

MIT Course Evaluations (scored out of 7)

24.01 Classics of Western Philosophy

Survey Window: Fall 2023 End of Term

Brasher, Bridget Marie, Lecturer - Overall rating: 6.8

Teaching in Lecture

Quality of Teaching

Rating Scale: 1=Strongly Disagree, 4=Neutral, 7=Strongly Agree, N/A=Not Applicable (7 is best)

	AVG	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	RESPONSES	MEDIAN	STDEV
Stimulated interest	6.8								20	7.0	0.41
Displayed thorough knowledge of subject material	6.8								20	7.0	0.44
Helped me learn	6.8								20	7.0	0.55

Rating Scale: 1=Very Poor, 7=Excellent, N/A=Not Applicable (7 is best)

	AVG	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	RESPONSES	MEDIAN	STDEV
Overall rating	6.8								20	7.0	0.41

Comments on teaching (strengths, areas for improvement)

[Student 7830](#) - Absolutely loved Professor Brasher. She's super engaging and made the subject seem approachable and important.

[Student 10145](#) - The concepts are clearly explained, and the lecture is fun. I enjoy this class a lot!

[Student 13639](#) - Lectures were quite fun, and were also quite interactive, allowing for students to participate in the debate on the different topics and philosophies. I really enjoyed them!

[Student 15606](#) - Very eloquent and engaging.

[Student 20943](#) - Explained concepts very clearly and had interesting answers to all student questions

[Student 23305](#) - Excellent teacher and really brought out philosophy into a new light

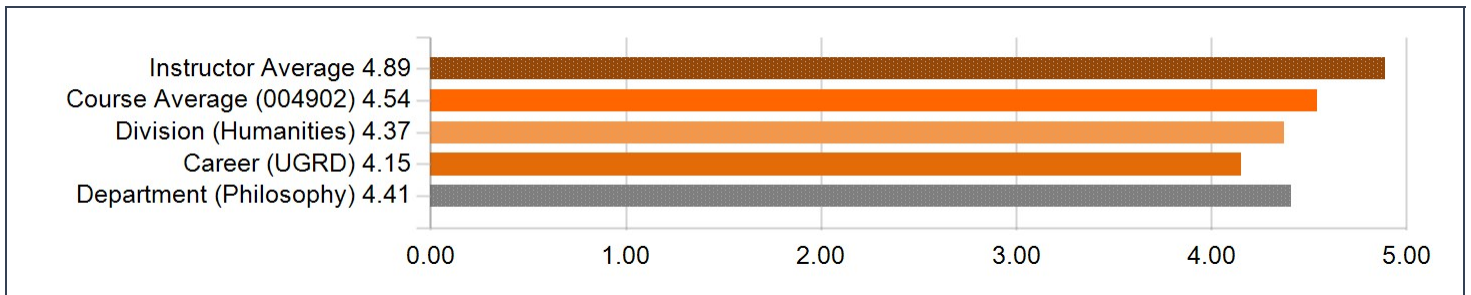
[Student 25688](#) - Very interesting class.

[Student 61329](#) - One of Professor's Brasher strengths which I most appreciate is the ability to blend relevant modern examples into ancient ideologies, thus bridging the cultural gap that is sometimes present in older works and allows me to better emphasize with the presented ideology. One other thing that I greatly appreciate is that when examining a certain belief she tries to present it in a manner that is as persuasive as possible and doesn't simply dismiss it due to personal biases.

Princeton Course Evaluations (scored out of 5)

Instructor Questions - Score Analysis

I think that the overall quality of the precepts was:



Key:

Instructor average is my average for that particular section

Course average is the average of all section averages in the course (including my sections and the other instructors' sections)

Division is the average of all section averages across all humanities courses

Career is the average of all section averages across all undergraduate courses

Department is the average of all section averages across all philosophy department courses

Instructor Questions - Frequency Analysis

I think that the overall quality of the precepts was:

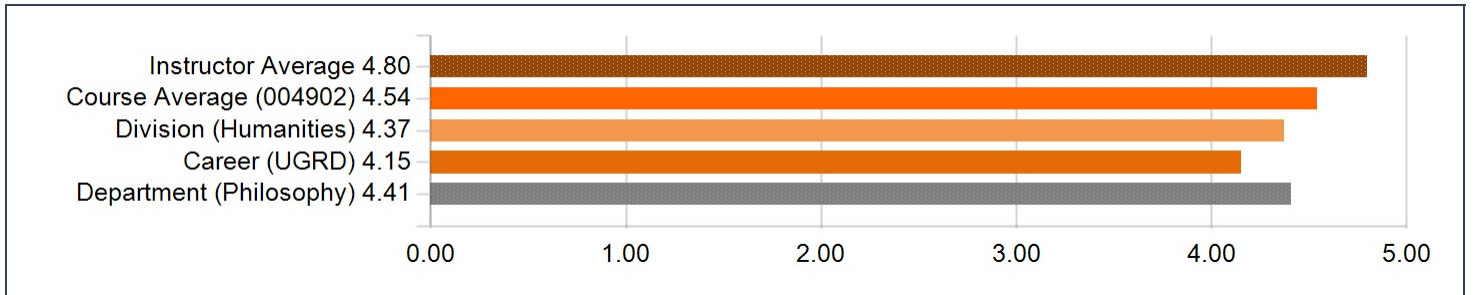
I think that the overall quality of the precepts was:			
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Excellent	5	8	89%
Very Good	4	1	11%
Good	3	0	0%
Fair	2	0	0%
Poor	1	0	0%

Precepts - Please comment on the quality of the precepts. How did they contribute to your learning in the course? To what extent did the preceptor raise challenging questions, help clarify course material, and encourage broad student participation? Was the preceptor responsive to students' questions, opinions, and criticism?

Comments
I really enjoyed having Bridget as my preceptor. She balanced exposition and discussion of the material very well. Sometimes it was less discussion and more an explanation of the explanation, but that wasn't her fault. In fact, I greatly appreciated her willingness to have one-on-one discussions with me; it really enriched my overall experience in the course. Her feedback on assignments were timely and clear. But she was also open to dialogue and working together to come to a better understanding of what went wrong. My precept/office hour discussions with Bridget definitely set me up for success in this course.
Precepts were very good. Bridget was quite dedicated and always very helpful with explaining course material and answering questions.
Bridget is a wonderful preceptor. She very much clarified challenging material brought up in lecture, and let us engage in more of a free discussion of Aristotle than I felt Professor Morison seemed to permit in his lectures. In addition, she provided very useful handouts summarizing Prof. Morison's points. It was clear she cared a lot about teaching, and she was immensely friendly and approachable while at it! She answered all questions thoughtfully, and was very transparent if she wasn't totally sure of the answer herself.
Bridget was extremely helpful and accommodating to our precept's interests. She helped clarify issues from the lectures and generously provided handouts addressing key issues.
Bridget is very responsive to questions on email, and side comments in class too – always finds a way to expand on/clarify students' ideas. Office hours really helpful too!
Bridget was an excellent preceptor. She prepared worksheets for every precept and consistently raised interesting questions while providing thorough explanations to assuage student confusion. She helped every student in the class engage with the material and ensured that nobody was left behind. She was always available during office hours to help. Overall, she went above and beyond and was an exceptional preceptor.
Bridget is an excellent preceptor and offered clear and concise answers to all of my questions pertaining to the class. She also encouraged discussion around difficult questions to ensure everyone in the class was thinking critically about the material from the lecture and not merely writing it down and memorizing it.
BRIDGET WAS AMAZING. THE BEST PRECEPTOR I HAVE EVER HAD. 10000%. On a really serious note, this was a difficult class. Bridget went above and beyond to make sure our precept was prepared — she made extra handouts, organized extra study sessions, ALWAYS stayed late after office hours, and was available by phone at pretty much any time. Literally a god. Honestly, she was the best teacher I had this whole semester, and I really liked my actual profs!

Instructor Questions - Score Analysis

I think that the overall quality of the precepts was:



Instructor Questions - Frequency Analysis

I think that the overall quality of the precepts was:

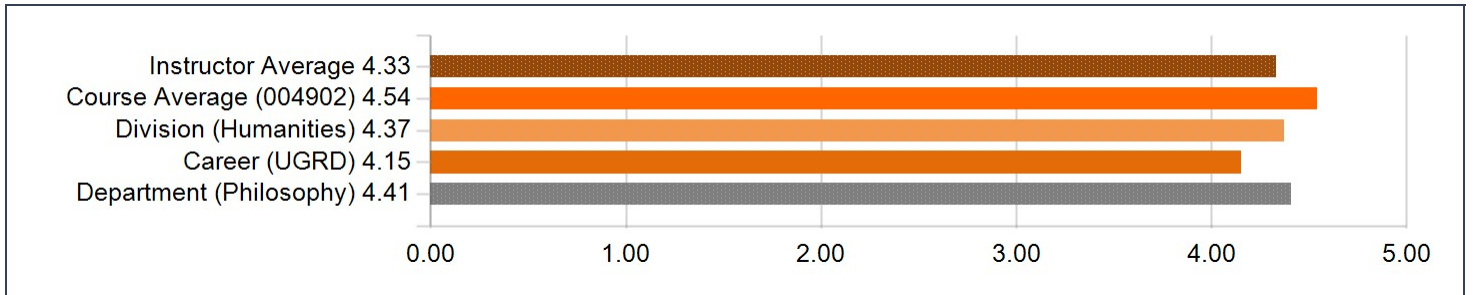
I think that the overall quality of the precepts was:			
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Excellent	5	9	90%
Very Good	4	0	0%
Good	3	1	10%
Fair	2	0	0%
Poor	1	0	0%

Precepts - Please comment on the quality of the precepts. How did they contribute to your learning in the course? To what extent did the preceptor raise challenging questions, help clarify course material, and encourage broad student participation? Was the preceptor responsive to students' questions, opinions, and criticism?

Comments
Bridget was an excellent preceptor. She was incredibly organized and prepared for every precept. In precept, she was encouraging and effective at getting us to engage as students. Precepts moved at a good pace and always ran very smoothly. Precepts effectively covered course content and seemed neither too fast nor too slow. There was sufficient time to ask questions and engage, as well as review lecture material. Outside of precept, Bridget was very kind and helpful during office hours. She was also very generous with her time and clearly willing to help us students. Her love and passion for the subject is evident, as is her knowledge and expertise! All in all, Bridget was a great preceptor, and I would take another class with her without a doubt!
Precepts were excellent. I always learned something and I felt like I could contribute whenever I wanted. Bridget did an excellent job!
The precepts were fantastic, and they really clarified and enhanced the content that I was learning in lecture. The preceptor definitely encouraged student participation as well.
Bridget was absolutely amazing. She always made time to answer my questions and was able to explain tricky concepts with clarity. Her precepts were so energetic and engaging – the highlight of my day! I found this class quite challenging but would not feel nearly as confident as I do discussing Aristotle now if it were not for Bridget's guidance and encouragement.
The precepts are amazing. Bridget did such a great job of cementing what we learned in lecture and adding to the discussion. She is always willing to take on any question, and can almost always provide a satisfactory answer.
Bridget provided review of the information but was disorganized
Bridget's an awesome preceptor, who cares about philosophy but also helping us understand it. I'm so grateful that she often took the time to answer questions completely to full understanding, and she even offered a review session during reading period! Precept virtually was still pretty engaging. Only thing is we had one particular student who liked to ask a lot of somewhat unrelated/extending questions, so it might have been better if Bridget redirected that student more.
The preceptor laid out the structure of precept for us with a handout and tested our knowledge with questions. She encouraged us to think critically about Aristotle's claims and Professor Morison's interpretations of them. Everyone in the precept participated pretty consistently, and we would sometimes break up into small groups. She always responded to questions, and if she did not have time to do so during precept, she made sure to email us her responses afterwards. I always felt like I had a stronger handle on the material after I left precept, and I often had some additional knowledge too (she would sometimes bring ideas from other works of Aristotle into the conversation to help establish perspective).

Instructor Questions - Score Analysis

I think that the overall quality of the precepts was:



Instructor Questions - Frequency Analysis

I think that the overall quality of the precepts was:

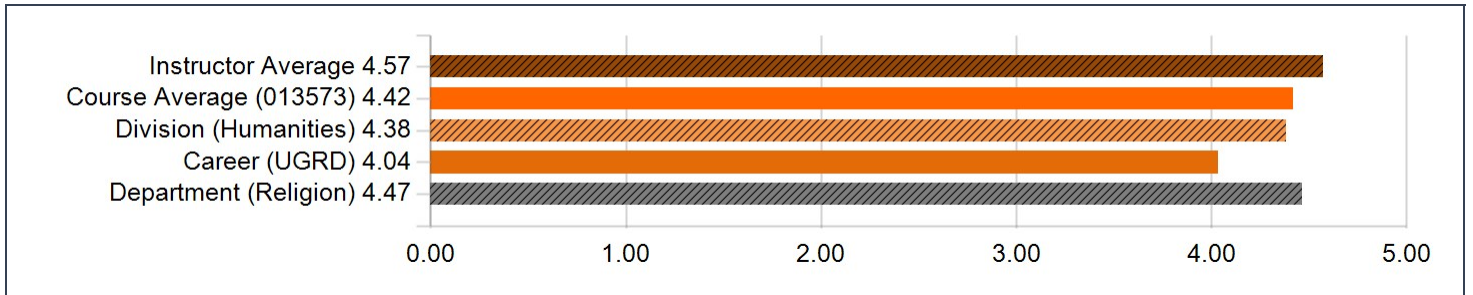
I think that the overall quality of the precepts was:			
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Excellent	5	5	83%
Very Good	4	0	0%
Good	3	0	0%
Fair	2	0	0%
Poor	1	1	17%

Precepts - Please comment on the quality of the precepts. How did they contribute to your learning in the course? To what extent did the preceptor raise challenging questions, help clarify course material, and encourage broad student participation? Was the preceptor responsive to students' questions, opinions, and criticism?

Comments
Precepts were fantastic. Bridget possesses a strong command of the material and did a fabulous job of preparing us for psets and exams and reasoning through the lectures. She raised interesting questions, clarified course material, engaged the whole class, and always gave clear and satisfactory answers to questions.
Bridget did a wonderful job with precepts, taking time to clarify material from precept, answering any questions, and going deeper into specifics that the prof hadn't touched on. She was very engaging and funny—I would love to have her as a preceptor again.
Bridget was an amazing preceptor. She found ways to engage the entire class and keep the lessons entertaining and interactive.
The precepts were great. We covered the previous lecture, and any and all questions were answered. We discussed the week's material more in-depth than in the lectures. Student participation was a little lame as most students seem reluctant to talk, which is pretty weird. Bridget answered any questions we had and made sure we understood. She is also very responsive to emails.
I found precept very helpful. Bridget was a great preceptor— she clearly understood the material and helped answer questions/clarify things that were perhaps glossed over in lecture.
Precepts were not good. Repetition of lecture. I rarely learned anything new.

Instructor Questions - Score Analysis

I think that the overall quality of the precepts was:



Instructor Questions - Frequency Analysis

I think that the overall quality of the precepts was:

I think that the overall quality of the precepts was:			
Options	Score	Count	Percentage
Excellent	5	5	71%
Very Good	4	1	14%
Good	3	1	14%
Fair	2	0	0%
Poor	1	0	0%

Precepts - Please comment on the quality of the precepts. How did they contribute to your learning in the course? To what extent did the preceptor raise challenging questions, help clarify course material, and encourage broad student participation? Was the preceptor responsive to students' questions, opinions, and criticism?

Comments
Best part of the class. Usually where most questions were clarified.
Precepts were wonderful, Bridget is a gem. She was excellent at explaining the material in an easy-to-understand way, and encouraged participation from everyone in precept to much success.
She helped clear up a lot of confusion I had
Bridget is an amazing preceptor who helps her students both understand the dense concepts and writing assignments.