

MID-TERM INSTRUCTOR EVALUATION, "Navajo Expressive Culture" (Fall 2014)

Dear Students: Please take some time to answer these questions thoughtfully and honestly. These evaluations are anonymous and will not affect your final grade.

- 1) What do you like about the class so far? What works for you as a student/learner?

I really love how this class is helping me to think about music and people in a different perspective. I enjoy the class engagement and really good discussions that we participate in. I think being able to express any detail or question I have with the class and you really helps me to grasp ideas more organically. Thanks for being so organized and enthusiastic about what you do!

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

More live music interaction. Really enjoyed when you performed for us in class. Let's learn the two step! Maybe a field trip on a weekend for extra credit to see a Killin' band.

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

Very beneficial! It helps you gain a better perspective about the truth or source from someone who spends their life doing it.

4) Additional Comments

Thanks for being really on top of everything. Understanding, sincere, and passionate about everything! We need more professors like you!

Thank you!

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- I like that we cover different areas of the culture not just specifically gov't.
- All the readings (although long) have been really interesting.
- I really like that you just played for us because it puts you in the context of what we're learning which makes it more relatable.

2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

- I do think a couple of the readings are a little too long, but at least they are interesting!

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

I definitely think it's beneficial to have the class speakers & performers because they each have a different take on the subject. Also the more people that are placed within the context the easier it is to conceptualize that these events do happen.

4) Additional Comments

I really enjoy this class!

Thank you!

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*Participation across the board/all students.
Good Guest Speakers*

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

Yes, they give quality discussions.

4) Additional Comments

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The overall of the class is going great so far. I really like the lively discussions and the outline of the class.

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

I would like to see more lectures, at least for the first 15 mins of the class.

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

Yes, I think its beneficial for me to bring in a presenter. I really love the presenter so far.

4) Additional Comments

I really enjoy your class. I love the way its layed out. What I like the most are the response papers and discussion boards.

Thank you!

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- 1) What do you like about the class so far? What works for you as a student/learner?

This class is very organized and well put together. Mrs. Jacobsen is a great professor & I enjoy learning from her. This class works for me as a student/learner because of the organization of everything. This helps me stay on track with my work and activities for the class.

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

I enjoy the music aspect of the class, but maybe instead of so much reading, there can be more listening examples. I still enjoy the reading, but more engaging stuff like music or concert videos would be fun.

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

I think the guest speakers are very beneficial to the class. They give another outside source of information for the topics we discuss in class. This is ~~more~~ nice because even though Mrs. Jacobsen is a great teacher, it's good to ~~hear~~ hear other views as well.

4) Additional Comments

Great class! Very organized.

Thank you!

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This is an excellent class, the discussion adds clarity to the reading. The music portion has been great and I am excited about the photography next week.

Discussion threads are more preferable than the plain writing assignments, so we can engage more with the material + classmates.

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

Some of the readings don't examine the heart of expression, and seem a bit more abstract with jargon.

I would like to see more hands on material, video's, music, visuals etc. Sometimes "text" is over-rated when trying to understand emotions + expression.

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

Yes, extremely beneficial! All our guest speakers have been amazing and add a personal element to the material we read. Discussion is an important aspect of learning and understanding material. Plus, it is fluid and tends to venture places that are unexpected or unintentional, I like this!

4) Additional Comments

Great class, thank you!

Thank you!

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I like the aspect of class discussions & the material. The assignments give me more to think and reflect on but also to engage with my peers to gain some new perspectives.

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

I think personally it is a great class.

I would like to see ~~more~~
~~more participation~~ female guest speakers
~~See~~ (Navajo)

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

Yes because there are so many influential people who can offer insight into a different worldview through many ways.

4) Additional Comments

Love the positive energy and good repertoire. 😊

Thank you!

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I have learned quite a bit of things and I enjoy it very much. Especially the guest speakers.

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

I think the class is going. I have no suggestions

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

Yes I think it is great you have had guest speakers and to keep it up.

4) Additional Comments

N/A

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I love that different pieces of work are incorporated into the curriculum, i.e. songs, poetry, films, etc.

As a learner, the inclusion of visual or auditory stimuli facilitates my learning, much more than just relying on readings.

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

If we could view clips in class and discuss them that would be great.

Also maybe some background about authors of material being covered would be helpful. And historical context when they wrote their work would also be great! Just to have a better understanding of their background to enrich reading / going over their work.

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

It has been very helpful having guest speakers. It allows us to ask questions about their material.

I think invites to UNM faculty is a great idea! It's important to know who is at UNM and the knowledge they possess regarding NA culture.

4) Additional Comments

Thank you for offering this class!

Thank you!

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The open discussions are very intriguing and important to the understanding/learning process. Having the online posts/discussions due before the week works for me, because it enables me to be prepared.

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

More extra credit opportunities

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

I think guest speakers/performers are important to the class, it helps (for me) to remember certain things and also greatly contributes to the class discussions/projects. I would recommend Romeo Touchine, he is a great comedian.

4) Additional Comments

This class is by far my favorite, I always look forward to the liveliness, humor, and differing views.

Thank you!

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I really like that class time is spent discussing the reading/listenings. I feel like it makes the reading more informative to have responded to it by Monday, have some more time to let it digest and then have time to discuss and clear up anything.

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

I really enjoy guest speakers, they allowed me to understand the information better, and it's always eye opening to meet the author of an article, because I don't think a person can really get "it" without a candid first hand description.

4) Additional Comments

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- 1) What do you like about the class so far? What works for you as a student/learner?

I like that the classes are discussion based and that there isn't necessarily a "prescribed flow" to the direction of these discussions. I also like that there's room for our own opinions in regards to course material.

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

Sometimes, having the same class discussion structure every single day can get a little bit monotonous.

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

I like having guest speakers because it's an opportunity to hear some different perspectives.

4) Additional Comments

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I enjoy the diversity in people's majors, everyone brings something different to the table.

I enjoy discussion boards more than response papers because I have a chance to read what others thought as well.

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

I would like all the films to be streamable. Personally I work as well and don't want to have to take time off of work to go see a film at the library. I would like more films/documentaries.

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

I do enjoy guest speakers. We can actually meet authors and such from the books we read.

I enjoy their perspective and listening to their experiences.

4) Additional Comments

You are an excellent professor!! I am always recommending people I know to take your classes. ☺

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I enjoy the more "hands-on" aspect, where we are listening to music, discussing feeling in class, reading poetry etc. It has helped to understand Navajo culture in its artistic, expressive light.

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

I think I would take a little less time to discuss the previous class.
More time for new material

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

Yes, very beneficial. It's nice to be well informed about outside research and hear a view from others that are not in our class.

4) Additional Comments

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the only thing that I think could be tweaked is class discussion, maybe if instead of defining terms we could turn it more towards discussion of larger themes or connecting readings from multiple weeks, or if we had less in detail written responses due it might make in class discussion more lively because it would feel less redundant

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

this is the best part of the class
it's important to get different
points of view & to engage w/ the
people whose works we're reading

4) Additional Comments

we should have a class
jam session

Thank you!

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This class is well paced and the readings are informative and from the actual field (as opposed to a textbook).

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

I think it could be helpful for discussion board weeks to have two due dates, one for the post and one for replies, so there can be a livelier discussion and less rushed replies at the end.

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

Outside speakers are helpful to get other perspectives as well as a way to interact with creators of culture (as opposed to just academics).

4) Additional Comments

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I enjoy the preparedness of the instructor, musical talent, (Yeah!), and the enriching guest speakers. Some really, really great ones. I enjoy the discussion based nature of the course.

- 2) What could be better about the class? What would you like to see more of?

For me, having the discussion board due at 10:00 on Mondays, is hard. I have school M-F and work F-M. If the discussion post was due on Tuesday at 10, then it would feel more manageable.

- 3) Guest Speakers/Performers: Do you think it is beneficial to bring in outside speakers/performers into the classroom and, if so, why? Anyone else you would you recommend as guest speakers for future versions of this course (people in Albuquerque or elsewhere)?

Yes! Every single ~~one~~ ^{one} has been very knowledgeable and gives different perspectives about the content. Just keep bringing in great people.

4) Additional Comments

I did not expect this class to be quite what it is. Both in subject matter (It's listed under contemporary world music), and work load (LOTS of reading). However, it's been super interesting. Maybe take a field trip to somewhere that you find beneficial.

Thank you! to the course.