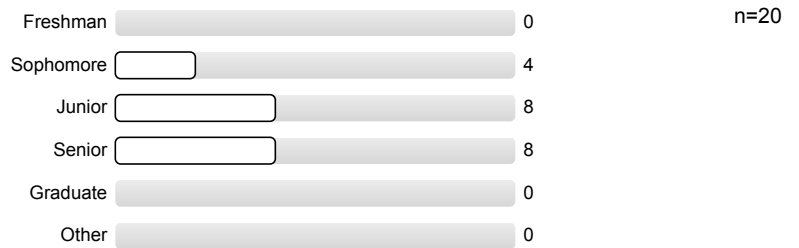**UCLA | EIP**

# D. FESSLER
## Evaluation of Instruction Program Report

15S: ANTHRO 194 SEM 1: RESEARCH GROUP SEM
No. of responses = 20
Enrollment = 22
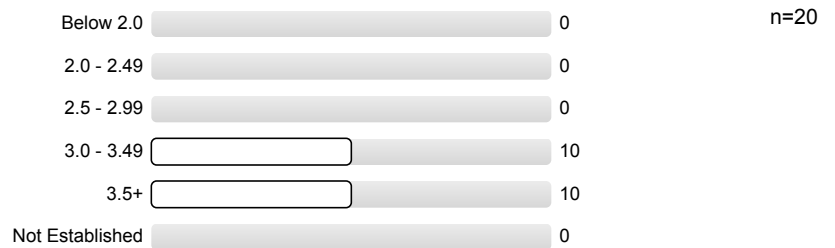Response Rate = 90.91%

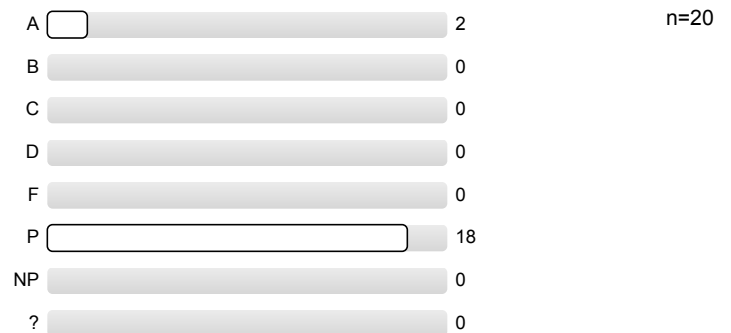## Survey Results

### 1. Background Information:

**1.1) Year in School:**

| | | n=20 |
|---|---|---|
| Freshman | | 0 |
| Sophomore | | 4 |
| Junior | | 8 |
| Senior | | 8 |
| Graduate | | 0 |
| Other | | 0 |

**1.2) UCLA GPA:**

| | | n=20 |
|---|---|---|
| Below 2.0 | | 0 |
| 2.0 - 2.49 | | 0 |
| 2.5 - 2.99 | | 0 |
| 3.0 - 3.49 | | 10 |
| 3.5+ | | 10 |
| Not Established | | 0 |

**1.3) Expected Grade:**

| | | n=20 |
|---|---|---|
| A | | 2 |
| B | | 0 |
| C | | 0 |
| D | | 0 |
| F | | 0 |
| P | | 18 |
| NP | | 0 |
| ? | | 0 |

**1.4) What requirements does this course fulfill?**

| | | n=19 |
|---|---|---|
| Major | | 2 |
| Related Field | | 4 |
| G.E. | | 0 |
| None | | 13 |

## 2. To What Extent Do You Feel That:

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

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 19 | Very High or Always
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

n=20
av.=8.95
md=9
dev.=0.22

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

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 0 0 4 7 8 | Very High or Always
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

n=19
av.=8.21
md=8
dev.=0.79
ab.=1

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

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 18 | Very High or Always
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

n=20
av.=8.85
md=9
dev.=0.49

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

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 18 | Very High or Always
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

n=20
av.=8.9
md=9
dev.=0.31

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

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 18 | Very High or Always
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

n=20
av.=8.9
md=9
dev.=0.31

**2.6)** Overall – Your overall rating of the instructor.

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 19 | Very High or Always
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

n=20
av.=8.95
md=9
dev.=0.22

**2.7)** Overall – Your overall rating of the course.

Very Low or Never | 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 2 16 | Very High or Always
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

n=19
av.=8.79
md=9
dev.=0.54

## 3. Your View of Course Characteristics:

**3.1)** Subject interest before course

Low | 0 3 17 | High
1 2 3

n=20
av.=2.85
md=3
dev.=0.37

**3.2)** Subject interest after course

Low | 0 1 19 | High
1 2 3

n=20
av.=2.95
md=3
dev.=0.22

**3.3)** Mastery of course material

Low | 0 4 13 | High
1 2 3

n=17
av.=2.76
md=3
dev.=0.44
ab.=2

**3.4)** Difficulty (relative to other courses)

Low | 3 11 4 | High
1 2 3

n=18
av.=2.06
md=2
dev.=0.64
ab.=2

**3.5)** Workload/pace was

Too Slow | 0 17 2 | Too Much
1 2 3

n=19
av.=2.11
md=2
dev.=0.32
ab.=1

**3.6)** Texts, required readings

Poor | 0 2 1 | Excellent
1 2 3
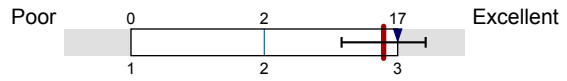
n=3
av.=2.33
md=2
dev.=0.58
ab.=17

**3.7) Homework assignments**

Poor ⊣ Excellent

| | 0 | 8 | 2 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | | |
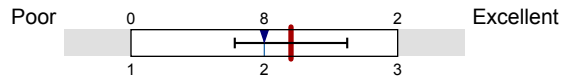
n=10
av.=2.2
md=2
dev.=0.42
ab.=10

**3.8) Graded materials, examinations**

Poor ⊣ Excellent

| | 0 | 2 | 1 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | | |
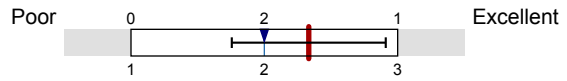
n=3
av.=2.33
md=2
dev.=0.58
ab.=17

**3.9) Lecture presentations**

Poor ⊣ Excellent

| | 0 | 2 | 17 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | | |

n=19
av.=2.89
md=3
dev.=0.32
ab.=1

**3.10) Class discussions**

Poor ⊣ Excellent

| | 0 | 3 | 16 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | | |
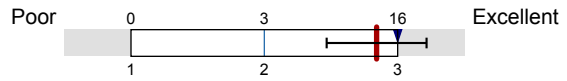
n=19
av.=2.84
md=3
dev.=0.37
ab.=1

# Profile

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**Subunit:** ANTHRO

**Name of the instructor:** D. FESSLER

**Name of the course:** 15S: ANTHRO 194 SEM 1: RESEARCH GROUP SEM
(Name of the survey)

Values used in the profile line: Mean

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## 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=20 | av.=8.95 |
| 2.2) | Organization – Class presentations were well prepared and organized. | Very Low or Never ... Very High or Always | n=19 | av.=8.21 |
| 2.3) | Interaction – Students felt welcome in seeking help in or outside of the class. | Very Low or Never ... Very High or Always | n=20 | av.=8.85 |
| 2.4) | Communication Skills – The instructor had good communication skills. | Very Low or Never ... Very High or Always | n=20 | av.=8.90 |
| 2.5) | Value – You have learned something you consider valuable. | Very Low or Never ... Very High or Always | n=20 | av.=8.90 |
| 2.6) | Overall – Your overall rating of the instructor. | Very Low or Never ... Very High or Always | n=20 | av.=8.95 |
| 2.7) | Overall – Your overall rating of the course. | Very Low or Never ... Very High or Always | n=19 | av.=8.79 |

## 3. Your View of Course Characteristics:

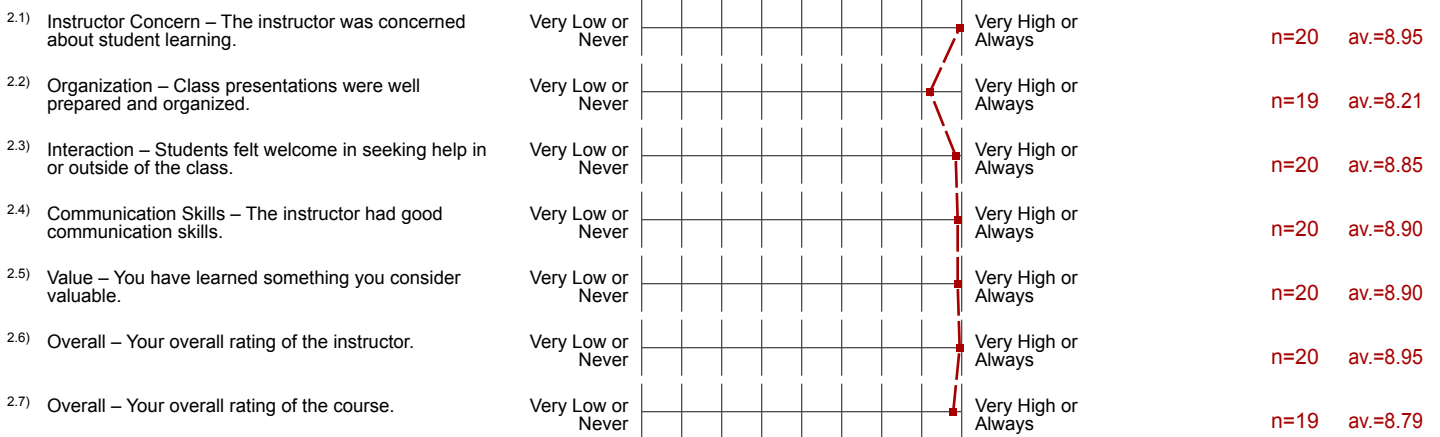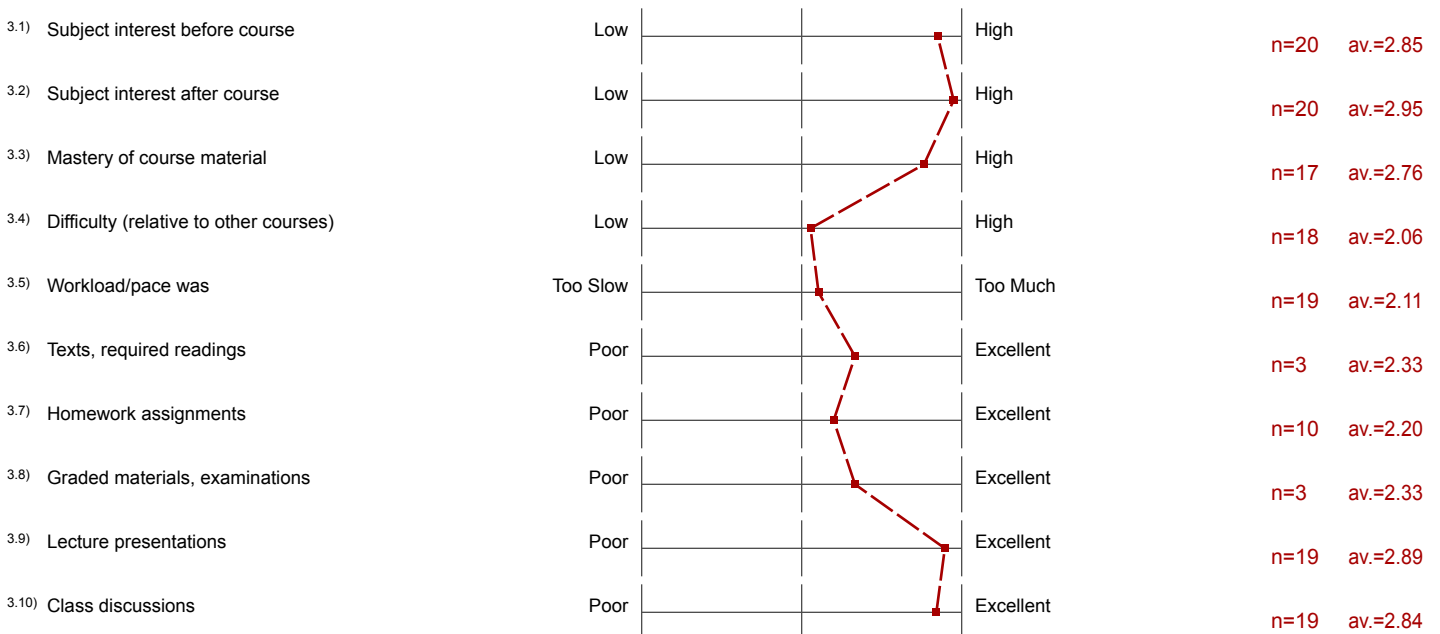| 3.1) | Subject interest before course | Low ... High | n=20 | av.=2.85 |
| 3.2) | Subject interest after course | Low ... High | n=20 | av.=2.95 |
| 3.3) | Mastery of course material | Low ... High | n=17 | av.=2.76 |
| 3.4) | Difficulty (relative to other courses) | Low ... High | n=18 | av.=2.06 |
| 3.5) | Workload/pace was | Too Slow ... Too Much | n=19 | av.=2.11 |
| 3.6) | Texts, required readings | Poor ... Excellent | n=3 | av.=2.33 |
| 3.7) | Homework assignments | Poor ... Excellent | n=10 | av.=2.20 |
| 3.8) | Graded materials, examinations | Poor ... Excellent | n=3 | av.=2.33 |
| 3.9) | Lecture presentations | Poor ... Excellent | n=19 | av.=2.89 |
| 3.10) | Class discussions | Poor ... Excellent | n=19 | av.=2.84 |

Comments Report

4. Comments:

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

- As always, being a part of Professor Fessler's anthro lab is a pleasure. Listening to Dr. Fessler's fireside chat's always leave me inspired because he always has something interesting to say. I do have to admit, I was kind of bummed this quarter because I felt that our funding arrived so late. I wanted to get more involved and work with more data and run more studies, but it was hard to do so when we basically kicked off our study towards the end of the quarter. (Of course, this is not your fault at all, Dr. F!). I enjoy how easily approachable Dr. Fessler is, and I feel very comfortable asking him for advice in many aspects of my life.

- Dr. Fessler's lab is invaluable to students seeking research experience in the behavioral sciences. The lecture portion provides an informal, seminar style refresher on the theoretical underpinnings of the current projects, and while the actual research assistant work itself really helps you get a feel for the moving parts of social science research. It's been a very rewarding experience and something I would highly recommend.

- FessLab is one of my most valued activities at UCLA. Dr. Fessler is an incredibly engaging, thoughtful, and insightful professor, and FessLab not only offers Research Assistants the opportunity to "see how the sausage gets made" when it comes to the production of scientific knowledge, it also allows students the opportunity to learn from a world-class professor. In FessLab I've discussed groundbreaking research in the field of anthropology, I've learned to come out of my shell when recruiting participants on the streets, and perhaps most valuably, I've had the opportunity to apply the principles and concepts of my anthropology courses to the real world. Whether Dr. Fessler is leading a discussion about our thoughts/opinions regarding the lab's current experiment, giving us a breakdown of what's happening in the world of anthropologic research, or diving into one of his "fireside chats" about life outside the classroom, he always manages to make FessLab a highlight of my week. Overall, I would rank Fessler and FessLab as top notch, and would absolutely recommend this research seminar to anyone looking to get as much as possible out of their time at UCLA.

- Fessler is always concerned with his students' learning whether it be on the material in class or just for life in general. Student input on different research aspects are always welcomed and actively sought after and this makes students feel a sense of ownership and pride in the lab's work. I love that I've learned so much about research and about different life skills from my time in Fessler's lab.

- I thought that the course material was very interesting, and I enjoyed the opportunity to participate in undergraduate research at UCLA in this particular topic.

- I took this course last quarter as well, and I've found that while last quarter it helped me develop my critical thinking skills in a broad way, this quarter has developed my critical thinking skills in a much sharper way; I've become better at asking illuminating questions rather than simply taking research results or claims at face value. Also, watching Professor Fessler and Colin Holbrook reach unexpected results on their studies and participating in discussions about why their results either refuted their initial predictions or complicated them has given me something valuable. Instead of simply failing and trying again, I am learning how to fail and effectively reason through why a failure occurred before trying again. My time and my efforts have become infinitely more valuable as a result. These are lessons I can take with me anywhere and that I haven't found in other courses. I'm grateful for not only the lessons I've learned but also for the opportunity to participate in discussions with doctors Fessler and Holbrook and get that immediate feedback from them.

- I'm so glad I was able to be a research assistant for Dr. Fessler! It was a really great experience and I loved being "behind the scenes." It's really helpful to go more into depth and it is also fun to get to know Dr. F and Colin a bit better. Very valuable experience.

- My favorite thing about being a part of Fesslab is undoubtedly our two hour meetings on Mondays. Fess and Colin usually spend a good portion of the meeting talking with us about past, current, and prospective research ideas and I really love thinking about these kinds of issues. They value our ideas and opinions about project designs and hypotheses and I love the critical thinking that flows through our meetings.

- The knowledge that I learned with Dr. Fessler's Anthro 124P class two quarters ago is still being put to use through this seminar class. The class itself has taught me how to dynamically think about concepts and apply them to our real world. Dr. Fessler is a great professor who knows how to interact with his students in a way that makes learning fun but professional as well.

- This course is one that I greatly enjoy. The discussions in class are interesting, and data collection, though it is difficult to meet the quota sometimes, is a great learning experience. Fessler's courses are always interesting, and he is a professor who truly cares.