

Fall 2019 CCNY Intro to Philosophy Eval Comments: What students got out of the course.

What, if anything, did you appreciate most about the course?

- The quickness of getting grades back.
- That I never had to question what the homework was or when it was due.
- I appreciate the way it taught me to change my writing style with fluff to be more of facts and getting straight to the point.
- I appreciated the interesting discussions.
- I appreciate the fact that he was always there for help and to communicate with. I could e-mail him at 8p.m. and would still be able to get a response.
- How clear + concise everything was layed out, meaning we were told what we needed to do + his expectations.
- I appreciate the class discussion, everyone had the chance to talk.
- I appreciated the time that the professor provided for discussions as well as the readings. Readings were pretty interesting.
- It helps give a new idea of how to construe the world around you.
- The new perspectives I have now when analyzing situations.
- I appreciated the ban on electronics in class (to get rid of distractions). I loved some of the topics like identity and death.
- Some reading were good but hard, help me think more about what I'm reading about.
- The attention to detail.
- I appreciate how I could formulate questions in my assignments.
- The simplicity in the course structure.
- The readings
- The talks that pushed us to think about what's right and wrong.
- This class was structures in a way that allowed for good discussions and the professor took his time to listen and respond to any questions in class.

- I appreciated the lectures on the reading giving a better understanding on the purpose.
- A genuine understanding of Philosophy. I honestly didn't know much on the subject and this class gave me an understanding of how philosophers think and I get to see many theories and philosophies that I knew nothing about.
- When we were able to somewhat freely talk through our reaction/thoughts/feelings in an open class discussion.
- I appreciated the lectures given in the course they really helped me understand what I was reading and the point of it all.
- Appreciated the teacher's availability outside of class, sometimes through email or in person.
- How personable, respectful, genuine and open the professor was.
- The fact that we at least got to choose which article we can write a response to.
- I appreciate knowing exactly what was expected from me as a student. Homework was to be turned in same time, same day every week.
- I appreciated prof. Tracy's thoughtful lectures and answers to our questions.
- Being able to speak on what's on your mind and how you feel.
- The structure within arguments.
- I appreciated the assignments most. I believe that philosophy should be very discussion based—I learned a lot through my essays, I think we should have had more.
- It was very consistent.
- I was able to take topics and really explore my own thoughts about them and engage in conversation about deep themes with others.
- This was a great intro course to Philosophy.

What were the three most important things you learned from the course?

- The value of life, death, and moral philosophy.
- The philosophy of death, Kantian views, and the philosophy of lying.
- Writing.
- The philosophies of different philosophers, how to think critically, and how to make a good argument.
- I learned how to evaluate others view. I learned how to write a philosophy paper. Was to compare other philosophers points.
- Understanding other point of views. Questioning reason and thinking in depth. Load management.
- Readings are crucial. Take notes. Participate in discussion when you can.
- I learned different arguments about philosophers and the reason why they feel that way. I learned that body and soul are separate from each other and the articles I read about them are extremely interesting. I also learned where I went wrong when I read during lecture.
- Learned how to structure and write philosophy papers. Learned concepts from different authors discussed in class. How to manage time spent on papers and homework.
- What philosophy is. How to write philosophy. Certain answers to philosophical concepts I think about.
- I learned a lot about philosophy specially because it's my first time taking philosophy class. Philosophy is hard. Discussion and time management on doing the assignments.
- I learned how to ask a philosophical question. I learned how to read a philosophical text.
- How to write a philosophy paper. Basics of metaphysics, ethics, death, lying, epistemology.
- What is your personal identity? What is a lie?, and the wrong of a lie. Why people lie and who should be lied to.
- Argument structure. Dissecting ideas. Breaking them down fundamentally. Philosophical stances on existential questions.
- Topic of consciousness. Topic of flirting. Utilitarian beliefs. Kantian beliefs.

- Learned how to write philosophically. Learned how to break down material (Readings). I learned philosophical ideas theories from different perspectives.
- How to propose question in philosophical terms. How to write philosophically. How to engage philosophically articles.
- I learned to be very specific and clear when citing in text. I learned that outside sources are helpful. I learned that lateness is not tolerated.
- Philosophical views. How to interpret Philosophy.
- Personal identity. Promising. Death.
- How to write a philosophy paper that will help me in my career. Time management and it's importance. How to think critically on certain topics.
- I learned philosophical topics that I remembered clearly because I liked them was, personal identity, Kantian ideology.
- I learned about very important philosophers and why they were important. The different perspectives a person can have on topics like death and lying and etc. I learned how to improve my writing.
- Remembering three important things from this course is difficult but there were many different perspectives within the readings he expounded that made me look at people or experiences in a different light; which was helpful.
- Little issues that most people ignore can become major issues to a philosopher. Philosophy requires multiple attempts to get writing down pact. Philosophy makes you deeply think about things you never think about + how they affect your life.
- Learned how to argue about certain topic.
- Metaphysics. Moral obligation. Ethics.
- Identity is based on both physical and immaterial qualities. Death can only be bad under certain circumstances. Flirting can only be true if intention is present.
- A new way of looking at certain moral aspects of situations. I learned that many of my ideas are similar to those of other philosophers. Also I got better at reading/understanding/analyzing texts.
- The ability to question the nature of everyday things/objects more. The ability to write philosophical papers. To always stay on top of the readings.

- Principles of philosophy. How to interpret philosophy. How to write and read philosophy.
- I learned that there are different ways some papers are supposed to be written. You don't need to have a right or wrong answer, it's subject you just need to defend it. It's easy to go off track, so focus on the question.
- The concept of identity. Pretense of lying.
- How to look at philosophy. How to write a philosophy paper. Understand what the author is trying to convince rather than what you think is
- Hypotheticals. Theory when it comes to the mind. Ethics.
- How to continue asking follow-up questions.