish. This instructor means it when she says she wants our opinion, she values it, and all is welcome.
The discussion prompts were very thought provoking for me. At the beginning of the semester I was honestly a little worried about sharing my true views in some of the discussions because the prompts were so politically based and I feared being judged or even graded poorly if my views differed from others. As the semester went on I became increasingly comfortable responding to the discussion posts as it was very clear the professor cared about everyone's freedom of expression and made it a safe and welcoming environment for all. Although this was an online course and I personally did not need to reach out much to Dr. Acquaviva she seemed very approachable and as though she truly cares for the success of her students. I appreciated all the announcements and course communications. I truly did take a lot away from this course and think Dr. Acquaviva was an excellent professor for the course.
This was a great course that addressed real world, current events and helped me to shape my lens, voice and argument. Dr. Acquaviva has such an amazing demeanor and helped to guide us all through the course, while ensuring that everyone's voice was heard. She was flexible and open to feedback throughout the course.
I enjoyed it!
Dr. Kim is an excellent instructor i thoroughly enjoyed her class
I liked the course and thought Dr. Kim was accommodating to student’s needs.
the change in due dates for discussion boards help ease the stress of this class a lot
None
I was skeptical on having a class based on a topic of least interest, however, to my surprise, I did enjoy reading different point of views during discussion postings.
She was great! She really cares. One of my favorite professors at UVA
I appreciate Dr Acquaviva's sincere enthusiasm for the topic and openness and flexibility with change.
This course was very challenging to keep up with due to the amount of writing, reading, and self–taught material. Dr. Acquaviva was wonderful in building confidence with feedback throughout the course. However, now that I am working on the final exam, I am concerned that I still don't have the understanding needed to to feel confident. I really appreciate that Dr. Acquaviva has asked for our feedback on the course multiple times and has made adjustments. This is the first professor I have had that genuinely asks for feedback and constructive criticism.
This class increased my understanding of health policy and ignited a new interest that I will continue to explore.
Dr. Acquaviva has excelled in creating and nurturing a culture of openness and respect throughout the semester. This achievement is particularly remarkable given the current climate of polarization and divisiveness in American politics. Because of this inclusive environment, my classmates and I were able to engage in meaningful dialogue on a wide range of topics—including many that are highly controversial—while maintaining mutual respect regardless of differing viewpoints. As a result, my understanding of health policy and its implications for my role as a nurse has grown significantly. Thank you for dedicating your time, energy, and expertise to our learning and professional development!
I think this course is probably one of the most important classes for our current times. The law defines how well we are able to practice as nurses and care for our patients. It also allows for patients to live a healthier live or hinder their health if the wrong law comes along. Therefore, it is extremely necessary for nurses to learn how to advocate at the legislative level in order to help improve the future of healthcare.
I learned a lot from this course. I am learning a lot about health policy and its importance, and Dr. A's approach is successful.
It has been a really good course. I believe I learned about many of the issues and the workings of health policy, or at least I have begun to. I will know where to go to get information in the future. The instructor, Dr. Acquaviva, presented the information and structured and sequenced the content and assignments in one of the best thought–out ways of any course I have ever taken. She has been encouraging and helpful and skilled at eliciting the quality of work she sets out for students to achieve. She is encouraging of all students to be respectful of differing viewpoints in our discussions with each other. From what I could tell, it looks like students respected each other and maintained productive discussions.
I wish there could have been different learning exercises for us to partake in. It was mostly discussion boards and a couple of papers. I would have like to have seen other teaching strategies, learning modalities, or different homework exercises to broaden my learning for this class.

Comments
Dr. Acquaviva’s expertise and responsiveness to feedback were clear, and I appreciated the adjustments she made during the semester. At the same time, the pacing and writing workload were quite demanding, especially for working students, and the asynchronous format limited real engagement with the instructor and peers. The content is excellent, but it would be better suited to an in–person or hybrid course with live discussion rather than relying so heavily on written posts.
I feel the course was well put together and Kim was very attentive to the needs of the class and open for change.
The course went well. I think it’s a great class and I took much from it.
Dr. Acquaviva clearly cares about the topic of health policy, but more importantly, about helping students develop opinions and having to take a stance. The class utilized more of my time than I had hoped, but not necessarily because it was difficult, but because the topics and assignments drew me in. Difficult topics were discussed that took time to develop well–thought–out responses. Additionally, because views can be so different, it allowed for learning and cordial discourse, and to hear other perspectives that might not have been thought about. I also appreciated her willingness to take feedback continuously throughout the course and implement it quickly, and not just wait until the next semester to take the suggestions. It's one way Dr. A is demonstrates they practice what they preach.
Your class is one of the few I have had where the professor has cared for me as an individual. As a large class, I cannot imagine the work you put into providing each student with this experience. I have spoken to other classmates, and they feel similarly. This class is a lot of work, and the content is not something I have any experience with, but you have made it accessible, which is a credit to your skills and effort.
Dr. Acquaviva is an incredible asset to the university. I have never been even slightly interested in the topic of this class and came into is somewhat closed–minded. Dr Acquaviva not only gave me the support and guidance to explore the class topics but also created an absolutely warm, welcoming, and safe space. Politics can be daunting and she made it clear from day 1 that the class would be a safe and controlled space yet still allowed us to explore our beliefs and opinions through the coursework. I could clearly see how much energy and time she puts into the class, from robust modules and extremely interactive discussions, to personal and extensive feedback on assignments, to nearly immediate email responses and on top of it all, real–time updates to course expectations based on both feedback and current events. I really have nothing but amazing feedback. I may not be changing my career path to Health Policy but I am certainly more engaged than ever before and will be carrying that into my career as an NP. Truly, truly a fantastic and devoted instructor.
Facilitated open dialogue an I constructive and open format.
The instructor has been amazing –– thought provoking, insightful, understanding, responsive, receptive, great all around!!!
I was pleasantly surprised at as the course progressed the more engaged and interested I became with the material. It's a very useful class and I think it's important to becoming a well–rounded healthcare provider.

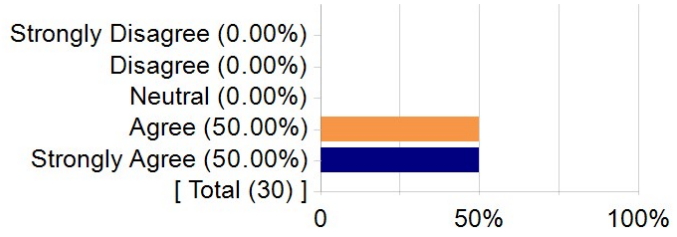
Instructor Questions

Mean values are displayed below.

Scale 1 = Strongly Disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Neutral 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly Agree

Question	Instructor Average - this course		Instructor Average - all courses (kda8xj Kimberly Acquaviva)		Department (NURSD)		School (NURS)	
	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean
The instructor clearly communicated the course schedule and expectations for participation (e.g., readings, discussions).	30	4.50	43	4.47	1322	4.56	1322	4.56
The instructor clearly communicated the course learning objectives.	30	4.50	43	4.47	1318	4.59	1318	4.59
The instructor implemented learning activities and assignments that allowed me to demonstrate understanding of the course material.	30	4.30	43	4.30	1318	4.52	1318	4.52
The instructor provided me prompt and useful feedback on my learning.	30	4.53	43	4.42	1319	4.41	1319	4.41
The instructor provided opportunities for my active participation.	30	4.47	43	4.44	1318	4.54	1318	4.54
The instructor was available to help support my learning.	30	4.47	43	4.42	1319	4.55	1319	4.55
The instructor fostered an environment where I felt valued as an individual and that I belonged in the class.	30	4.60	43	4.51	1320	4.59	1320	4.59
Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	30	4.57	43	4.44	1322	4.52	1322	4.52
The instructor created an environment that respected difference and welcomed diverse perspectives.	30	4.63	42	4.52	1321	4.55	1321	4.55

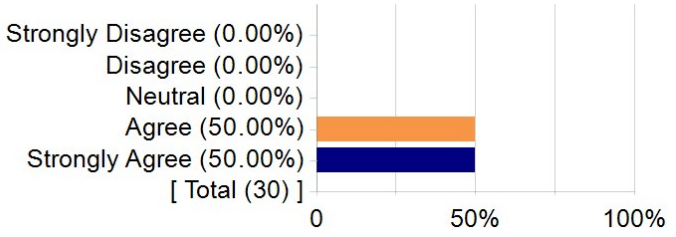
1. The instructor clearly communicated the course schedule and expectations for participation (e.g., readings, discussions).



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	15	50.00%
Strongly Agree	5	15	50.00%

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.50
Median	4.50
Standard Deviation	0.51

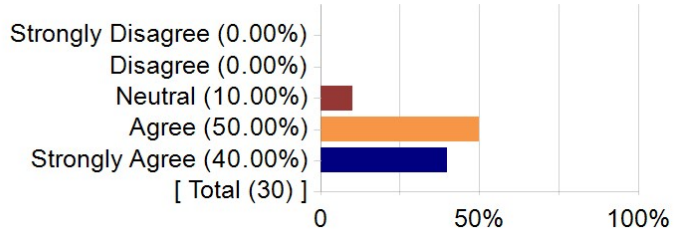
2. The instructor clearly communicated the course learning objectives.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	15	50.00%
Strongly Agree	5	15	50.00%

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.50
Median	4.50
Standard Deviation	0.51

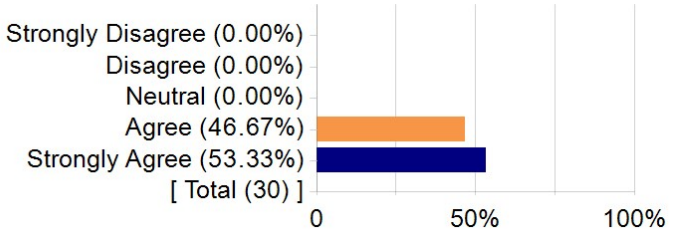
3. The instructor implemented learning activities and assignments that allowed me to demonstrate understanding of the course material.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	3	10.00%
Agree	4	15	50.00%
Strongly Agree	5	12	40.00%

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.30
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.65

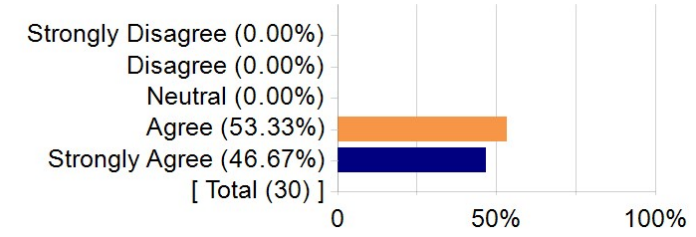
4. The instructor provided me prompt and useful feedback on my learning.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	14	46.67%
Strongly Agree	5	16	53.33%

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.53
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.51

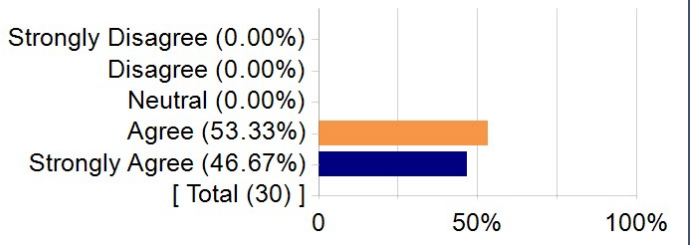
5. The instructor provided opportunities for my active participation.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	16	53.33%
Strongly Agree	5	14	46.67%

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.47
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.51

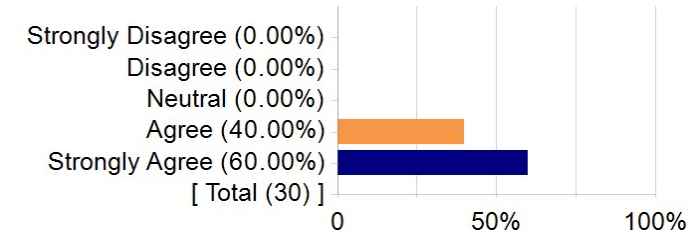
6. The instructor was available to help support my learning.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	16	53.33%
Strongly Agree	5	14	46.67%

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.47
Median	4.00
Standard Deviation	0.51

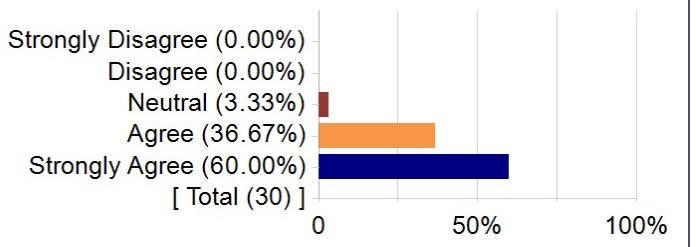
7. The instructor fostered an environment where I felt valued as an individual and that I belonged in the class.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	12	40.00%
Strongly Agree	5	18	60.00%

Statistics	Value
Mean	4.60
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.50

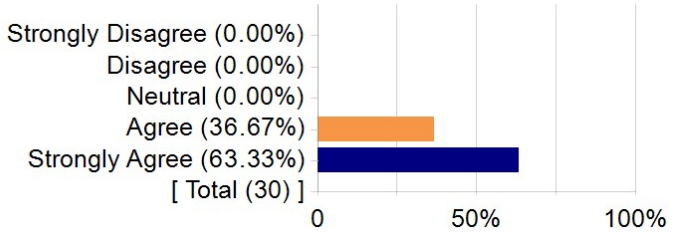
8. Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.



Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	1	3.33%
Agree	4	11	36.67%
Strongly Agree	5	18	60.00%

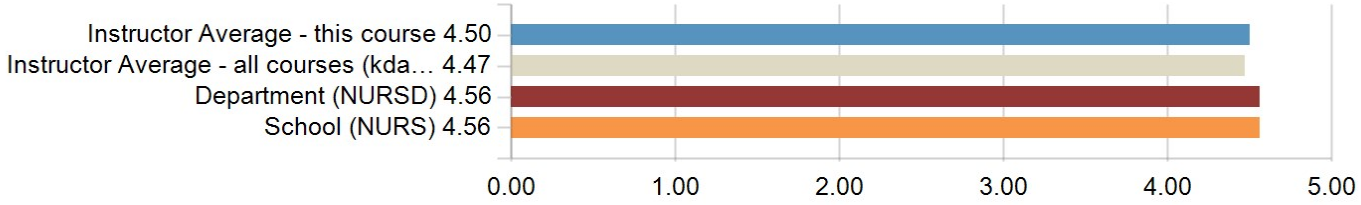
Statistics	Value
Mean	4.57
Median	5.00
Standard Deviation	0.57

9. The instructor created an environment that respected difference and welcomed diverse perspectives.

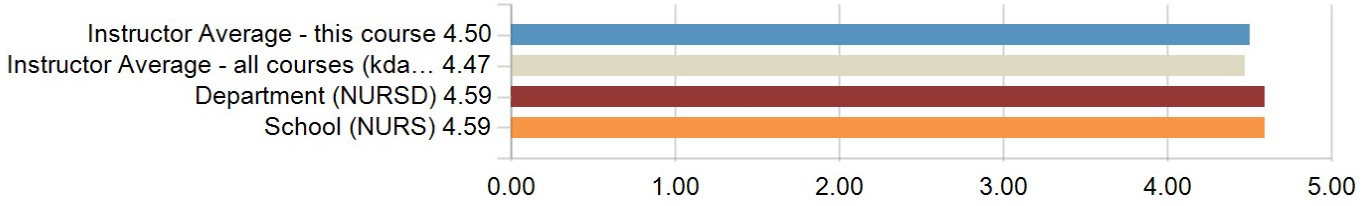


Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	0	0.00%
Neutral	3	0	0.00%
Agree	4	11	36.67%
Strongly Agree	5	19	63.33%
Statistics			**Value**
Mean			4.63
Median			5.00
Standard Deviation			0.49

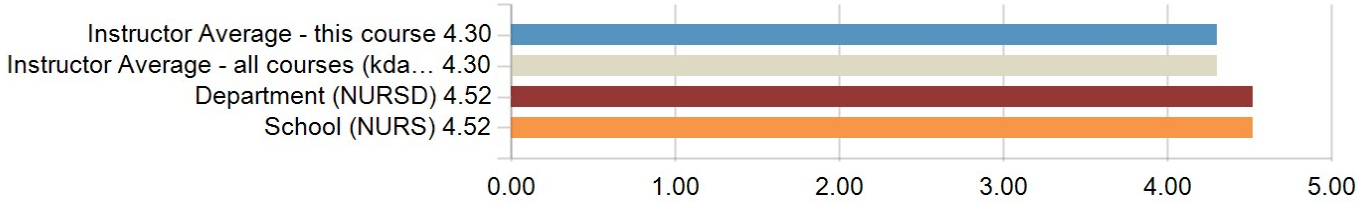
1. The instructor clearly communicated the course schedule and expectations for participation (e.g., readings, discussions).



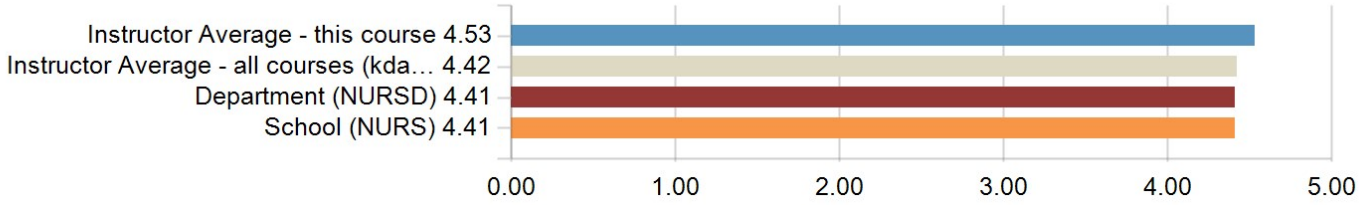
2. The instructor clearly communicated the course learning objectives.



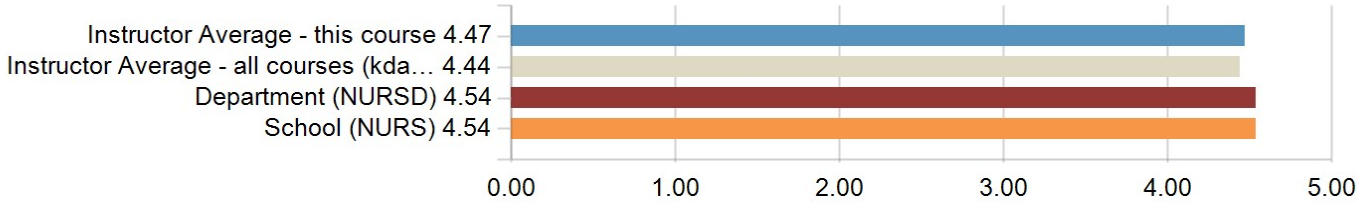
3. The instructor implemented learning activities and assignments that allowed me to demonstrate understanding of the course material.



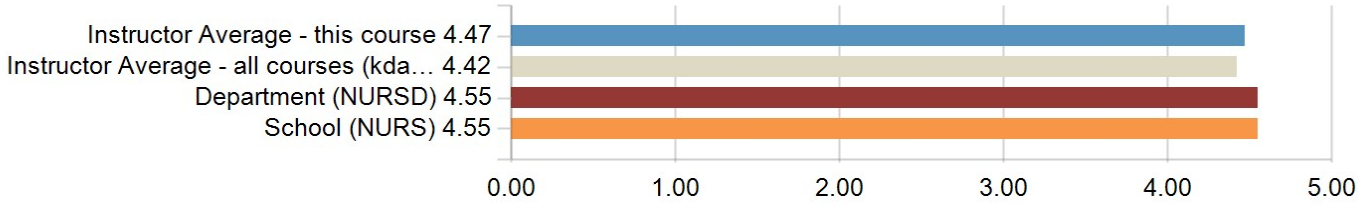
4. The instructor provided me prompt and useful feedback on my learning.



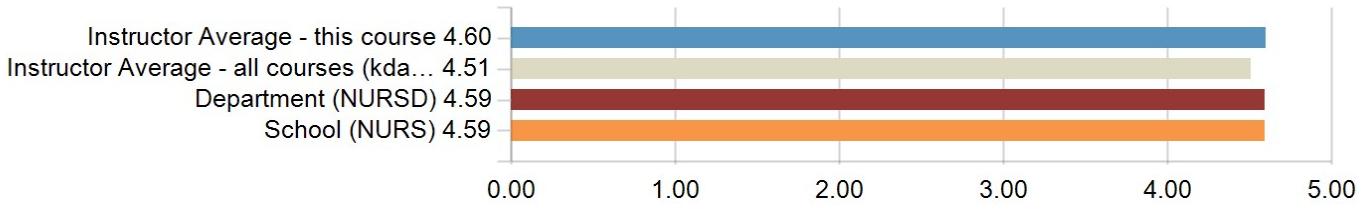
5. The instructor provided opportunities for my active participation.



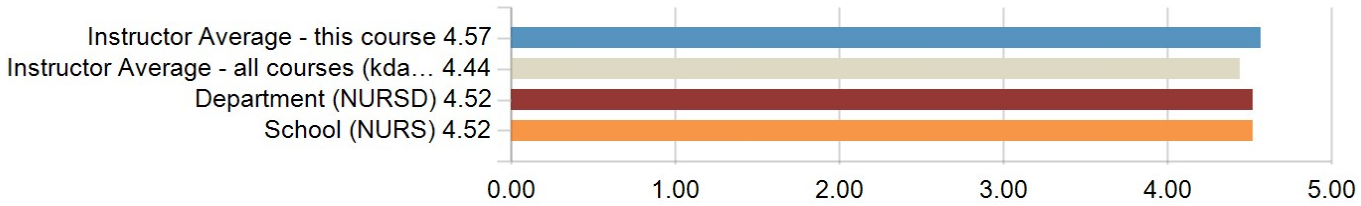
6. The instructor was available to help support my learning.



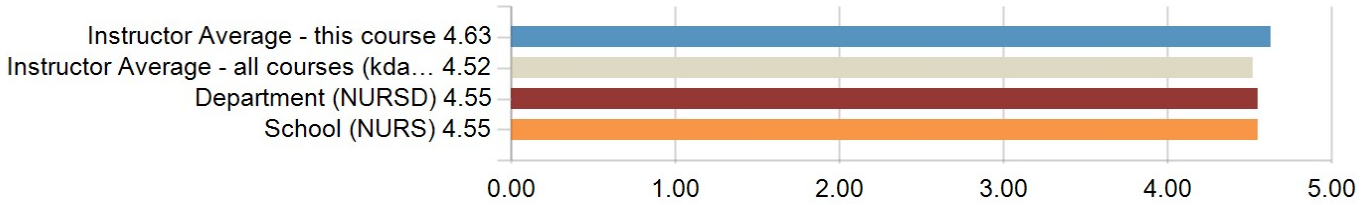
7. The instructor fostered an environment where I felt valued as an individual and that I belonged in the class.

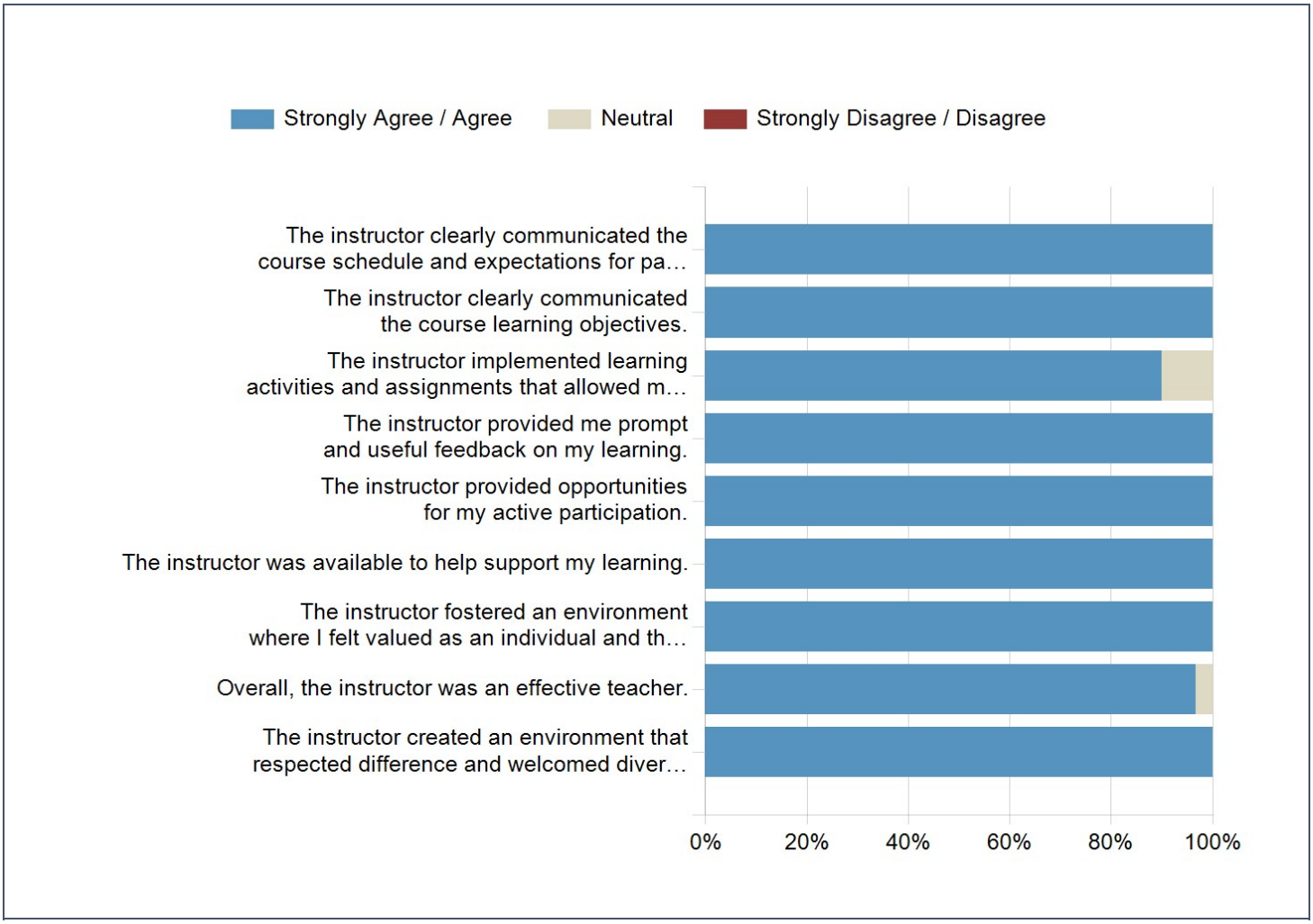


8. Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.



9. The instructor created an environment that respected difference and welcomed diverse perspectives.





You selected "AGREE or STRONGLY AGREE" on the previous question: Please give specific examples as to how Kimberly Acquaviva created an environment that respected difference and welcomed diverse perspectives.

Comments
We was welcome to all and showed no biased based on our POV
In each discussion post Dr. Acquaviva made sure to form the prompts in a way that made students feel safe sharing their views. I also really enjoyed the prompts that had us write from the views or roles of other individuals and take different stances than our true beliefs. She also asked for examples for certain posts to not to be related to President Trump which I appreciated given the political climate at the time of the course.
Professor Acquaviva made it very clear that everyone is entitled to their own opinion and encouraged conversations amongst my peers regarding this. She frequently asked us to consider views that were opposite from our own and to respond in that manner. One of the first assignments was a 1:1 interview with someone who had a different political view from myself. This was very eye opening for me.
In every discussion board it was obvious there would be mixed opinions. Every student was made aware disrespectful language would not be tolerated. Dr A was really intentional about getting us to see each others perspectives.
She made sure to preface each discussion post with a statement that reminded us to be respectful to one another and to respect all viewpoints.
Dr. Kim always made it known that any perspective was welcome in our discussion posts and to always be cordial to one another even if we disagree. She also had us put ourselves into the shoes of someone with a different opinion than us as well, which was helpful.
They encouraged you to think from the other view and consistently put out reminders that we needed to be respectful regardless of our political beliefs. It was a good reminder and very grounding.
She was very welcoming of different views and oppositions. Made it clear in her discussion posts and assignments to be respectful.

Comments
Her paper in the beginning where we interviewed people with opposing viewpoints and wrote a reflection was really great. And she never made a student feel uncomfortable for their views
It is very clearly described in lectures, in written material, in the syllabus, and on every discussion post.
Dr. Acquaviva constantly reminded us of the course rules and values regarding respecting each other's perspectives.
We were encouraged to share our honest opinions but in a respectful and thoughtful manner.
Dr. Acquaviva went above and beyond to create an environment that respected differences and welcomed diverse perspectives. She offered numerous keen insights that aided in our learning while also maintaining impressive neutrality during discussions.
The instructor created ways in which we felt safe to express our opinions or concerns by doing different things such as guiding the conversation to a more balanced, structured, and respectful dynamic.
She encouraged us to defend our opinions and ideologies with evidence. She also made sure to note everyone should be respectful and added that some statements may not reflect actual student opinion, but students may have chosen an opposite approach.
Set expectations in the beginning of respecting different viewpoints and reminding us there would be students with various political beliefs. Reinforced and reminded us of these expectations. She exemplified respecting different perspectives in her words and responses to students. She had us choose our perspectives sometimes, and other times, assigned us varied or differing perspectives to write from. She included resources at the beginning of the class that specifically look at issues from different perspectives.
At the beginning of the course, Dr. Acquaviva made us all aware that we would have differences of opinion in this class due to our diverse backgrounds. She made in a point to tell us to make sure we made everyone feel welcome in this class, especially since we would be debating health policy.
The discussion boards were an open place to state your opinions without feeling judgement.
The professor allowed for all voices to be heard and sometimes made us give our discussion posts on hypothetical opinions.
Consistently encouraged people to have different opinions, but also created a place and a format that couldn't be taken too far or have others react emotionally. While the topics were challenging and controversial, they were presented in a way that really took "most" of the worry/concern for sharing a genuine and true opinion on the matters.
Dr Acquaviva made it abundantly clear from day 1 that the expectation was respect and welcoming behavior. We were reminded often that learning would be fostered by creating a safe and positive environment and that that is all that would be tolerated. She also lead the class with such strong kindness and showed us that she valued each and every one of us.
Dr. Acquaviva set the tone by making it evident that everyone needed to be respectful throughout all online dialogue to allow open discussions that welcomed all perspectives. She mentioned it on the first day of class and throughout the semester, especially as we covered more controversial topics.
Dr. Aquaviva always communicated to us that we needed to be respectful of each other and our differences, especially when discussing controversial topics that generally can be quite divisive. I appreciated her for doing that. She frequently encouraged us to share our honest thoughts and opinions about things in a respectful. professional manner, which also enriched our discussions. I felt like she valued our perspectives and our honesty, and encouraged us to be open minded to others viewpoints even if they don't align with ours.

Instructor Comments

What constructive suggestions do you have to help Kimberly Acquaviva improve this course for future students?

Comments
I think this course is all encompassing, yet if I had to pick one things. Choose a topic with the conservative POV as a positive cogitation. See how your class opinions change. I feel that moves students tell professors what they want to hear based on hearing the assumption of an opinion in the directions that they stay the course. Change the voice, see if others follow, that will truly challenge independent thinking
I personally preferred the initial discussion post grading criteria of posting once at the beginning of the week, in the middle, and at the end of the week. Even though I have been working full time during this course and was initially worried about finding time during my work week to complete those posts during the required times, I found it to be a much better system. Once the criteria shifted to just be required to make 3 posts by the end of the week, I often found that many people in my policy pod were waiting until the end of the week to post their initial posts which made it difficult for me to balance being able to respond to peers posts, complete other assignments, work and maintain personal life duties. I personally think the initial criteria was more fair to those who really need to schedule out their assignments for the week do to other life commitments.
n/a
I would’ve liked to have the instructions to the final a little more ahead of time just to ease some of the anxiety. Not a lot of classes have papers as the final exam so it’s hard to know what to expect ahead of time.
I appreciate your kindness and understanding. Especially in the first semester when things are so crazy it was really nice to feel like i had you on my side
I liked how we could post our discussion responses all on one day instead of post over 3 days because a lot of us work or have other responsibilities and cannot log into canvas all the time!
Maybe considering a few weeks off with discussion board posts. For example, the week the policy report is due skip on the discussion board post so the student doesn’t feel overwhelmed with both post and report.
I have not had an online discussion based class in over ten years and the professor did make this a very doable transition to returning back to classes, allowing ample time to complete assignments, and provided encouraging feedback. Her modules and assignments were very engaging which I did appreciate.
A little bit more time on the discussion posts, and deadlines at midnight was very helpful
lower discussion post expectations on fall break week and finals week and thanksgiving week.
I would appreciate more study guides or recorded lectures regarding material. I struggled with fully grasping concepts on my own.
More recorded lectures would be interesting
I can't think of anything at the moment. Soliciting our input about what was working best and not as well during the course of the semester, and making adjustments in real time was much appreciated.
I would say, providing more factual information on legislation such as why the parts of policy exist, but that may not apply to this course.
I would encourage students to maybe do a discussion post and write a synthesis at the end of the week where we can write what we think and defend our stance. I think will help us to make defensible arguments applicable outside of the classroom environment.
It was an excellent course and extremely well taught! The only thing that I came across was I thought that some of the topics for discussions were from a left of center perspective, or rather that they were left of center topics of concern to begin with. My only suggestion is to include a few topics that are discussed more in right of center outlets, organizations, and then discuss that from all sides. I think the vaccines discussion really showed some differing viewpoints. For example, maybe a discussion on abortion from the side of it being disproportionately a treatment/procedure that Black and other people of color have in the U.S. over percentages and numbers in the U.S. and that maybe that is not a good thing for that group? the lack of replacement numbers, the lack of equitable factors that may be contributing to that – as opposed to the access to abortion expansion perspective. I do understand that UVA is more progressive as many universities are, and I expected that, so that is okay. That was the only thought I had sometimes that I wanted to see different on occasion. Overall, super class! Thank you. If I could recommend you as an instructor to others I would, and will.
I would suggest different homework exercises, instead of discussion boards each week. It would be nice for a switch up now and then.
If possible, I recommend offering this course in person or in a hybrid format with some required real–time sessions. If it must remain asynchronous, reducing the discussion board load (for example, one main post and one reply instead of three substantial posts weekly) and varying activities would make the workload more sustainable.
None at this point. Kim was open throughout the semester to make changes as needed and definitely listened to the students

Comments
concerns.
N/A
Continue teaching the way you do! The only thing that stressed me out significantly was the final being a take–home essay with only a week to complete, while also studying for classes that required more attention than was given due to trying to be active and efficient in this course. I also would have appreciated a week's break from the discussion boards during the week when the policy papers were due and during the holiday/fall break. While encouraging us not to do work during those times, there was no allotment of extra time to complete said assignments if truly taking the time off during those breaks.
A week for the final paper doesn't feel like enough time to me, with other finals to study for. I think at least two weeks would have been beneficial for me – I have recently found value in working on assignments a little at a time. I like the new policy pod situation, it is nice to talk to others in my class while maintaining a small group.
I would love to see the final paper – since it is not a test – be administered earlier (1–2 weeks) in the semester since we have such a heavy course load outside of this class. Obviously it wouldn't be fair to ask her to adjust the actual exam but offering it a week or two earlier would have tremendously helped my stress surrounding it. I also really didn't like the changes that were made to the discussion board rules. There were many weeks where I posted on Monday morning and no one else posted until the following Saturday or Sunday. I know feedback supported dropping the "post by X day" but at least one post by mid–week would have relieved much of my stress around timing.
Honestly no, she implemented student feedback into the course throughout the year.
At times I felt overwhelmed by the course load. Maybe I just wasn't used to writing so much and had to re–learn how to do that. Sometimes the weekly discussions were hard to complete because I genuinely put a lot of thought and effort into it, which took time. However, this might have been more of a me problem than a course problem. Balancing clinical, work, and full time class was very challenging.