D. FESSLER
Evaluation of Instruction Program Report

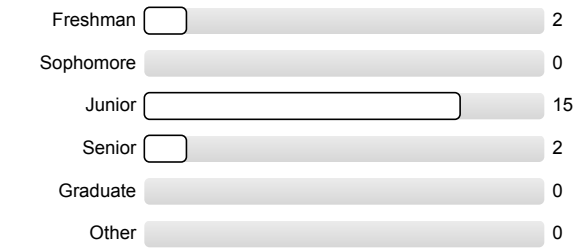
17S: ANTHRO 194 SEM 1: RESEARCH GROUP SEM
No. of responses = 19
Enrollment = 25
Response Rate = 76%

Survey Results

1. Background Information:

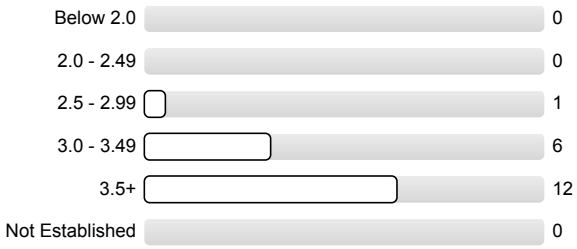
1.1) Year in School:

n=19



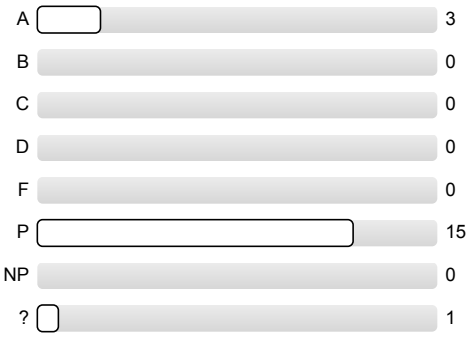
1.2) UCLA GPA:

n=19



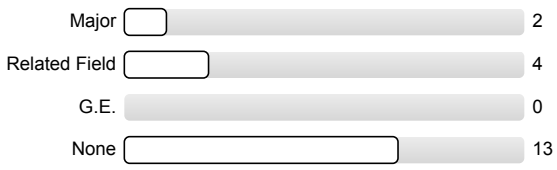
1.3) Expected Grade:

n=19



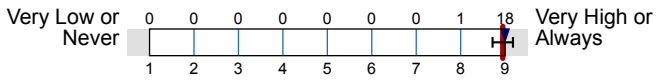
1.4) What requirements does this course fulfill?

n=19



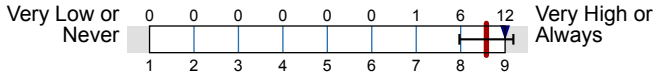
2. To What Extent Do You Feel That:

2.1) Instructor Concern – The instructor was concerned about student learning.



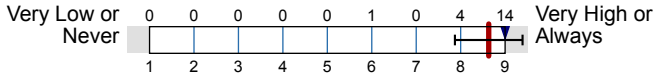
n=19
av.=8.95
md=9
dev.=0.23

2.2) Organization – Class presentations were well prepared and organized.



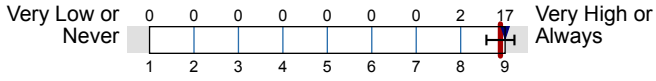
n=19
av.=8.58
md=9
dev.=0.61

2.3) Interaction – Students felt welcome in seeking help in or outside of the class.



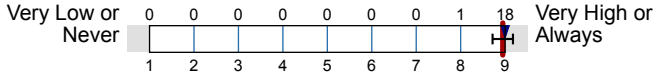
n=19
av.=8.63
md=9
dev.=0.76

2.4) Communication Skills – The instructor had good communication skills.



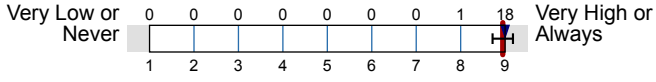
n=19
av.=8.89
md=9
dev.=0.32

2.5) Value – You have learned something you consider valuable.



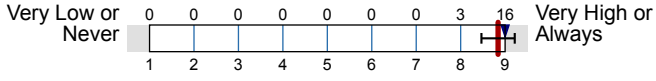
n=19
av.=8.95
md=9
dev.=0.23

2.6) Overall – Your overall rating of the instructor.



n=19
av.=8.95
md=9
dev.=0.23

2.7) Overall – Your overall rating of the course.



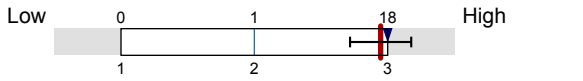
n=19
av.=8.84
md=9
dev.=0.37

3. Your View of Course Characteristics:

3.1) Subject interest before course

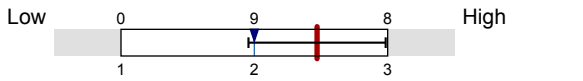
n=19
av.=2.68
md=3
dev.=0.58

3.2) Subject interest after course



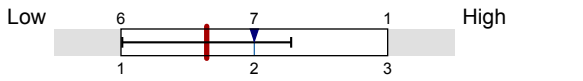
n=19
av.=2.95
md=3
dev.=0.23

3.3) Mastery of course material



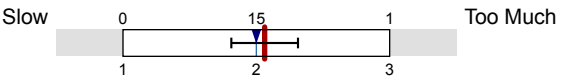
n=17
av.=2.47
md=2
dev.=0.51
ab.=2

3.4) Difficulty (relative to other courses)



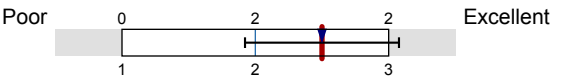
n=14
av.=1.64
md=2
dev.=0.63
ab.=5

3.5) Workload/pace was



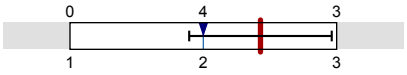
n=16
av.=2.06
md=2
dev.=0.25
ab.=3

3.6) Texts, required readings



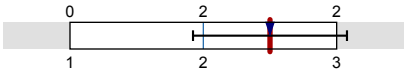
n=4
av.=2.5
md=2.5
dev.=0.58
ab.=15

3.7) Homework assignments

Poor  Excellent

n=7
av.=2.43
md=2
dev.=0.53
ab.=12

3.8) Graded materials, examinations

Poor  Excellent

n=4
av.=2.5
md=2.5
dev.=0.58
ab.=15

3.9) Lecture presentations

Poor Excellent

n=16
av.=2.81
md=3
dev.=0.4
ab.=3

3.10) Class discussions

Poor Excellent

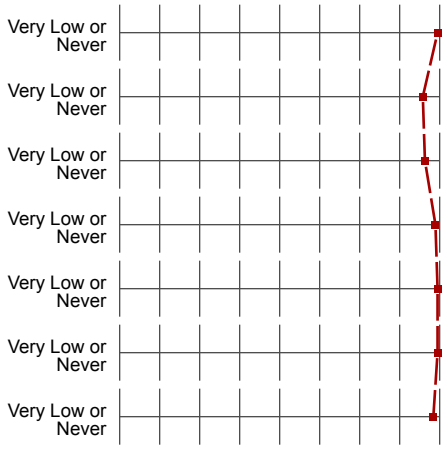
n=19
av.=2.68
md=3
dev.=0.48

Profile

Subunit: ANTHRO
Name of the instructor: D. FESSLER
Name of the course: (Name of the survey) 17S: ANTHRO 194 SEM 1: RESEARCH GROUP SEM

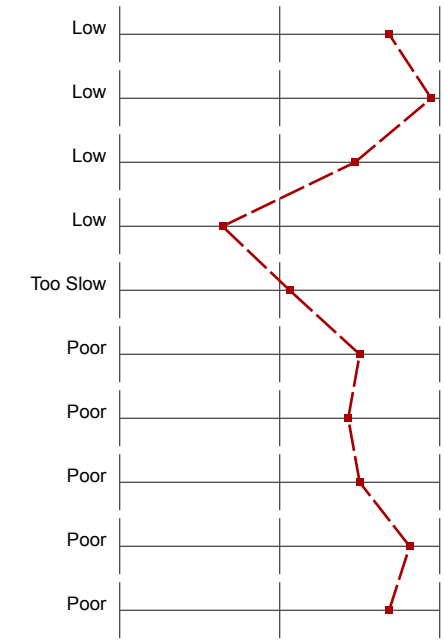
Values used in the profile line: Mean

2. To What Extent Do You Feel That:



2.1)	Instructor Concern – The instructor was concerned about student learning.	Very Low or Never	Very High or Always	n=19 av.=8.95
2.2)	Organization – Class presentations were well prepared and organized.	Very Low or Never	Very High or Always	n=19 av.=8.58
2.3)	Interaction – Students felt welcome in seeking help in or outside of the class.	Very Low or Never	Very High or Always	n=19 av.=8.63
2.4)	Communication Skills – The instructor had good communication skills.	Very Low or Never	Very High or Always	n=19 av.=8.89
2.5)	Value – You have learned something you consider valuable.	Very Low or Never	Very High or Always	n=19 av.=8.95
2.6)	Overall – Your overall rating of the instructor.	Very Low or Never	Very High or Always	n=19 av.=8.95
2.7)	Overall – Your overall rating of the course.	Very Low or Never	Very High or Always	n=19 av.=8.84

3. Your View of Course Characteristics:



3.1)	Subject interest before course	Low	High	n=19 av.=2.68
3.2)	Subject interest after course	Low	High	n=19 av.=2.95
3.3)	Mastery of course material	Low	High	n=17 av.=2.47
3.4)	Difficulty (relative to other courses)	Low	High	n=14 av.=1.64
3.5)	Workload/pace was	Too Slow	Too Much	n=16 av.=2.06
3.6)	Texts, required readings	Poor	Excellent	n=4 av.=2.50
3.7)	Homework assignments	Poor	Excellent	n=7 av.=2.43
3.8)	Graded materials, examinations	Poor	Excellent	n=4 av.=2.50
3.9)	Lecture presentations	Poor	Excellent	n=16 av.=2.81
3.10)	Class discussions	Poor	Excellent	n=19 av.=2.68

Comments Report

4. Comments:

4.1) Please identify what you perceive to be the real strengths and weaknesses of this instructor and course.

- After taking Dr. Fessler's Anthro 124P course, I was thrilled at the invitation to be an RA in "FessLab". I'd done some research before but never of this magnitude -- and overall I've really enjoyed this! I'm definitely going to continue with the lab in the Fall. I worked on a couple studies, and I felt very valued and appreciated. Lab meetings, though long, were usually enlightening -- and it was nice to have a consistent update on the research and not just be treated like a lab monkey. Overall, this was a great first quarter -- (and I say this with absolute reverence) I look forward to the day that Dr. Fessler will actually know my name :)

- Although this is not a typical UCLA class, it fulfills all the obligations that higher education is supposed to: providing information, encouraging independent learning, and facilitating leadership and teamwork. Professor Fessler cares a great deal about his students and research assistants and I think that is best reflected in his constant willingness to share academic/life advice. He's also really good at explaining scientific concepts. Before joining the lab I NEVER thought of myself as science-y or even very academic, but having the opportunity to participate in research and understand how the studies are made plus be present during some of the brainstorming has made me way more confident in my intelligence. Also my friends are starting to tease me because of how many sentences I start with "well, evolutionarily speaking..." when I'm trying to explain something. What I'm trying to say is that of all the many science classes I took as requirements, this (and Fessler's 124P) is the only "class" that has actually succeeded in making me care about science and look at the world with a scientific perspective. I look forward to being part of fesslab next year!

- Another quarter, another Fesslab iteration... except this was the best one yet! I genuinely feel like this experience and environment has given me valuable insight about how science is conducted and behavioral research performed. This opportunity for first-hand scientific experience has made me even more certain that I want to go to graduate school one day and pursue a similar career path in research and academia.
  Dr. Fessler and the other higher-ups (grad student, postdoc, and Dr. Holbrook) genuinely care that their RAs are learning something and enjoying their time in the lab. I will miss seeing them all every Monday at 5!

- Coming into this research seminar this quarter as a first year with no research experience, I was very nervous. I was so excited that I had the chance to participate in research in the field I am interested in, but I really didn't know what to expect. Once I got to the first seminar, I realized what an enriching experience this research group was going to be. Dr. Fessler, Dr. Holbrook, and Dr. Sparks really livened up the room and made me feel so welcome. I realized that I was gaining not only research experience but also mentorship and expertise. Since being in this research group this quarter, I've started to think that I might want to get a phD. and go into research myself. I look forward to Monday night meetings when I know I will delve into evolutionary psychology, be challenged to think critically, and learn skills applicable to both life and research. I also really love how there are different positions available within this research team and how we have the opportunity to take on more leadership roles if we like to. I was astounded at how much the investigators allowed us to take part in the analyzation of data we brought in. I've heard from RA's in other groups that they simply collect data and go home. This group is so much more than collecting data. We all get a chance to give our opinions, give and get feedback, and really feel like an integral part of the research this lab puts out. The team is doing a spectacular job and Dr. Fessler, Dr. Holbrook, and Dr. Sparks deserve to be recognized for their outstanding mentorship and leadership.

- DONT MESS WITH THE FESS.
  also, Dr. Fessler is the professor I respect most at UCLA. Im very thankful for being able to be a part of

this class.

- Dr. Fessler is a great professor. He has given us insightful lectures about past studies and current studies. What I love about being in this lab is that we get to make decisions about certain protocol procedures to maximize the retrieval of good data.
- Dr. Fessler is an amazing professor who truly cares about his students' learning. His classes have been among the most valuable that I have taken at useful today. He is so eloquent and I definitely look up to him. He is willing to meet with each student and truly help them, and what I have learned regarding experimental design will be useful in my future endeavors.
- Dr. Fessler is an an excellent professor who cares about all his students in both his classes and research lab. I joined his lab because I learned more valuable lessons from him than most other professors combined. The expected workload was completely fair and doable. The weekly discussion meetings have significantly enhanced my ability to conduct my own class research experiments, even though they have nothing to do with anthropology. The lab manager is always polite and understanding. However, I think Dr. Fessler should hold the shift captains more accountable for their efforts. Some of them go above and beyond while others barely scrape the bare minimum.
- Great at explaining the research methods/protocol and logic behind hypothesis.
  Another strength of the instructor is his applicable life lessons!
- I really appreciate the care Dr. Fessler exhibits in the well-being and educational growth of his students. I have learned a lot about the research process involved in psychological study, and I feel that Dr. Fessler puts in above average effort into making sure that research assistants are having a positive learning experience and not just doing mindless bitch work.
- Professor Fessler could easily just have students collect data and not explain it to them, but he always tells us exactly what we are researching, lets us share ideas, and discuss the science behind it. Sometimes he gives really good life advice too, just to help us. He also allows students to have leadership positions after some time in the lab. I really like this lab and hope to stay for a long time!
- Thank you Dr. Fessler for giving us your fireside talks and for making yourself available to talk about future plans!
- The true value of this course lies in the ability to problem solve in a creative manner without being punished for "wrong answers." Not only do you learn about how science is conducted, you are allowed to get in on the ground floor of studies that will someday be published in peer reviewed journals--an invaluable experience for anyone looking to adopt a career in academia. Contrary to what he would have his own students believe, Dr. Fessler is one of the nicest and most caring professors you can find in a university setting. He has a way of turning seemingly innocuous moments into deep pedagogical experiences. Overall, I consider this class critical to my development as a scientist.
- This course exposes you to hands on field- work and data collection in a social sciences setting, a setting I was unfamiliar with prior to taking this course. Dr. Fessler and others in the lab did a great job at explaining the research and our roles in the lab.
- This was a great lab and I hope to be able to continue it in the summer. The guest speakers and explanations of the lab were all really interesting to listen to. I think trouble-shooting during the lab was also very interesting, because many things could show up in the field that might end up skewing the data. Being able to take part of the thought process was really a learning experience. I wish I could have joined this lab earlier!
- Very concerned with his students and is willing to take the time to work with each one individually (to help with career planning).