



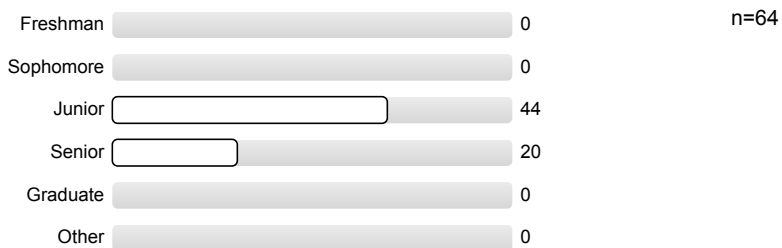
D. FESSLER Evaluation of Instruction Program Report

17F: ANTHRO 124S LEC 1: HUMAN SEXUAL BEHAVR
 No. of responses = 66
 Enrollment = 148
 Response Rate = 44.59%

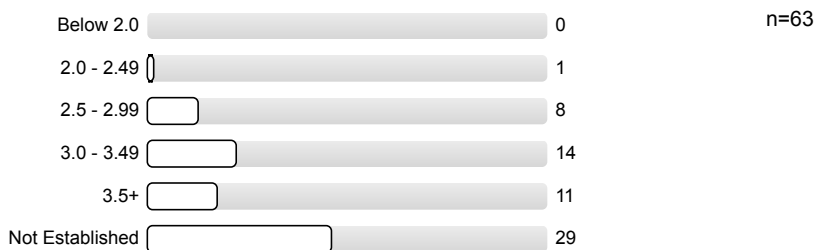
Survey Results

1. Background Information:

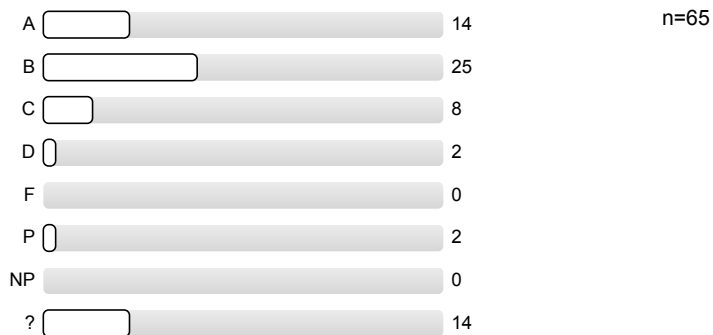
1.1) Year in School:



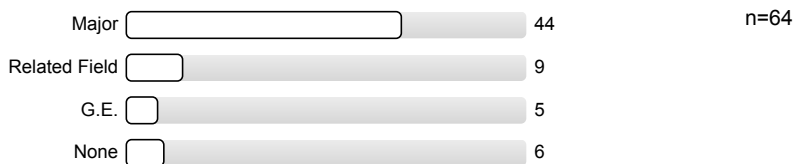
1.2) UCLA GPA:



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.	Very Low or Never		Very High or Always	n=66 av.=7.67 md=8 dev.=1.73
2.2)	Organization – Class presentations were well prepared and organized.	Very Low or Never		Very High or Always	n=66 av.=7.27 md=8 dev.=2.06
2.3)	Interaction – Students felt welcome in seeking help in or outside of the class.	Very Low or Never		Very High or Always	n=64 av.=7.22 md=8 dev.=2 ab.=2
2.4)	Communication Skills – The instructor had good communication skills.	Very Low or Never		Very High or Always	n=65 av.=7.42 md=8 dev.=2.04 ab.=1
2.5)	Value – You have learned something you consider valuable.	Very Low or Never		Very High or Always	n=66 av.=8.26 md=9 dev.=1.56
2.6)	Overall – Your overall rating of the instructor.	Very Low or Never		Very High or Always	n=66 av.=7.44 md=8 dev.=1.88
2.7)	Overall – Your overall rating of the course.	Very Low or Never		Very High or Always	n=65 av.=7.23 md=8 dev.=2.2

3. Your View of Course Characteristics:

3.1)	Subject interest before course	Low		High	n=65 av.=2.55 md=3 dev.=0.66 ab.=1
3.2)	Subject interest after course	Low		High	n=66 av.=2.59 md=3 dev.=0.68
3.3)	Mastery of course material	Low		High	n=66 av.=2.09 md=2 dev.=0.65
3.4)	Difficulty (relative to other courses)	Low		High	n=66 av.=2.76 md=3 dev.=0.47
3.5)	Workload/pace was	Too Slow		Too Much	n=66 av.=2.27 md=2 dev.=0.45
3.6)	Texts, required readings	Poor		Excellent	n=66 av.=2.32 md=2 dev.=0.61

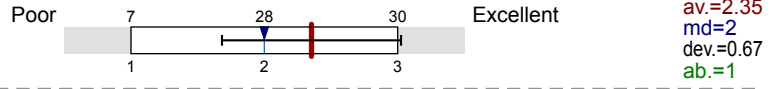
3.7) Homework assignments



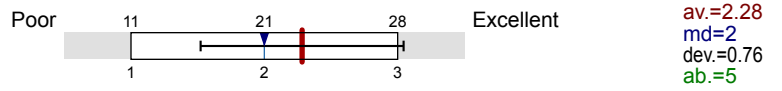
3.8) Graded materials, examinations



3.9) Lecture presentations



3.10) Class discussions

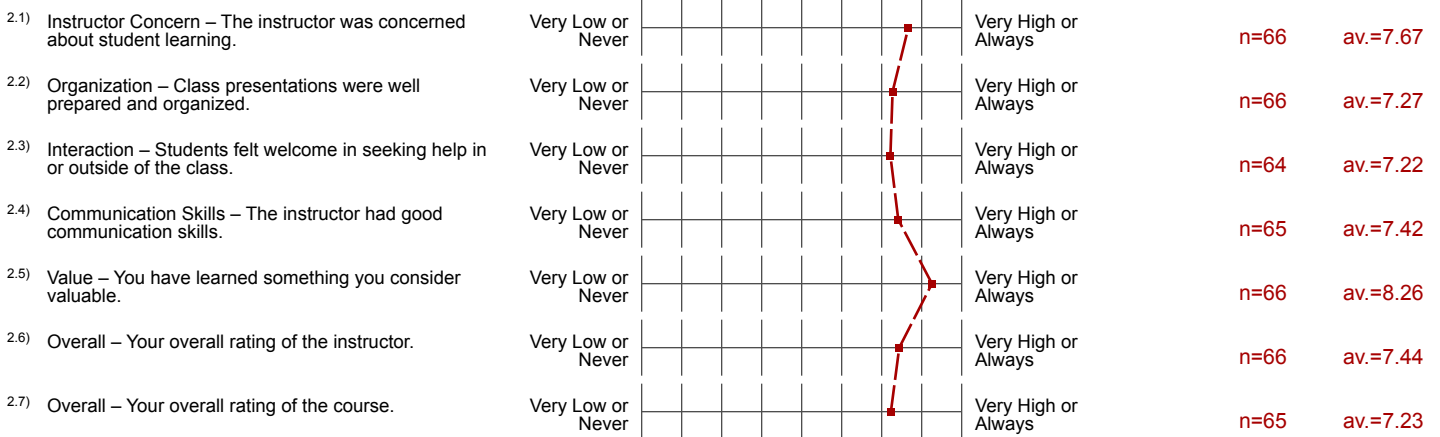


Profile

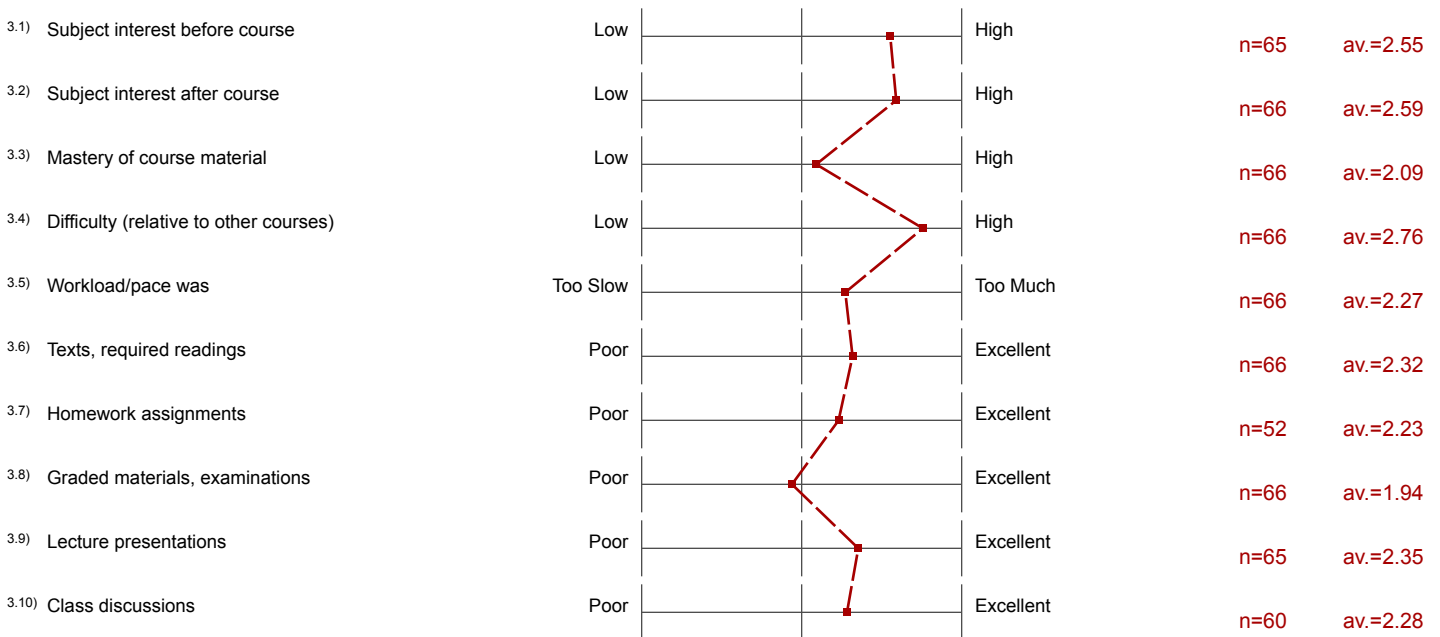
Subunit: ANTHRO
 Name of the instructor: D. FESSLER
 Name of the course: 17F: ANTHRO 124S LEC 1: HUMAN SEXUAL BEHAVR
 (Name of the survey)

Values used in the profile line: Mean

2. To What Extent Do You Feel That:



3. Your View of Course Characteristics:



Comments Report

4. Comments:

- 4.1) Please identify what you perceive to be the real strengths and weaknesses of this instructor and course.
- A good professor who is very knowledgeable in the subject. Seems very concerned with student's ability to do well in the course. The TAs are real life savers in mastering the material. Readings are absolutely essential for every lecture. The way the exams are administered are extremely fair. List of possible questions are given out ahead of time to allow students to do their best to prepare accordingly for the exam. However, that isn't exactly a walk in the park either. The course requires a lot of time, effort, and dedication. Subject is very interesting, and Fessler does a decent job at conveying that.
 - Anthropology 124S has been, by far, one of my favorite classes at UCLA. Professor Fessler's instructs the class with the utmost respect for his students and the subject he is teaching us. Although this may not be an easy class, it is by far 100% worth taking. If you have come to UCLA to push yourself to acquire the best knowledge possible, I highly recommend you taking this class. Additionally, and most importantly, it will teach you the value of not judging a book by its cover. It will teach you the values of understanding the biological/ cultural values that come with a human being. Dr. Fessler thank you for an amazing class.
 - Didn't seem to care about student's success in the class or helping them succeed. Very organized and animated in lecture but not personable, caring of, or helpful to students when meeting one on one. Had a negative experience trying to ask for help and simply guidance in this class.
 - Dr. Fessler is a really enjoyable teacher. I liked going to class, he made me laugh often. Presentations were not organized though, and it was confusing a lot of the time when we would come back to the next lecture and he would have to make corrections from the last class. I also wish it were more clear what he is looking for on tests. I feel like I have retained everything I learned, as did many other students but the mean on the tests was a failing grade.
- Great class and I think Fessler is the best person to teach it.
- Dr. Fessler is an extraordinarily talented educator who'll draw you into the material with a combination of levity and probing insights into the information revealed by current (and past) scientific research. If I had but one complaint about his excellent course, it would be the dense readings. The textbook, as well as the articles Dr. Fessler assigned, did not really contribute to my overall understanding on account of their meandering length and awkward, inscrutable prose. That being said, these readings will not hamstring your understanding of the material because any misconceptions or misunderstandings will be resolved during lecture. Overall, I cannot recommend this class enough. I came in expecting a droll survey of human sexuality, and left with a new perspective on some of the most fundamental behaviors we all share as human beings.
 - Dr. Fessler presents the course material logically and clearly. His course is refreshing because it delves into the scientific process behind the findings, leaving students with curiosity in areas that are still largely unexplored or inconclusive. While readings may sometimes be quite dense, Dr. Fessler overviews the important conceptual ideas in lecture so that students can better understand the cogency behind a given paper's arguments. He uses scientific terminology as a tool for separating any cultural or folk ideas from class topics, encouraging students to do the same. He is easily approachable in office hours and will gladly discuss course material or any questions about evolutionary psychology, academia, research, or other domains in which his experience is relevant. One suggestion for the course would be including a project or presentation which can assigned/graded during discussion sections. This could be an effective avenue for encouraging students to think about course material in interesting, applicable ways. I felt that the discussion sections were largely lackluster because it was essentially a brief review of lecture, which could be more efficiently accomplished through reviewing

lecture notes.

- Dr. Fessler's course is very interesting. He does his best to engage students during lecture, and it's what kept me awake for the 8am lecture all quarter. The course is quite difficult, not going to lie. I found recording the lectures and rereading the material helpful though.
- Fessler always encouraged students to take notes without relying on slides which helped me grasp the material better, that was one of the best parts of this course for learning. I learned so much throughout this course that I could encounter and notice in society. It has taught me to see human behavior in a different way. Fessler always made sure that students understood the material being discussed and would sometimes come back to it a few days later if he noticed that many students hadn't grasped a certain concept. Overall, this is one of my favorite, most memorable course I've taken at UCLA.
- Fessler is a genuine professor. He understands the material and rarely uses slides or presentations during lecture. He lets you record the lectures which is very helpful. The class is a lot of work, but it is an interesting class. Fessler may not advertise his office hours like other professors, but he is always there and ready to help. The exams are hard but you get the study guide in advance.
- Fessler is a great professor. Even though this class was at 8am, the class was truly engaging. Fessler does not prepare a powerpoint for his lectures which I find really good because I would actually focus on what he would say rather than at what a screen says. His lectures are fast pace and provide a lot of details so it's best to record the lectures on your phone because there is a lot of information you will not catch during class. This was a very interesting class and I'm glad I was able to take it.
- Fessler is an amazing professor and it was a pleasure taking his class this quarter. If you are questioning taking this class, I would recommend it 100%. I would constantly tell all my friends what I had learned in class that day and they would be just as excited/amazed as I was. However, this is nowhere near an easy class. In the beginning I didn't take the class that seriously because it was a social science and I've always been able to cruise by with social science classes and cut corners. This is not one of those classes. The class is not intended for you to memorize a bunch of terms and theories and regurgitate it back like many social science classes do, but actually takes a more "South Campus" class approach where you learn one idea and must be able to apply it to multiple situations. This class definitely takes a lot of time and commitment, but if you are willing to put in the work you will not regret your decision.
- Great class, but the quizzes given at EXACTLY 8am that are DONE by 8:01 or 8:02 and can't be made up, and account for 10% of our final grade are not great. The tests were also graded very critically and wording on the study guide is ambiguous. Otherwise I enjoyed the class.
- Great, interesting class but I feel like the exams were pretty hard for no reason.
- His lectures aren't extremely well structured and he goes very fast. He does not broadcast his lectures or post notes online or even up on presentations during his lectures. In order to do well you must record his lectures which not everyone has that option or ability. His exam structure is also extraordinarily different which I'm assuming catches a lot of people off guard seeing as the majority of the class got less than a 50%.
- I don't know if it was just me, but the concepts were very difficult to grasp and I felt like they were all over the place and connecting them was difficult; I am not sure what can be done maybe better organization?
- I really enjoy Prof. Fessler's Lecture. It's inspiring and interesting, and He is so enthusiastic about the class material.

Not only the class material, the professor goes beyond the material that he wants students to learn the way of scientific thinking which I think that it's very important to learn from the college education.

- I went in super excited about this class and it ended up stressing me the hell out. The professor giving pop quizzes on the information we read was super annoying. I believed that because he just kinda

spoke, it was hard to catch key information about the topics he was talking about. After taking the midterm, I felt completely defeated by my score because I felt that I put so much time and effort to study for it and didn't get nearly the grade I felt I deserve with no explanation. And then to find out that he expected the class to do as poorly as they did that's why he grades on a curve was stupid. Why teach something if you KNOW that the class hasn't fully grasped it. I felt that because there were no room to discuss what we learned during lecture also was annoying. Without having that interaction, I feel like separate students from the actual lecture. I don't know what to expect during the final or at the end of the quarter because I don't know where Fessler's mind is at when it comes to grading. Nothing makes sense and he constantly says "feel free to run this idea by your other professors", like know I think your ideas are stupid when it comes to the way you teach because I feel like I am not being taught. I want to feel the accomplishment of actually learning something and knowing I get the grades I deserve because I know I am a good student. This class made me feel that I was less than because I couldn't grasp the information. I wouldn't recommend this class to anyone and I do recommend Fessler being more organized with his grading because it is all too much

- I'd like to preface what I am about to say by saying that this class is the most intriguing class taken thus far in my time spent at UCLA.

Professor Fessler is well-organized (for the most part), and his lectures stimulate the brain; I cannot recall a single instance of learning something that did not cause me to stop and wonder at the novelty that is human sexual behavior. The course explores a very wide breadth of topics that pertain to human sexuality which undoubtedly contributes to the course's difficulty, yet I feel richer from the experience of having taken the class.

I do have a critique on the mannerism by which exams are graded. I personally felt a bit indignant when we were reviewing the midterm during class, and in order to receive full credit for the question, every single detail deemed important to the exam grader needed to be present. Not that a high standard of specificity is not to be expected, but perhaps a maximum of 10 points could be allotted for, but there may be 12 pieces of valid information that you could be rewarded for. Perhaps I am just fishing for points, but I feel that would result in distribution of credit where credit is due rather than penalizing people because they failed to mention specifically high infant mortality due to miscarriage AND infanticide (what I lost points for because I was not thinking about the causes of infant death).

- If the average on the test is 50% the teacher is clearly not adequately preparing students for the test. How can I make that more clear. We already got into UCLA, are hardworking conscientious smart and respectful students. When we show up to class and do all the reading and yet still receive 50% on the midterm as the CLASS AVERAGE the professor is clearly doing something wrong. Do you know how detrimental stress is for our health? This class does not need to be an added source of stress in order for us to learn and take something away from the course. On top of that I have had the same reading in 3 or 4 other courses at UCLA and received As in all of those classes for properly understanding the readings and course content... if there is something else you would like for us to be taking away you need to make that clear otherwise you are not grading fairly... also maybe think about getting some newer studies to include, or talking to Kerri Johnson from nonverbal communication and body language as well as the professor teaching evolutionary psych, and the evolution of interpersonal communication because all the studies in these courses are the same.....
- It should be mandatory for everyone to take this class. Dr. Fessler offers a new perspective to see the world and this experience is utterly invaluable. This class is the best, most interesting class I have ever taken and I wish so much that I could do the kinds of research he does. However, the structure of the course could use some updating. It is a bit disorganized because there are few slides and Dr. Fessler just speaks out loud. It can be hard to keep up with the material. The quizzes really suck BUT they encourage you to keep up with the course. You shouldn't expect an easy A; be ready because the class is far more difficult than you think. That is the biggest drawback--Dr. Fessler really tries not to punish you with his grading system but that doesn't really work because you end up getting hurt anyway. I respect that he is trying to fight grade inflation, but his approach only works if everyone else is doing it too. Otherwise your GPA suffers. If you're ok with that risk, and even if you're not ok with it, you should

take this class anyway because it will change how you see everything.

- It was quite impressive how Fessler was able to give lectures with basically no slides. That being said the class itself is not difficult but the way the exams are graded is. When we got the exams back we were given no rubric on how points were earned and what not making it really confusing on what the TAs were looking for. I think the subjects within the class were interesting and I learned things that I find valuable and applicable to how I understand myself and others. Definitely take this class if you're thinking about it just make sure you're ready to study! Also Fessler's last slide/announcement of the class is super cute.
- One thing I wish I did earlier was to record lectures. You can record audio with your laptop. It was only quite late when I realized that.
- Professor Fessler cares about what he teaches and how he teaches it and this was apparent in every lecture. His mastery of the course material and years of experience teaching this class allows him to not be restricted to bullet points on a powerpoint, and I found myself paying much more attention to what he was actually saying as opposed to other classes in which I really am too focused on the slides. He does go on tangents sometimes but finds his way back to the material very quickly, and anyway they're always interesting and brightens up an 8am. Professor Fessler rarely answers questions in class but he checks in with the class periodically to see if he should slow down and explain something or to move on to a new topic – this also prevents the class to stray off topic. He also teaches the material in a way that shows its relevance in students' everyday lives by using examples that a college student might experience or connecting it to current events. And he sometimes shares a behind-the-scenes of Anthropology academia and how everything's a trial-and-error process.

If listing all his strengths turns out to be a kind of summary of the course (like I think this has), then this indicates that the course and the professor's instruction is worthwhile to students. Also, this might be irrelevant but I would argue that it affects how he teaches the course: Professor Fessler seems like he's just a really good person.

- Professor Fessler has been one of the best lecturers I've had the pleasure of being a student of. His lectures are engaging and provide valuable life experience through the use of scientific evidence. Although tedious to do, the 8am quizzes actually works to get me to do the readings which are an important component of the class. The reading material themselves are interesting. Some of them are boring due to the writing style of the authors to repeat points in different manners. Professor Fessler is sometimes intimidating, but is willing and readily answers questions of his students. The lectures themselves are pretty organized considering they take on a extemporaneous (sometimes impromptu-like) format. The lectures in the first half of the quarter seemed more organized than the second half. Some important topics towards the end, were breezed over quickly for whatever reason. I'm the only other student to observe this, but I understand. My notes also get less organized at the latter half of the class. We all get tired, and less attentive as the quarter passes. That is something that we all can improve on. Professor Fessler encourages students to take notes by hand, although I've taken my notes by hand, and have done well in the midterm exam, I know students that have done better by taking notes on the computer. I'm skeptical of the generalizability of the claim, but I do appreciate that there aren't frantic typers that distract me throughout the classroom. All in all, Professor Fessler's lectures have brought upon much value into my life... and a bit of existential nihilism. I guess this class is like Buddhism. Existence (nature) is suffering and struggle, ... the practice to end suffering starts with resolving worldly urges (Science is a practice provides us with the insight to combat the urges of our evolved psychology in our modern environment, and science takes as much effort and discipline to put into practice as Buddhism).
- Professor Fessler is a great professor. He is dedicated and always makes lecture presentations interesting and relevant to real world. However, he does not have powerpoint presentations instead he verbally presents lecture material and from time to time he projects information on the board. I found that this helped me pay closer attention to what he was saying since I knew there was no visual material. He does however, allow students to record class lectures to study for the exam. I really enjoyed how professor Fessler presented class material in different examples to make sure students understood the concept. Also, I enjoyed how he would challenge us to think critically not only in the

exams but also with the readings since he would give us materials and help us understand what part of those materials were wrong and how we could identify it. Thank you professor for challenging me all throughout this quarter!

- Professor Fessler is a highly educated instructor and engages students during lecture with fascinating information making it easy to understand and apply conceptually. Something that can be worked on is the collecting of points throughout the quarter for the final grade. Although his final grading method is very fair, I wish there was a more concrete way of determining your stance in the class.
- Professor Fessler is an incredible professor in the efforts and concerns that he puts in to his students. While this is not necessarily an easy class when it comes to the amount of information you learn and how much you need to understand and be able to eloquently explain material on exams, it is a very easy class to love. The topics you cover are extremely fascinating, and the content is especially satisfying when all pulled together. The lecture style that Professor Fessler follows is unique in that he basically just talks to you about the material. There are some slides (on the old-school projector form), but most of the time, you're basically just listening to a good speaker just talking. Not only does it make the lecture more engaging, but it also encouraged me to constantly and actively listen for the key points, despite it being an 8am class.
- Professor Fessler makes the course material interesting by using analogies and giving personal experiences as examples. However, if you have a question during lecture he will not answer because he tries to get through the material for that day.
- Professor Fessler's greatest strength is his enthusiasm and dedication towards teaching not for the sake of grades, but for genuine learning. He does not spoon feed you knowledge you regurgitate on an exam but rather, gives you the information so that you use critical thinking to piece things together and learn the material for yourself. While I appreciate the challenge, it is a difficult course. The weakness of this course is disorganization-- if you miss a detail (and he does talk fast) you can miss the entire concept. The lack of coherency of lectures can be difficult to follow.
- Professor Fessler's strengths are including humor in his lectures at times and being on time for lecture. His weaknesses are talking too fast, expecting students to get everything he's saying without any notes projected onto a screen for guidance, and not allowing students to ask questions related to the content of the exams. He can be very sarcastic, which can either be funny or inappropriate in my opinion. He does not come off as an approachable person or someone I can easily talk to because he is intimidating. I felt like I couldn't ask him any questions without feeling like an idiot.
- Really great professor, I would take again. It is a hard class, no joke. He even said it was, like 45% passing or average grade, I don't remember. This indicates that the professor should possibly change his structure if the average is so small, nearly making it impossible for people to pass but it is his class and he can do what he wants. Regardless the material is really interesting and you learn a lot. The material is difficult to grasp at times so go to office hours. By far the most difficult class to be fair he did warn us but still it would be nice to pass it and learn at the same time. I loved the class.
- The instruction was marvelous and the format of the exams allowed for just our knowledge of the material to be tested, not our testing ability.
- The instructor did very well in explaining the material to the class but I think it would be more helpful if he could slow down the pace and show more slides and visuals to help the class understand a little bit better.
- The instructor is very passionate about what he's teaching. The class can tell that he is concerned about how students will understand the class material.
- The lectures are interesting and changed my way of thinking about the world. It would be nice if he could podcast his lectures instead of students having to record them on their phones.
- The lecturing style feels a bit casual, which is comforting. His lectures are informative, and thoroughly entertaining. There are very few slides, which means that note taking requires a bit more filtering, but it's

helpful for trying to understand the information given. He often checks to make sure that we understand him, which is always good. The textbook readings can be a bit long, but it's not difficult to skim them and see what information is most important. I enjoyed the course a lot, and the main issue I had was with the pop quizzes - not the fact that we had them, but the fact that we wasted a full sheet of paper to answer one question. I kept hoping that we would get the quizzes back so I could at least use the back, but we never did. He usually tells us the answer to the quiz right after we take it (except for one time in which he forgot), so we don't really need to get the quizzes back, though.

- The professor is intelligent and informative although he does tend to get distracted. The only complaint is that the grading for both the mid term and the final are ridiculously harsh.
- The reading was a lot, good stuff but Fessler forgot his students are human and need sleep
- The subject of this course was absolutely important to learn about and I am extremely happy about the knowledge I gained from the course. Nevertheless, professor Fessler way of approaching the course felt extremely difficult and demanding for me. The course was very interesting and offered important material to approach the real world, but his grading process felt unnecessarily overwhelming and at times I felt intimidated to approach him during his office hours.
- There is no doubt that Professor Fessler is incredibly intelligent and knowledgable in the Anthropological field. However, that intelligence does not give him the ability to teach a course especially to undergraduates. The material Fessler taught was profoundly interesting and eye opening, but the way in which he went about teaching it was off putting. He spoke incredibly fast trying to cover many theories in which many were outdated and not true, which he could have done without. He also did not adequately prepare his students for the structure of his exams. There was no room to engage in discussion and ask questions about the material both in the lecture and in discussion. I was fascinated by the subject but was let down by both the instructor and curriculum. I would not recommend this course to anyone who is debating taking it.
- There was no form of organization. He spoke way too fast, and told us that notes by hand were better, and told us to record his lectures. His tests are too much work for too little time, and the details expected were over the top. The majority of the class got under 50% on the midterm and he "curved" it, but it is still much too difficult for there being absolutely no class structure. He Just talks then corrects himself the next class. He just speaks too fast and expects too much. His quizzes are even difficult, which are meant to maintain our grade.

Strengths were that the material is interesting.

- This by far has been my most favorite, and most difficult class in all 3 years of attending UCLA. Professor Fessler is highly intelligent man. He knows his material well, lectures from memory, and really makes the lectures engaging and interesting by connecting ideas to his life stories, and making jokes. I have learned so much from this class; I even go home to tell my family what I learned that day because I thought it was so interesting, or it was something new that I've never heard of before, or it explained something, and made it so much clearer! I apply the knowledge I learn in this class to other classes and even my own life. I enjoyed most of the readings, and thought they fit right into the lectures.

I also agree with the pop quizzes keeping us on our toes and being prepared with readings, even if I missed them from being a minute late or didn't get the right answer. Maybe have half credit for still being there and turning in something? Sometimes we get answers wrong (some are really bad test takers), but it'd be a little less disheartening if we could get 1/2, or 1/4 instead of a 0 on the quizzes? He does drop 1 quiz grade, which helps a little.

He is against using slides or notes, and his explanation for choosing not to do so is pretty valid, yet unhelpful for the students who don't write/type fast, or have a recorder, or can't afford to buy a recorder. It makes it difficult for students to know what are the important parts of his lecture, because power points and slides usually have the most important points/ideas/words; what may seem just like tangents end up being vital knowledge. I am glad he lets us record his lectures, but I did not know how important that would be to the success in the class in the first half of the quarter, and didn't buy one until I saw the midterm exam and realized... the little tangents are important! I would recommend for him to at least write or type out SOME terms or definitions on a slide to help the students succeed. I'm not saying give us the answers to the exams, but a few terms, or words that most college students probably don't know how to spell, or when there is a lot of new terms being thrown at us that is important to know, it'd be super helpful!! Sometimes I misspelled things, or missed the definitions, or missed the word itself, because he talked very quickly, and in the end it'd bite me in the butt when I wasn't able to reproduce this knowledge on the exams. Either writing some terms or definitions, or start podcasting, so students all have the chance to hear your lectures again, not just people who can afford to buy a recorder, or the students who realize too late in the course that those tangents that were stated once, are important!

Overall: He is extremely intelligent, and I enjoyed learning the class material very much. The homework and reading were fair, the quizzes are pretty fair as well. The only thing is, if he gives a few more terms or definitions of words on slides, or even repeats terms more than just once, it'd help because he speaks so quickly. It makes it difficult to follow lectures as we don't have time to write everything word for word, and can miss a term, or an explanation connecting ideas together. This affects our capability to do well on exams if we don't have all the notes. It was necessary to buy a recorder for this class because it's impossible to write all the information down, or even type it (which he recommends against), and there are no notes, slides, or podcasts. I recommend either more slides with important words/points/definitions or to podcast the lecture please. People would still come to class if he had the pop quizzes, so that wouldn't be a worry.

Thank you to Professor Fessler for the fantastic quarter! I've never learned so much! Please take my suggestions to consideration for the future students who may struggle as well!

- This class has been one of the most interesting and challenging classes I've taken. Professor Fessler is a great lecturer. He sometimes talks fast and it's difficult to keep up with notes but he encourages his students to listen and absorb the material instead. He brings in a lot of examples and clarifies complex topics well.
- This class is super interesting and the Professor really knows what he is talking about. However, his lectures are so fast that you have to record them, but he gets off topic which makes relistening to the lectures a daunting task. Definitely, a tough class, but the content is so interesting that it's almost worth it.
- This course is extremely relevant to anyone living the human experience, and I would recommend it to anyone looking for an engaging class, regardless of whether it satisfies a major/minor requirement. That being said, you are expected to keep up with readings, and doing so is demanding, though it will pay off! The material takes time to digest, but you really learn how to look at the world with a totally new perspective - I left the course feeling that every social/biological/behavioral phenomenon has some evolutionary explicable basis, and capable of hypothesizing what some of these explanations might be. Prof. Fessler's lecture style is at times difficult to follow, but his anecdotes are engaging and worth waking up at 8 am for! I wish he would have permitted more questions from students during lecture - he could have omitted a few topics to allow this, and I really think it would have been beneficial because there were many instances in which certain connections he was trying to make between several topics were likely lost on almost everyone in the room. But he is very sincere and concerned about student learning and understanding, and is happy to address confusions from lecture in office hours. Don't be scared by the reviews/grade distribution, especially if you want to learn something meaningful and useful!

- This has no doubt been a very difficult class, with exams that challenge you to really integrate and think about course material from a macro/evolutionary perspective but also take results from published studies with a grain of salt. I am not a morning person through and through, but this 8am really keep me interested - Dr. Fessler is really just such an amazing lecturer! I highly doubt the water buffalo fact would be the only thing I remember from this class 10 years later.
- This is a very difficult and demanding course that I feel Dr Fessler has mastered and he is incredibly intelligent. His lecture style is a bit disorganized but he does bring life and everyday examples to the material. There is quite a bit of reading requires which is very difficult to get through. I wish there were more assignments throughout the year so we could gauge how we are doing and really grasp the material and what the professor and TA's are looking for on exams
- This is probably one of the most interesting and valuable courses I have ever attended. The material is interesting and relevant, and Prof. Fessler presents everything in an engaging way. 8am lectures are not my strongsuit, but it was not hard to follow him and the material. He seems to genuinely care that the students understand what he is talking about. This class requires a lot of reading, and hard work. If you're looking for a GPA boost, you won't find it here. It's my first class where I'm not a top student, which is frustrating, and worries me for my GPA. However, I don't regret taking this class, because I feel like I learned a lot (even if it didn't translate into the grade I wanted). I do feel though that Prof. Fessler should reconsider the format of his exams. You will get the essay questions in advance, and he will choose 3 for midterm and 6 for final. While you know what you're getting into, it's not easy, and for me the wording was sometimes confusing (but I'm a non-native English speaker), and the time was simply not enough. Maybe there's make time on final compared to midterm, but I won't know until I've taken it.
- This was an amazing course. It tended to be very fast paced but the information was so interesting that it often does not feel overwhelming. It felt like no other class that I have taken before. I looked forward to lecture because I felt that the information was extremely valuable. It proved to be indeed very useful. As an anthropology major I have been given a glimpse into a subfield of the discipline that Dr. Fessler presented very well and sparked my interest in. Some lectures were too fast and points were glossed over but he makes sure to revisit and explain information that is necessary.
- Very clear and concise lecturer. I enjoyed having few slides to look at during lecture, this brought the attention more closely to the content of Fessler's words. Being that it is a larger class there was really no opportunity for discussion with students during class, but Fessler was pretty good at keeping students engaged.
- Very funny professor and very to the point. Although the material was very hard, he is willing to help so that we will succeed.
- What a life changing class. As a transfer, I had no idea what I was getting into. As not easy to guess, I enrolled in the class because of the "sex" subject matter, but I feel like I gained a whole comprehensive understanding of many aspects of human behavior. I am deeply grateful for taking this course because it has brought new perspective and opened my mind about the way we are as human being and as animals. Everyday now, when I make an observation about any kind of behavior of family or of a stranger, I am glad I can use the concepts of the class to gain a better understanding that motivates behavior. Professor Fessler has trained me to reflect on behavior more scientifically as well as examine scientific work critically.
- felt like he was being hard just for the sake of being hard, how is the average an F that does not seem right
- great lectures!!! funny guy
- room for improvement - I think discussion sections would be even more helpful if we got to do practice questions - like giving us a hypothetical/test-like question and breaking it down and forming an answer together as a class and then get feedback about the answer or approach from the TA - or the TA could model a response/answer for the class - I think that would clarify what they expect from students in the exam and help students understand how to approach the questions/answers for the exam.

I really did enjoying lecture - I thought sometimes the delivery/execution could be clarified.

room for improvement: I think the class would benefit from more visuals used in lecture - brief bullet points and the occasional charts were appreciated - but I think when we're learning about somethings that are so complex - having a visual to explain a cause-effect relationship for example would really help!

The articles were interesting - I would have liked to see more recent studies.

I understanding the benefit of the pop quizzes first thing in class, but they really did cause excessive stress - I don't have an alternative, but I think it would be worth considering any other way to keep students accountable for the readings.