



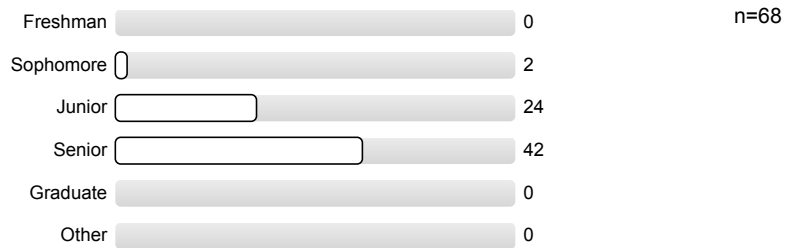
D. FESSLER Evaluation of Instruction Program Report

16W: ANTHRO 124P LEC 1: HUMAN SEXUAL BEHAVR
 No. of responses = 68
 Enrollment = 163
 Response Rate = 41.72%

Survey Results

1. Background Information:

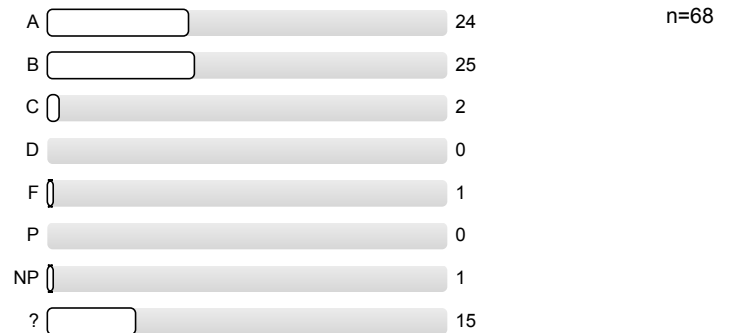
1.1) Year in School:



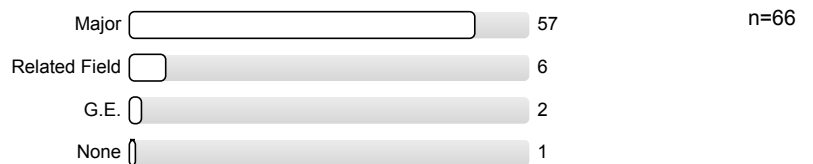
1.2) UCLA GPA:



1.3) Expected Grade:



1.4) What requirements does this course fulfill?



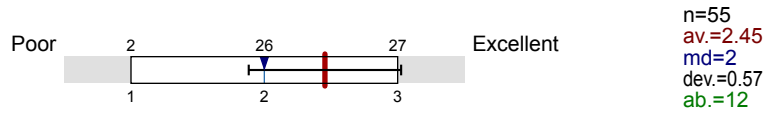
2. To What Extent Do You Feel That:

2.1)	Instructor Concern – The instructor was concerned about student learning.		n=67 av.=8.28 md=9 dev.=1.4
2.2)	Organization – Class presentations were well prepared and organized.		n=66 av.=8.09 md=9 dev.=1.48 ab.=1
2.3)	Interaction – Students felt welcome in seeking help in or outside of the class.		n=66 av.=7.98 md=9 dev.=1.63 ab.=1
2.4)	Communication Skills – The instructor had good communication skills.		n=67 av.=8.31 md=9 dev.=1.35
2.5)	Value – You have learned something you consider valuable.		n=67 av.=8.48 md=9 dev.=1.34
2.6)	Overall – Your overall rating of the instructor.		n=67 av.=8.33 md=9 dev.=1.42
2.7)	Overall – Your overall rating of the course.		n=66 av.=8.32 md=9 dev.=1.48

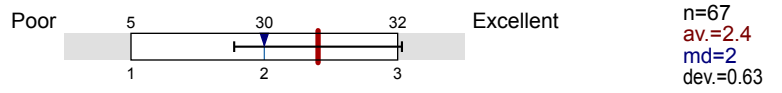
3. Your View of Course Characteristics:

3.1)	Subject interest before course		n=67 av.=2.36 md=2 dev.=0.62
3.2)	Subject interest after course		n=67 av.=2.81 md=3 dev.=0.43
3.3)	Mastery of course material		n=67 av.=2.51 md=3 dev.=0.61
3.4)	Difficulty (relative to other courses)		n=67 av.=2.52 md=3 dev.=0.5
3.5)	Workload/pace was		n=67 av.=2.28 md=2 dev.=0.45
3.6)	Texts, required readings		n=67 av.=2.43 md=2 dev.=0.58

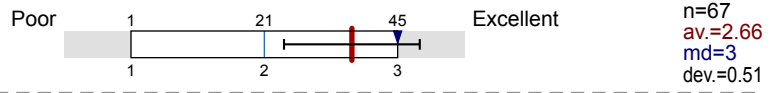
3.7) Homework assignments



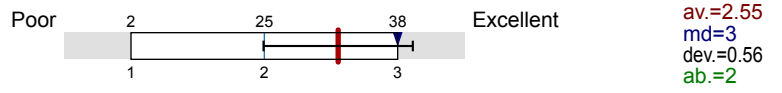
3.8) Graded materials, examinations



3.9) Lecture presentations



3.10) Class discussions



Comments Report

4. Comments:

- 4.1) Please identify what you perceive to be the real strengths and weaknesses of this instructor and course.
- Although im sure i may not pass this class, i really enjoy the lecture and i could really relate to real life situation.
 - Amazing class. Great lecturer. He is very friendly and welcoming to students questions.
 - An amazing course taught by both Professor Fessler and the TA, Ed Clint. I highly recommend this course, especially to social/cultural Anthropology majors! I only have one criticism of the course, and which is that Professor Fessler's scooter wasn't of the flaming variety.
 - As an Anthropology major, Anthropology 124P was my first experience in the upper division requirement for the major. Heading into the class, I had heard positive reviews about the professor, but I had not done extensive research to validate these claims. I think it was for the best. I was blown away every single class, and I laughably imagine that any hint towards Dr. Fessler's excellent speaking skills and knowledge on the subject presented may have taken away from the awe I experienced each lecture. In all seriousness, Dr. Fessler is the best professor I have had the privilege of taking here at UCLA. His knowledge on the subject is clearly evident, and he does an incredible job at grabbing student's attention with his lectures and passion. The class is difficult, as I have discussed with many classmates, however it is entirely worth all the work. If you dedicate the time Dr. Fessler requests, by completing all the readings on time and engaging in section, you will learn things about the human species that will serve you the rest of your life. Last, Dr. Fessler is a very approachable professor. Regularly does he stay after class to answer questions about the lecture or those previous, and invite students with open arms toward his office hours. Outside of the class material, he has provided counseling to me regarding future career paths and was more than happy to allocate part of his day to those discussions. I highly recommend his class!
 - Despite this class being an 8am, I looked forward to it each week, because I felt the concepts Prof. Fessler taught are so relevant and vital to understand. His lectures were highly engaging, and his passion about the subject shone through every lecture. And although his exams aren't easy, I appreciate the fact that he actually made us critically think about the answers, instead of just mugging up whatever he teaches - and that is why I think this course is so rewarding. However, I do think he should offer a few extra-credit opportunities in the future.
 - Did not make it an easy environment to learn.
 - Dr. Fessler is a true lecturer. No reliance on PowerPoint, no gimmicks, no forced interactivity. He is simply a knowledgeable and intelligent educator who shares information in a captivating way and allows students to think in new ways. This is what higher education is supposed to be about.
 - Dr. Fessler is one of the best teachers that I have ever had the privilege to learn from. I especially appreciated his strict adherence to fairness and explicit expectations - something that I've found to be alarmingly rare during my time at UCLA. Going into this class, I was a bit nervous as I don't have a strong background in biological anthropology, but what I learned was life-changing. If you do the readings, pay attention in lecture, and visit him or your T.A. during office hours for any clarifications, you will likely do well. Something that helped me to remember the readings and pass all of the quizzes was to take notes on the key ideas for every reading. Overall, I would highly recommend this class.
 - Dr. Fessler was a great lecturer despite his tangents, he definitely made it easy to stay awake during an 8am. The readings were a little dull but despite that the class was definitely worth taking.
 - Dr. Fessler, is hands down, one of the best and inspiring professors I have had at UCLA.

His lectures are old-school, he uses a 3M-projector to display information, but his teaching style keeps you focused and alert to what he requires from you. With this in mind, I did not find his lack in using modern technology a problem, if anything he's right in saying that using technology (laptops, PowerPoints) distracts you from paying attention. That being said, he is also clear from what he expects from you in taking his course and truth be told, if you're seeking an easy upper division class then he is not the professor for you.

His passion for learning is seen throughout all his lectures, which is something that I find difficult to convey in large classrooms. The subject matter, mind you, is not easy, but he breaks it down as much possible with a great sense of humor. Furthermore, he is always having office hours and interacting with students outside the class setting; a wonderful trait in a professor. I have bumped into him in the most awkward of locations (i.e. a bathroom) and what has struck me is his casual demeanor, asking how I did on his midterm as opposed to not talking to me at all.

Dr. Fessler is a great professor with a great sense of humor providing an utmost transparency and respect for his students. Amazing professor, I would definitely take him again if he was offering another class, but alas I discovered him too late as I am graduating soon. Take advantage of this charismatic individual!

- Even as a senior, his has by far been the most rewarding course I've taken at UCLA. Everything I learned in this class is something that I can consider valuable. Professor Fessler is without a doubt my favorite professor I've had the privilege of learning from and I really regret not being able to go to all of his office hours. Although he may speak too fast for some people, I don't see it as a weakness necessarily because he does allow for lecture recording. Yes he does ramble sometimes, but I wouldn't say it's detrimental at all to the actual learning process because it's usually relevant material and sometimes it helps my conceptual understanding of the topic. Academically, this class is not only interesting but it is well organized. The content itself isn't too difficult and the assigned readings were usually not too hard. Now, my real love for this class comes not from the material necessarily but the fact that it is so relevant in our lives outside of the spheres of academia. Knowledge truly is power, and I believe that Professor Fessler truly believes in its power. I have talked to so many of my friends about everything I've learned in this class and all the applications it has in the real world. It has helped me to see the world in a completely new way and it has helped me to better understand human behaviors and why we are the way that we are. I could write an entire essay about how amazing this course and Professor Fessler are, but I think saying that it is truly inspirational is enough. Thank you so much professor, I truly believe I have learned something of value. This is what education should be like, learning skills and knowledge, and using that knowledge in our everyday lives to strive to make the world a better place. Thank you.
- Excellent class! Professor Fessler made lectures exciting. One of my favorite classes taken at UCLA.
- Fessler is a good professor, but he tends to get sidetracked when he's lecturing. I don't really mind it, though. He really knows the material and uses great examples to help us understand it.
- Fessler is a very knowledgeable professor. However, I always felt that his lectures were filled with a lot of material presented very quickly. Lectures always started exactly on time and Fessler used every second ending right on time if not going over class time. The quizzes administered at the beginning of class took a total of 45 seconds if that, making it very difficult to thoroughly read the questions and the answer choices. Fessler also rarely allowed for questions during class, though he encouraged students to come in during office hours to speak with him. I feel that while the class material was relatively interesting, the concepts were difficult to grasp and not explained very well. Fessler did a relatively good job at simplifying the material, however, this was not helpful because his tests were extremely specific and forced you to expand beyond what was included in the course.
- Fessler is awesome. His explanations are fun, and you will learn new things.
- Fessler is definitely something else. In a good way. He is a traditional lecturer which I really enjoyed because it made it easier to learn. He wasn't boring just reading off the slides and is always into the

subject material. I would recommend him to anyone.

- Fessler is very enthusiastic about the material; a fair grader; concerned about students (as can be seen by making office hours very available and addressing any student concerns in class); awesome professor and highly recommended
- Fessler killed it. I liked everything about the class except the two questions a week. I would get rid of those.
- Fessler was a wonderful professor! He is very knowledgeable of the material and just a fantastic teacher to listen to as he explains the material! He is very passionate about the subject matter and you can see it as he explains everything! This was a difficult course no doubt! But it was absolutely worth it! I learned so much and will take this with me as I continue my education career. Not having a ppt in front during lecture was difficult but really helped you pay attention to whats important!
- Great class. I felt every class was a TED talk. Loved it. I learned a lot. The teacher presented the material in a coherent way. Exams where consistent with the material covered. A strength is the passion the teacher has around the subject.
- Great teacher but exams were so hard.
- He is a great professor. His lectures are very well organized and the material is interesting. It is not an easy class but I have learned so much from it. I am an anthropology major, and this definitely is one of the best classes that I have taken even though it required much time and effort to study for the exams. A great professor and a great class.
- He is an absolutely great professor.
- Her presentations, eloquence, explanations, sincerity, availability, helpfulness. Overall a really kind, high energy professor. Very punctual and nice.
- I found Dr. Fessler an extremely passionate and influential professor. This course has definitely been one of my favorite courses at UCLA. He shows a true understanding of the world and conveys knowledge in a way that is easy to understand. I learned something new every day and I feel this course taught me more about human evolution and human behavior than any other course I've taken to date. I applaud professors like himself, who can truly convey knowledge in a way that can be integrated to our everyday understanding of this world. It's a demanding course but worth it!
- I found this class to be one of the most interesting classes I have taken at UCLA. However, it is a difficult course in the sense that the lectures are at 8am and there is little to no guidance as to what Professor Fessler is lecturing about. You have to be able to pay attention for the full hour and fifteen minutes without a powerpoint or talking points.
- I really enjoyed this class. It is challenging to a certain degree but worth it. If you put in the work and take it seriously you will learn a lot in this class.
- I think you should have lecture slides because it is hard to get down all the information when you talk so fast and have nothing to go off of. i also thought the grading for the exams were very nit picky and looked for any reason to take off points. There were times i felt my answers reflected strongly that i new the material but got marked down if i missed a word or name of concept. Overall i felt like i mastered the material well but my grades did not reflect it.
- I would have liked to have slides posted after the lecture to reference for studying. There were a lot of times when I remembered hearing about a topic but couldn't find any notes in my notebook about it.
- It has been ages since I've had a teacher with such impeccable, captivating, knowledgable lectures. There are no words to illustrate the dynamics of Dr. Fessler given that his research skills and gifted teaching abilities are of the finest caliber. Unlike any other professors I had in the past, his design of the class is exorbitantly high which would help students in the long-run. This explains why he purposely

sets the class to begin at 8AM, and this is why his exams are in-class essay. These approaches to student learning will guarantee students to develop essential critical thinking skills that are paramount in a research based institution. Also, I admire Dr. Fessler's advise for students to "not learn about the information but to think." The former imposes mere memorization in contrast to thinking about the information, that is to synthesize and critically analyze any given material. And about the materials that he assigns in class are thought-provoking as they cover a whole range of evolutionary human sexual behavior. Dr. Fessler knows how to present such topics that are prohibited in many cultures. In presenting his lectures, Dr. Fessler does not use any powerpoint or the board. He knows that powerpoint don't encourage students to learn but to write whatever is on the powerpoint without thinking about the lecture. The only weakness in Dr. Fessler's class is that the course is not designed for students who are always poorly prepared or not motivated. Dr. Fessler ensures whatever he teaches in the class will always be remembered even after graduation. There are no other professors like Dr. Fessler.

- Kessler has a great way of keeping his students interested and engaged in the topics he discusses. He breaks them down into ways that most could understand. His stories are funny and they all twist around to get to the point he's trying to establish, which some might not appreciate, but in my case it really helps me understand and memorize the material. I really enjoyed this class. Even though I probably won't do too well (who knew 8ams were so tough?!), I know that's my own fault and not Fessler's.
- One of the best professors I've had here. Really knows how to teach the concepts he wants and communicates his message without sounding preachy. He was fair with grading and the reading.
- One of the better professors I have had at UCLA
- One weakness of this course is Professor Fessler does not take advantage of modern technologies. He uses an old projector machine, which is difficult to see and once I raised my hand to ask to make it more visible and he shut me down saying he isn't taking questions. It was very intimidating to ask questions throughout the course so I was mostly confused. The lectures felt very far off topic sometimes and it's difficult to grasp what is important on what he is saying cause he talks so fast and doesn't stop to take questions. Professor Fessler is extremely intelligent and I admire his passion for the subject but it is very difficult to follow along and it leaves the students to fail because he is not clear on the information he is trying to get across.
- Professor Fessler is an amazing instructor and he was not kidding when he said his course was rigorous. I admire him for being honest from the start and not playing games with his students. He was straightforward about everything and I believe that he is not to blame for my low performance in his class. I honestly think he was an awesome professor and I would definitely take his course again for fun.
- Professor Fessler is genuinely passionate about teaching material rather than testing a student's ability to memorize information for exams. Before coming into this course, I assumed that every evolution course were similar but I am glad that I was proven wrong. Professor Fessler has the ability to turn complex and sometimes sensitive topics into information that is interesting towards the students who take this course. Despite the fact that Professor Fessler goes off tangents during lecture, he is definitely a professor that I hope to eventually take another course with before I graduate.
- Professor Fessler is one of my all time favorite professors at UCLA. This class will not only provide you with evolutionary basis of looking at different topics but it taught me how to think more critically. Professor Fessler may seem a bit intimidating but that did not stop me from going to his office hours because he was always there to help. I really respect him as a professor with his fairness and extensive knowledge about everything. Overall, the class itself was quite difficult but, I will never regret ever taking this class because it really did challenge me. I think I have become a better person after this course even if I do not get the grade that I would have wanted because I don't think I have ever worked this hard for a class and it has taught me so many things that improved my critical thinking skills.
- Professor Fessler is one of the best professors I've ever had. He is very concerned with students learning, he helps his students so much. He is so passionate and wants to share his knowledge and

help other learn and is not frustrated or annoyed by students like other professors are. His lecture style is perfect, no slides, no broadcasting, just speaking and us listening/writing notes. This is how learning should be because it enforces critical thinking and not memorization, which is something he promotes and I appreciate. Best class I've taken, the only thing I would say is that the quizzes are pretty hard. Some of them are ok, but some even if you read they're hard and you get them wrong.

- Professor Fessler is probably one of my top two favorite professors. Although his classes are at 8am, he makes the information fun and exciting by putting in random jokes throughout the lecture. The only thing I dislike about the class is that he doesn't drop one quiz grade because there will be a day when you are stuck in traffic, had a bad night and wake up late, or are just not having a good day.
- Professor Fessler is very knowledgeable about the subject and is both sensitive and clear when discussing difficult subject matter. His lectures are always interesting and he is able to keep people engaged despite the early hour. His expectations for the tests are a bit vague which makes it difficult to study in the best manner possible. Otherwise, he is a great teacher.
- Professor Fessler talks really fast. Recording the lectures is definitely necessary, and even though the lectures are 1 hour and 15 minutes, going through the recording and taking notes can take hours. I also didn't particularly like that he often refused to answer student questions in class, even though he checks for comprehension. I really liked that the midterms questions were given in advance. However, because they are given in advance, I felt as though the grading on the midterm was a little harsh. Other than that, he is a fantastic lecturer and really enjoys teaching the subject and I really enjoyed learning about this material since it is applicable in our lives.
- So before I took this class, I read a lot of reviews and wondered why most people spoke about how good this professor was. I really wanted to find out for myself. Hands down, this is the best professor I had ever taken a class from in my whole college education here at UCLA. He is organized and very knowledgeable about the material he teaches. In simple terms, he believes in what he teaches and he teaches with passion. I never missed any class and always looked forward to hearing him "Preach". I know you might wonder why I am saying this, just enroll in this class and I bet you will be writing same. About the course material, it is not easy...I mean it is not a walk in the park. You need to study, do the readings and attend the lectures. It is not also about "sex" as I thought it was going to be but about everything that pertains to the behavior of humans.
This class has changed my life as the information is relevant in every day life. It is not something you will have to cram, the material is relevant and very needed to know how to deal with everyday social behavior of people. This is the only class that talks about biology, race, morphology, hormones, marriage and sex. You don't usually get a class that talks about all that.
Thank you Professor Fessler, your class has changed my life, I am a better person now as I understand issues like racism, rape, morphology of human sexual characteristics more. You Rock!!!!
Ps: the last lecture made me cry, you want to find out why? Take this class and don't miss the last lecture. Overall, the best class I have ever taken in my life, period!!!!

- Strengths: Dr. Fessler is an amazing professor and person. He is genuinely interested in the material he teaches and is very knowledgeable about the topics discussed. He is very articulate and uses precise language that makes the information easier to process and more comfortable to discuss. Additionally, he treats sensitive subjects with great care and emphasizes that this is purely scientific research and has no implications on the moral aspects. I love that the potential exam questions are distributed a week before-hand because it takes some of the pressure off and enables students to fully demonstrate their knowledge of the subject matter.

Weaknesses: Exam questions are unnecessarily wordy. Extra information provided is not always helpful and can be a distraction during a timed exam.

- The class was very interesting, but it does require a lot of work. The professor does his best at explaining concepts in an easy way, however exams were difficult. I really enjoyed the lectures and how engaging they were.

- The professor mentioned at the beginning of the quarter how he was careful to distinguish the difference between gender and sex in the class, and repeated this message a few times throughout the quarter. I just wanted to point out that these two were still used interchangeably not only in lecture and discussion but also in the readings. I understand that it isn't the professor's job to fix and look for readings that don't do this or even educate students further about the differences but it would be nice if maybe there were a recommended reading on the subject. It would also have been interesting if there was information given about how transsexual, inter-sex individuals, etc differ or are similar to the patterns discussed in class. Or again if they were even mentioned somehow.
- These are my first comments I've ever written in instructor evaluations because I respect how Dr. Fessler allows students to see other students' comments. The material presented in this course was very interesting, and Dr. Fessler's energy and humor at 8 AM made going to lecture enjoyable. The only thing about Dr. Fessler's teaching style that I wish he could change is that he speaks very fast, so unless you record his lectures, you won't catch everything he says. Pop quizzes are never enjoyable either, but they made sure that students kept up with the reading material and did not fall too behind in class. Overall, Dr. Fessler was a great professor, and I would recommend taking this course.
- This class was extremely interesting. Most of the information discussed in lecture is something I'll remember. I've probably learned more out of this class than any other class I've taken at UCLA.
- This is an absolutely wonderful class and I say this being a person that has more difficulty in scientific courses. The exams are wonderful in that they feel like a puzzle or game that you are tasked with solving, and to me that is extremely enjoyable.

The only issue I have with this class is the restriction of the TAs being able to discuss certain concepts with us if they are mentioned on the study guide. I understand the issues of not wanting them to give us the answers. However, when I am unsure of the meaning of a term, the TAs won't be able to explain it if it is asked on the study guide. While I completely understand the reasoning of this, I feel that it prevents me from fully learning the concepts. If the TA simply says that they are unable to answer it, I could very well be confident in a completely wrong answer. I am not worried about this affecting my grade as much as I am worried that it hinders my learning of the concepts.

Also, I feel like it would be beneficial for students to be able to discuss their answers of the study guide with their TAs at office hours. In this instance, the TA could let the student know that it is a well done answer or that they need to expand more. The TAs should not tell students what to include or expand on, but just to let the students know whether or not the answer is sufficient. I feel that this would allow for students to better grasp these difficult concepts.

- This is the first class at UCLA that I would look forward to attending. It was very interesting and I enjoyed lecture. However, this was not an easy class as I initially thought.
- This professor is a very engaging and fun professor. He really loves what he teaches and you can tell by the way he talks about it, which helps keep the class attentive. The topic is very interesting in itself and the professor does a good job at speaking about it in an educational and fun way. Sometimes he goes through topics very quickly, which makes it hard to follow along because the material is not easy. Overall, love the professor!
- This really is a great class. The information is sometimes difficult to process because- in spite of what he says about not committing the natural fallacy- this information is about humans and we are humans, so it's very hard to not use this information as a lens to inspect yourself and the ones you know and love.
Professor Fessler is an excellent professor. He explains ideas eloquently and in an entertaining manner. He is hard to approach one on one though. In lecture he seems so friendly- but in office hours it's a little different. Not mean- just not friendly. Don't let that stop you from visiting though.
Like every anthropologist I've ever met, he's a little tough on religion- so keep that in mind too- it won't offend you as much if you're expecting it.
- This was my first Anthro class and I'm so incredibly happy that it was. Aside from this being such an

interesting topic, Professor Fessler makes an effort to make jokes and the way he connects the course material to real life really makes his lectures nice to listen to and relate to. There are pop quizzes at the beginning of the class which were kind of a pain because even when I did the readings, if I showed up 2 minutes late to class, I would miss the quiz and it just didn't feel like it was an accurate description of how much time I spent on understanding the readings. And often times, when I did make it to class, he would read the quiz really fast and I would get really flustered and end up picking the wrong answer out of those two answers we always struggle with. It's nice and all that he wants to create a system where we are following the readings, but I wish he gave us the pop quiz at the end of the class because coming to class at 8am and having to rush to answer the question sucked. Especially when a lot of us are walking to campus and are usually really hot and out of breath or just waking up and yeah it's not his problem to care about that and it's our responsibility but a lot of students have over-night shifts and work to pay for their bills and to survive and having a quiz at 8am within the first minute of class just seemed kind of unnecessary especially when we also have discussion questions we have to submit which require us to do the readings so in that way we are keeping up with the readings. I think there are more ways of helping students keep up with the readings than the pop quizzes. It also sucked that he had a pop quiz during week 5 after our midterm, like this isn't the only class students are taking. Maybe if they chose not to read the article that day because they had class and work and needed to study for another midterm, they shouldn't be penalized for it like that.

But regardless of that, I truly enjoyed this class. I found myself talking about this class and the things I learned in it almost everyday to my friends, my roommates, my boyfriend, no joke, I really did. It has truly changed the way I see different things in my life and I have come to appreciate evolution so much more! If there's a class you want to take to challenge yourself and learn meaningful things, please take this class! I hope maybe he can find a better way for going about the quizzes, but still take it!

And if you do, you'll get to hear the most beautiful, heartwarming lecture on the last day about his daughter but I won't spoil it for you :)

- Undoubtedly one of the most fascinating classes I have taken at UCLA. Professor Fessler's breadth of knowledge and his ability to impart it in an engaging way are equally remarkable. A great formula overall.
- I love him
- material was interesting, relatable, and had connection to real life.