



UC RIVERSIDE - Faculty Instruction Evaluation (iEval)

Fall 2019

Course: DNCE 180R Section: 001 - PEDAGOGY
Instructor: Joel Smith

Question # 20: Please comment on how the instructor's teaching helped your learning of the material in this course. Please give serious thought to your comments. Your comments will be studied by the professor after the grade and performance evaluation of your work have been submitted and may be used in changing future offerings of the course. In addition, these comments are placed in the instructor's file and may be used for purposes of evaluating the instructor's teaching. The information collected will remain anonymous.

- AMAZING. INSPIRATIONAL. INFORMATIVE. EXPOSING. CHALLENGING. ... I am beyond grateful to have taken this course! Every class included so much useful content that would help me become a better teacher. The work load was manageable and beneficial and influencing to my teaching process. I do feel like I only got to the beginning or middle of some concepts and never reached the "end" or the final answer. My mind would stay questioning a topic wondering how I should approach it; so theres need to be a round 2 of the course! I would of also appreciated more one on one time helping us discover what it is we want to teach, because we know what we want to try to teach, but maybe were unsure how to even address and approach it. Overall, I had the most enjoyable learning experience and felt a positive support from everyone holding space in the room.
- I really loved this class. It taught me how to think critically about teaching and about sharing information with students. Joel taught with such generosity and such openness. His transparency in teaching made the course seem approachable and accessible. It became a laboratory for us as graduate students and soon-to-be TAs. I got the opportunity to teach several times, to have in-depth conversations about teaching styles and my personal teaching goals. I wish that this was a year-long course and that students in the course could continue to take it even while TAing, as a way to continue sampling ideas in a lab-like environment. If I had the opportunity to take this class again, I would. I think there is so much to be said for learning and thinking about teaching. Not enough time is spent thinking about why our teachers do what they do. I feel like I am still learning and thinking about teaching, and the seeds from our discussions will live on with me as I continue in my time at UCR. Very grateful for this course and for Joel specifically as a faculty member/professor.
- Professor Joel Smith is open, generous and thoughtful. I deeply appreciated his attention and care. I learned so much from him and from my colleagues!
- Prof. Smith carried the classroom with a teacher-student and student-teacher approach in where he asks questions, leaves open agendas for the assignments to be interpreted with a clean slate, allows the students to share their ideas and yet challenges their ideologies to help them further research or question their stance when it needs more clarity. All the while, he always works with compassion and in a place of listening whole heartedly. In short, he is leading the class into a place where we need more time to further investigate with our feedback. In agreement within all graduate and undergraduate students, more time is needed with this class and in particular with this professor to become something similar to his expertise. He introduces very complex and relevant subjects in which perhaps a lab is even needed to work in smaller groups for clearer conclusions. He does very well with his time, perhaps we would appreciate to have more time for this course and to learn from his approach.
- The teacher was adept at planning and executing the class.
- I was kind of nervous to take this class since it is with graduate students, but I definitely felt like I could keep up. The course work was just the right amount of work to get me thinking, engaging, etc. while not adding to the plethora of stress that was already on my plate. I absolutely loved the self-design projects, both mine and my classmates. There was so much to learn from organizing and teaching a class and from participating in others' classes with the intent to analyze their pedagogical approaches. Also, it was just so great to teach something I love and something I'm passionate about. My classes and feedback also made me more confident in my research as a scholar, artists, and mover altogether. I will critique that I wish time was managed better because I really wanted more time for discussion. For me, I need that time to reflect within myself and with other minds (this was particularly present with the self-design projects since we had time to take self notes and then group discussion). That is where I make sense of what I learned. And, this is where the interrogations came through! This class asked such great questions and reshaped my perspective of teaching and being taught. I never liked running low on time, but I also don't think I have the energy/mentality if there were to be third 2-hour class. This class was just enough for me while being way more than I expected. Thanks a ton!