

# EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Fall 2024 - Department of Political Science

Faculty/Course Evaluation

Dr. Robert Bivens

PLS 2293G-001 (#97845 FA24)

No. of responses = 8

No. of enrolled = 12

Rate of return = 66.67%

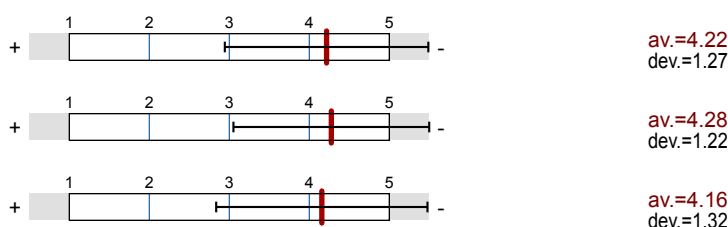


## Overall indicators

### Global Index

1. University Core Questions ( $\alpha = 0.95$ )

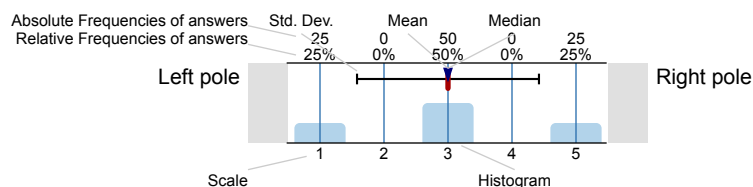
2. PLS Department Core Questions ( $\alpha = 0.95$ )



## Survey Results

### Legend

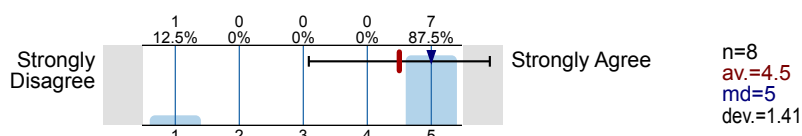
Question text



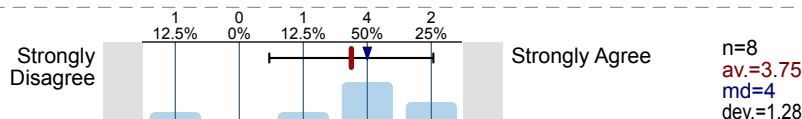
n=No. of responses  
av.=Mean  
md=Median  
dev.=Std. Dev.  
ab.=Abstention

### 1. University Core Questions

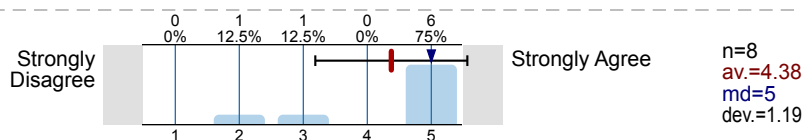
1.1) Instructor demonstrates command of the subject/discipline.



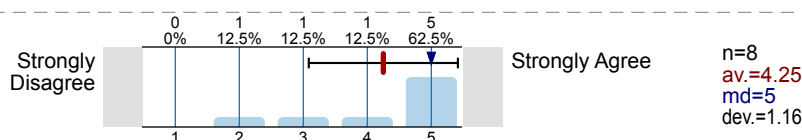
1.2) Instructor effectively organizes material for teaching/learning.



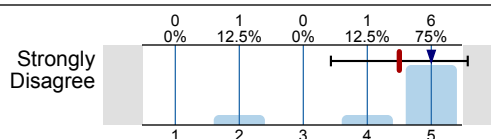
1.3) Instructor is readily available outside of class.  
(The instructor is available during office hours and appointments for face-to-face sections or electronically for technology-delivered sections.)



1.4) Instructor presents knowledge or material effectively.



- 1.5) Instructor encourages and interests students in learning.

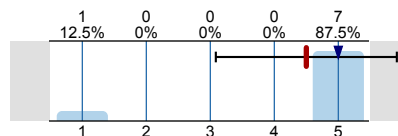


Strongly Agree

n=8  
av.=4.5  
md=5  
dev.=1.07

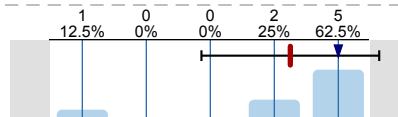
## 2. PLS Department Core Questions

- 2.1) My instructor seems well prepared for class.



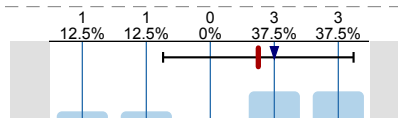
n=8  
av.=4.5  
md=5  
dev.=1.41

- 2.2) This course has clearly stated objectives.



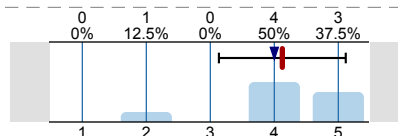
n=8  
av.=4.25  
md=5  
dev.=1.39

- 2.3) The grading system was clearly explained.



n=8  
av.=3.75  
md=4  
dev.=1.49

- 2.4) I like the way the instructor conducts this course.



n=8  
av.=4.13  
md=4  
dev.=0.99

# Profile

Subunit: PLS - Purdue  
 Name of the instructor: Robert Bivens  
 Name of the course: PLS 2293G-001  
 (Name of the survey)

Values used in the profile line: Mean

## 1. University Core Questions

1.1) Instructor demonstrates command of the subject/discipline.	Strongly Disagree					Strongly Agree	n=8	av.=4.50
1.2) Instructor effectively organizes material for teaching/learning.	Strongly Disagree					Strongly Agree	n=8	av.=3.75
1.3) Instructor is readily available outside of class. (The instructor is available during office hours and appointments for face-to-face sections or	Strongly Disagree					Strongly Agree	n=8	av.=4.38
1.4) Instructor presents knowledge or material effectively.	Strongly Disagree					Strongly Agree	n=8	av.=4.25
1.5) Instructor encourages and interests students in learning.	Strongly Disagree					Strongly Agree	n=8	av.=4.50

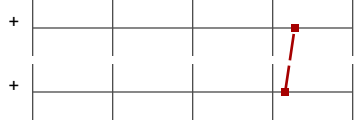
## 2. PLS Department Core Questions

2.1) My instructor seems well prepared for class.							n=8	av.=4.50
2.2) This course has clearly stated objectives.							n=8	av.=4.25
2.3) The grading system was clearly explained.							n=8	av.=3.75
2.4) I like the way the instructor conducts this course.							n=8	av.=4.13

# Profile Line for Indicators

Subunit: PLS - Purdue  
Name of the instructor: Robert Bivens  
Name of the course: PLS 2293G-001  
(Name of the survey)

## 1. University Core Questions



av.=4.28

dev.=1.22

## 2. PLS Department Core Questions



av.=4.16

dev.=1.32

## Comments Report

### 3. Instructor Added Questions

- <sup>3.1)</sup> Please provide your opinion on the grading format in the class. Was it beneficial to your learning experience? Please type your response in the box provided.
- As a lower level course i would have preferred the points be mkre spread out isntead of having 3 assignments that can make or break oir grade
  - Grading format was fine. What was good was the amount of constructive feedback given for each graded work. Not a lot of professors go into that much detail and it was appreciated.
  - I am frustrated with grading because it is not truly clear how to get a certain grade and it was never truly outlined that I can recall. There is never a rubric or a checklist type of expectation.
  - I think his grading format works well! For those who may struggle, he offers frequent extra credit that is easy to obtain. I find his grading scale and efforts to be very fair and just.
  - It is more stressful to only have a few big assignments throughout the semester, since it puts a lot more pressure on the student to do well.
  - My professor Dr. Bivens is very clear on how things are graded, and if you have questions he is happy (and quick) to answer them. You need to apply yourself to get the grade, and thats true across college level courses.
  - The grading format across the entire campus is confusing, as you cannot see your current cumulative grade anywhere, but I believe Dr. Bivens does an amazing job of allowing our grades to truly reflect what we are getting out of the class.
  - The point values seem a little low for essays and the exam, compared to my other classes. Having a rubric for essays would also be very helpful, in order to know why a certain amount of points was taken off.

- 3.2) What is your opinion of Professor Bivens? In what way was he a successful instructor and in what was could he improve? Please type your response in the box provided.
- Dr. Bivens is a good professor. He encourages conversation and always gives plenty of chances in class for questions. He also tries to talk with us as people, not just students, which makes the environment more comfortable, but we still know he is in charge. Overall I enjoy his classes I would just make the grading expectations clearer.
  - Dr. Bivens is an amazing professor who truly is passionate about not only the subject, but also all of his students. He makes sure to communicate very well and make his expectations known to allow his students to excel when they attempt to. The only thing I would suggest is trying to simplify the slideshows a bit, they are very full of information for an introductory course. Other than that, I absolutely love PLS2293
  - He is a very kind man. I love the way he teaches lessons and clarifies things. Even when the message gets lost sometimes with poli-sci jargon, he is happy to explain or meet outside of class. He's awesome, one of the best professors I've had (or teacher).
  - He is clearly very knowledgeable on his subjects of expertise. He is also funny and entertaining in class while presenting the material effectively and efficiently.
  - He seemed genuinely interested in both the subjct and our understanding of it amd that made it more engaging overall, hoevrer sometimes the long lectires could get tiresome ajd it would be nice for more discussion opportunities sprinkled throughout
  - I like how the class has both lecture and discussion days. Each person has different learning styles, so I think that is a good approach. One improvement I would suggest would be describing the expectations for projects a little more in depth and providing a clear rubric with point values. Overall, I think he is a great professor and very knowledgeable in the subject.
  - I really enjoy Professor Bivens, he has been a great teacher every day in class. He keeps our attention and provides an engaging experience, allowing us to learn and enjoy class. Although I am in honors, and it makes the class a bit more difficult, I really do enjoy it. He has been a successful instructor so far and I may take another class with him if I need any more history or poli-sci credits!
  - Prof. Bivens was an excellent instructor for the Intro to IR class. While the class was rather heavy on more literature-heavy subjects, like the IR theories, he still gave plenty of real world examples and stories that made understanding them relatively easy. I also appreciated the fact that he made sure to list everything that would be on the final exam from each lecture. He could have implemented some of the readings into the lectures/discussions a little more. They felt quite separate from the lecture material.

#### 4. Comments

4.1) Please add any comments in the box provided below.

- Dr. Bivens deserves 10 gold stars.
- He is a great instructor, he teaches his classes well and with passion! I'm happy I get to have him as a professor!
- Overall, Prof. Bivens was an extremely good teacher and I would highly recommend him to other students.
- Super chill, knows his stuff, if his class next semester counted more toward my degree i could have 100% taken it, it jsit didnt work out that way
- You're doing an amazing job, Dr. Bivens! :)