

Final Evaluation (CTEF Numeric) for BENCIVENGA, Ermanno (090028542, EBENCIVE) for PHILOS 4 LEC A: INTRO TO ETHICS (30220), Winter Qtr 2011

A. Please comment on the following areas and be as specific as possible:

1. What are the instructor's teaching strengths?

- His lectures are really easy to follow. He is direct and concise, but at the same time provides the necessary details.
- The instructor is extremely well-versed in Aristotle (of course, he has been teaching the course for such a long time now), but I truly appreciate when he includes his own viewpoints on the Nicomachean Ethics. In this way, he makes the material more relevant to us. He doesn't tell jokes very often, but I always savor those moments. I appreciate how he outlined from the first class the sort of ideal student he had in mind when constructing the course; it made me understand from the beginning what I should do to mold myself into that student (and it did work).
- He is a great lecturer and his lecture notes made the text more transparent. He is a nice man and he creates a comfortable learning environment.
- N/A
- Provides notes for each lecture in a course packet.
- Making the material understandable.
- He explains concepts very thoroughly and clearly with lots of examples.
- I really like the fact that the lectures he gives are not out of slides. That he actually stands up in the front and gives us room to give input almost like a conversation. That is I think at least the best way to learn Philosophy.
- re-enforces his main points
- great lecturer, knows the material well
- Knows the material well
- his knowledge of the material
- Knowledge base of the material
- Makes good analogies to help us understand the concepts
- Wonderful orator! He explains the concepts really well through discussion, not clouded by powerpoint presentations or the like, just simply from the required text.
- Express the class subject work.
- He knows the material very, very well. His lectures are very helpful. He provided all the information that will be covered in each lecture ahead for us and he provided us with all the possible questions for midterm and final for us to be fully prepared.
- Good lectures, clear, good examples, stresses important points and clarifies.
- Knowledge of material
- He gives many examples about each topic
- Knowledgeable
- He is straight to the point and specifies what is needed.
- Professor Bencivenga is very clear on what he wants from his students. His lecture notes are crystal clear and are a very big help to understand the material. His lectures are well organized and he doesn't keep us in later than the class time.
- I loved the course packet. it helped alot
- Looks like a stereotypical elder of great wisdom, which I do truly believe. He is calm and collected and knows his material very well and adds his own humor which makes the class better.
- He sticks closely to the syllabus so you never feel lost about what will be discussed in class. He also lets students know what will be on tests so that we can prepare thoroughly in advance.
- He seems very well-read and enthusiastic about this course.

UCI EEE Evaluations

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- Well-prepared lectures & lecture notes. Like the system of midterm/final only.
- Good at details
- Good study notes and study guides
- Time control; clear.
- Fair environment for learning, clearly states what he expects from his students.
- Very good explanations.
- He is good a
- Everything is clear and laid out. He tells us exactly what is expected of us. He also has an interesting sense of humor.
- Knowledge
- He knows what he is talking about and is very well organized/
- Knowledge
- Knowledgeable about the material
- Great lecture notes posted to follow along during lecture before hand.
- very straightforward with expectations of class, class material.
- class is straightforward
- He is an excellent lecturer. The material could potentially be dense and difficult to understand, but he explains all the concepts in an extremely clear and organized way, and uses relevant and easy to understand examples. He gives everything straightforward, and is extremely articulate. His notes are excellent, as well, and is a great help when studying for the midterm and final.
- Good knowledge of material
- An interesting accent that attracts the ears of the listeners.
- intelligence and wisdom.
- He explains the material in a way that is interesting and easy to understand. He genuinely wants his students to do well and structures the class in a way that they can succeed.
- gives students study packet at the beginning of class no surprises in class content very straight-forward
- Brilliant ideas, clear lectures, easy to understand analysis of course text and knows philosophy very well
- Addresses everything that will be on the midterms and final.
- Ermanno has a certain style of teaching that is smooth and transitions well from subject to subject.
- philosophical
- His lectures are pretty clear and thorough.
- He has a great teaching style that really helps the students learn the concepts at hand. He's a great lecturer that is knowledgeable and makes philosophy very clear. His lectures are always engaging and his tests are fair.
- Used detailed examples and was very enthusiastic about the topic learned in the course. Made vague topics much clearer by providing examples.
- He is very easy to understand even when dealing with a complicated subject.
- Gives study guide out
- Is able to explain clearly
- Maintains an appreciation for the subject and an appropriately simplistic view of the extent of the course and required materials.
- Very confident.
- lecturing
- N/A
- He knows what he is talking about very well. He can be very entertaining and funny with the material sometimes.

UCI EEE Evaluations

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- Knowing the material well.
- He knows his material and teaches it very well. He teaches very clearly and touches on all the course material.
- Course package summary
- 29 blank answer(s).

2. How can this instructor improve as a teacher?

- Maybe try to use the board more, but other than that there isn't anything else.
- One of the best lectures, in my opinion, was the one following the midterm. To this day, I am still trying to understand what was it exactly that made it so enjoyable. Part of it was that Professor Bencivenga rarely stood behind the podium here and instead walked around the front. He also did not read very much from his notes, which made it really interesting as he just started pulling out all of these complex arguments from his mind. Well, it was also a relief that we finally moved away from the virtues of character too. That particular lecture required a lot of writing on the board so that may be why he avoided the podium, but I also enjoyed that set-up even more so.
- He could spend more time going over what certain words in the text mean.
- N/A
- Include visual aids of some sort because I am a visual learner.
- Be more clear during lectures.
- He might try to lighten up the mood in class. Maybe add more assignments that can make us become even more involved.
- he should re look at the exams that TAs have graded to make sure
- make the course more interesting
- Interact with the students in class
- Use powerpoints
- The lectures were a bit monotoned and hard to follow. Although he is knowledgable, the instructor doesn't show much interest in the subject.
- Communicating to the students these ideas proposed by Aristotle, sometimes explanations are unclear
- He could use the board more often to draw out the relationships of the concepts
- Have an active class environment.
- I honestly think he's an excellent teacher. The only thing I can suggest is perhaps get the students involved during lecture, but since we have that option in our discussion sections with the TA it is probably not necessary. However it would probably make the lecture more interesting.
- N/A
- N/A
- get the class more involved with discussion or make the subject more relative to the students
- more visuals
- He can be less monotonic.
- be less boring
- Walk in with a pimp cane
- He can write his lecture notes in a way that is more easily understood rather than using complicated phrasing.
- He can provide more visuals for note-taking.
- Make the lectures a little more interesting and be enthusiastic.
- Include powerpoint
- More interaction with students
- Can have a more lively tone to make students stay focused.

UCI EEE Evaluations

Final Evaluation (CTEF Numeric) for BENCIVENGA, Ermanno (090028542, EBENCIVE) for PHILOS 4 LEC A: INTRO TO ETHICS (30220), Winter Qtr 2011

- possibly more diagrams for the visual learners.
- More engaging
- He can try to be as repetitive.
- Nothing
- Provoke more class debates.
- more elaboration on material besides what is in the lecture printouts.
- n/a
- Students may get tired or distracted since there is no use of powerpoint or board writing. However, he is an excellent lecturer and seems to be effective without using any kind of writing. Just for the students who get easily distracted it may be difficult to pay attention.
- Make lectures more interactive
- nada. i think the material is okay because sometimes it is interesting, but other times it is boring.
- n/a
- A bit boring and monotonous during lecture
- Not so much talking, more visual representations or diagrams would be helpful.
- It is understandable that Ermanno has an accent and that is not the issue, it is that the lecture is a tad dull which doesn't allow for students to focus for the full hour and a half of lecture.
- He can spice up his lectures a little bit. also, he can engage his students in the lecture to stimulate more interest.
- Continue doing what you're doing.
- Include some sort of slides to cover brof point while in classes because most times it was hard to write everything down.
-
- Be nicer and more approachable. Show more interest in helping those students who are having trouble in class.
- Not emphasize the exam too much on memorization
- It would be interesting to hear more opinions by more modern philosophers on questions that Aristotle presents. Or I would much appreciate it if he gave references for philosophy books or authors that cover topics that are brought up throughout this course, so that I could do more reading in the future. EX. for an alternate view on ----- I suggest-----.
- Less boring lectures.
- more class involvement, or personal experiences
- When students come to him for help, he shouldn't just tell the students to go to the TA. Instead, he should help them.
- Tough to say. If he had a more exciting lecture style, I think people would be more engaged in his antics and presentation than the relevant material given. I'd say he should stick with current style.
- None
- Quiz
- 39 blank answer(s).

3. Any other comments about this course?

- I honestly just want to thank Professor Bencivenga for one thing in particular, though he has no knowledge of my situation. I took five classes back-to-back on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 10AM to 4:50PM. Because he usually ended class early, since he was always on-topic, I was able to eat lunch. Truly, I want to extend my sincere gratitude. Also, I highly recommend this class to anyone interested in knowing how to live life in a better manner.
- This is a fantastic course to learn about Aristotle and The Ethics. The reviews of this professor on other websites are completely false. He is a great professor who has helpful lectures and fair tests.

UCI EEE Evaluations

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- N/A
- n/a
- N/a
- I like Philosophy.
- i gets a little too repetitive sometimes
- Extremely fun course, appreciate philosophy more now
- I love learning Aristotle's work!
- Very interesting course.
- No
- none
- Great course.
- I know that there are many complaints about the Professor's accent or clarity of his voice, but I disagree. I would like to say that I think his speech is very clear and perfectly understandable.
- I remember viewing in a state worker income website that Bencivenga earns about \$120,000 a year or so. He deserves every penny, I just wish he had better TA's
- It is great.
- None
- Not the most interesting philosophy course at UCI.
- overall, very interesting material.
- This was an excellent course, very interesting, and understandable. He is a great teacher and is very fair in how he grades. I'm very glad I took this class.
- N/A
- fine course.
- I enjoyed it!
- Nope
- I enjoyed this class a lot. I would definitely take it again if I could.
- The structure of the course as well as the lecture style works very well within the curriculum.
- The grading system of this course is too strictly tied to the rubric or sample answers given by the professor. Too much emphasis is placed on how closely your answer is to the professors as opposed to if the answer given demonstrates a knowledge of the material.
- Very interesting.
- it felt like I was at church.
- The exams should be in multiple choice form because it is difficult for students to memorize answers to 50 or 100 questions and try to regurgitate it verbatim when the exam only consists of 10 questions.
- The book he chose to draw material from was excellent.
- Professor Ermanno preps you very well, If you study exactly what you need to, you should have no problem passing the class. His course is challenging yet fair.
- 63 blank answer(s).

B. Please choose the appropriate rating:

If you have no opinion on the question asked or if it does not apply, please select "Not Applicable."

4. The course instructor shows enthusiasm for and is interested in the subject.

UCI EEE Evaluations

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24	9 (Excellent)	(9)
22	8	(8)
14	7	(7)
21	6 (Good)	(6)
5	5	(5)
1	4	(4)
5	3 (Fair)	(3)
0	2	(2)
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	(1)
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	(0)
2	Not Applicable	
7.17	Mean	
7.50	Median	
1.63	Std Dev	

5. The course instructor stimulates your interest in the subject.

16	9 (Excellent)	(9)
12	8	(8)
11	7	(7)
24	6 (Good)	(6)
7	5	(5)
6	4	(4)
9	3 (Fair)	(3)
4	2	(2)
3	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	(1)
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	(0)
2	Not Applicable	
6.07	Mean	
6.00	Median	
2.22	Std Dev	

6. The course instructor meets stated objectives of the course.

35	9 (Excellent)	(9)
23	8	(8)
10	7	(7)
17	6 (Good)	(6)
3	5	(5)
0	4	(4)
1	3 (Fair)	(3)
0	2	(2)
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	(1)
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	(0)
3	Not Applicable	
7.74	Mean	
8.00	Median	
1.34	Std Dev	

7. The course instructor is accessible and responsive.

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22	9 (Excellent)	(9)
16	8	(8)
12	7	(7)
20	6 (Good)	(6)
7	5	(5)
2	4	(4)
3	3 (Fair)	(3)
0	2	(2)
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	(1)
2	0 (Unsatisfactory)	(0)
10	Not Applicable	
6.93	Mean	
7.00	Median	
1.94	Std Dev	

8. The course instructor creates an open and fair learning environment.

28	9 (Excellent)	(9)
20	8	(8)
11	7	(7)
19	6 (Good)	(6)
4	5	(5)
1	4	(4)
4	3 (Fair)	(3)
1	2	(2)
1	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	(1)
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	(0)
3	Not Applicable	
7.21	Mean	
8.00	Median	
1.83	Std Dev	

9. The course instructor encourages students to think in this course.

26	9 (Excellent)	(9)
14	8	(8)
10	7	(7)
22	6 (Good)	(6)
4	5	(5)
4	4	(4)
6	3 (Fair)	(3)
3	2	(2)
1	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	(1)
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	(0)
3	Not Applicable	
6.77	Mean	
7.00	Median	
2.09	Std Dev	

10. The course instructor's presentations and explanations of concepts were clear.

UCI EEE Evaluations

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30	9 (Excellent)	(9)
17	8	(8)
12	7	(7)
19	6 (Good)	(6)
5	5	(5)
2	4	(4)
4	3 (Fair)	(3)
1	2	(2)
1	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	(1)
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	(0)
2	Not Applicable	
7.16	Mean	
8.00	Median	
1.87	Std Dev	

11. Assignments and exams covered important aspects of the course.

37	9 (Excellent)	(9)
21	8	(8)
15	7	(7)
11	6 (Good)	(6)
3	5	(5)
2	4	(4)
1	3 (Fair)	(3)
1	2	(2)
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	(1)
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	(0)
2	Not Applicable	
7.69	Mean	
8.00	Median	
1.51	Std Dev	

12. What overall evaluation would you give this instructor?

25	9 (Excellent)	(9)
21	8	(8)
14	7	(7)
17	6 (Good)	(6)
5	5	(5)
1	4	(4)
6	3 (Fair)	(3)
1	2	(2)
0	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	(1)
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	(0)
2	Not Applicable	
7.13	Mean	
8.00	Median	
1.78	Std Dev	

13. What overall evaluation would you give this course?

UCI EEE Evaluations

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23	9 (Excellent)	(9)
19	8	(8)
16	7	(7)
18	6 (Good)	(6)
6	5	(5)
3	4	(4)
3	3 (Fair)	(3)
1	2	(2)
1	1 (Barely Satisfactory)	(1)
0	0 (Unsatisfactory)	(0)
2	Not Applicable	
7.03	Mean	
7.00	Median	
1.79	Std Dev	

C. Please answer:

14. Based on completed assignments thus far, what is your current course grade or approximate standing?

A (4)	B (3)	C (2)	D (1)	F (0)	NA	Mean	Median	Std Dev
34	26	21	2	2	7	3.04	3.00	0.98

15. How much academic dishonesty seemed to occur in this course? If applicable, please describe the type of academic dishonesty that occurred (not the particular students involved).

1.	A lot	Some	A little	None I could discern
	2	3	3	85

2. Examples:

- someone asked me for my notes in which case I told them i couldn't speak English and they finally left me alone.
- 94 blank answer(s).

16. How helpful were the textbooks and/or readings to your overall learning experience?

Very	Adequately	Somewhat	Not at all
25	32	25	10

17. How challenging was this course?

Very	Adequately	Somewhat	Not at all
13	50	25	4