

Student Assessment of Learning Gains

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Practical Business Rhetoric, New SCU: English 179-2 Fall, 2006

1. HOW MUCH did each of the following aspects HELP YOUR LEARNING?

Overall(Scale for question 1: NA, No Help, A little help, Moderate help, Much help, Very much help)

1. The way in which the material was approached
2. How the class activities, reading, and assignments fit together
3. The pace at which we worked
4. The way this course was taught overall
5. Turning in homework assignments online AFTER we went over the material rather than in class
6. Using drop boxen on Angel to turn in assignments rather than turning in hard copies

1. HOW MUCH did each of the following aspects HELP YOUR LEARNING?

(continued)

The class activities:

1. The professor's presentations (including lectures)
2. Discussions in class
3. Peer editing papers
4. Group work in class
5. Group work outside of class
6. Group Presentations

1. HOW MUCH did each of the following aspects HELP YOUR LEARNING?

(continued)

Tests, graded activities and assignments:

1. Resumes
2. Cover letters
3. Thank you and decline letters
4. Mock Interviews
5. Group presentations
6. Written proposal
7. Proposal presentation
8. Smaller writing assignments
9. Assignments dealing with different cultural attitudes about business
10. Style exercises
11. Number and spacing of assignments
12. Fairness of assignments
13. Mental stretch/intellectual challenge required of us
14. Feedback we received on our work
15. Fairness of grading system
16. Rigor of grading system

1. HOW MUCH did each of the following aspects HELP YOUR LEARNING?

(continued)

Resources:

1. Contexts and Choices (Doug Sweet)
2. Writing that Works
3. Crow and Weasel
4. The Art of War
5. Style: Ten Lessons in Clarity and Grace
6. Agendas on Angel

1. HOW MUCH did each of the following aspects HELP YOUR LEARNING?

(continued)

The information we were given about:

1. Reasons for learning the course material
2. How the different parts of the course, such as class work, readings, and assignments relate to each other
3. The class activities for the week

1. HOW MUCH did each of the following aspects HELP YOUR LEARNING?

(continued)

Individual support for you as a learner:

1. Quality of contact with the instructor
2. Working with peer educators
3. Working with peers outside of class

2. Please comment on the ways in which the overall organization and presentation of the course affected your learning. (All open-ended questions have a 500 CHARACTER limit. That's about 2 sentences.)

3. Please comment on the ways the class activities and assignments affected your learning.

4. Please comment on the ways the resources we used affected your learning.

5. Please comment on the ways the support you received as a learner affected your learning.

6. As a result of your work in this course, how well do you think that you now UNDERSTAND each of the following? I am confident I understand:

1. The main concepts informing business communications.
2. The relationships among those main concepts.
3. How business people think about communicating
4. How business people manage their relationships with others
5. How to recognize an effective communications strategy
6. How to design a communication strategy
7. How knowledge of audience can help one understand the complex and interactive nature of the world
8. How knowledge of audience can be used to address business and social problems
9. How the strategies of reading and writing we used in this class apply to other classes

10. How the concepts studied in this class apply to real world issues

7. Please comment on how your understanding of business communication has changed as a result of this course.

8. How much has this course ADDED TO YOUR SKILLS in each of the following?

This course has added to my skills in:

1. Thinking strategically
2. Solving communication problems
3. Communicating effectively with a variety of audiences
4. Varying my style, tone, ethos, arguments and means of communication as appropriate to my audience
5. Speaking effectively and cogently to individuals and small groups in a variety of contexts
6. Collaborating effectively in group problem-solving and document production
7. Speaking effectively in public
8. Controlling my ethos strategically and effectively in public and business interactions
9. Writing logically structured, comprehensible documents
10. Writing clear, concise prose
11. Using appropriate formats when preparing business documents
12. Following basic rules of grammar and contemporary usage

9. Please comment on how this course has affected your reading, writing and critical thinking skills.

10. To what extent did you MAKE GAINS in any of the following as a result of what you did in this class? As a result of this course, I made gains in:

1. Appreciating the complexity of business communications
2. Confidence in my ability to think through a problem or argument
3. Confidence in my ability to design and execute an effective communication strategy
4. Confidence in my ability to communicate effectively in a variety of formal and informal settings
5. Confidence in my ability to speak effectively in public
6. Feeling comfortable with complex ideas
7. Interest in taking additional courses in business communications
8. Enthusiasm for business communications

11. What HABITS of mind developed during this class will you CARRY WITH YOU into other classes and aspects of your life? I think I will carry with me:

1. Respect for the complexity and subtlety of business communications
2. Confidence in my ability to speak effectively in public
3. Habit of discussing communications strategies with my peers and colleagues
4. Habit of consciously analyzing and evaluating complex documents before responding to them
5. Respect for the diversity of real-world audiences
6. Habit of carefully considering my audience and my communication strategy as I compose documents
7. Habit of applying communication skills and strategies developed in this class to other classes and areas of my life

12. Please comment on what you think you will take away from this course.

13. Do you have any suggestions about how this course might be made more effective?