UT DALLAS

Term: Spring 2020
Enrollment: 298
Eligible to Respond: 298
Response Count: 87
Response Rate: 29.19%

Class ID: GOVT2306.004.20S
Title: State and Local Government
School: School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences
Instructor: Evan Lowe

Course Experience for govt2306.004.20s - State and Local Government

Evaluation Scale is 5 Level Likert Item	SD	D	N	A	SA	%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
The course objectives were clearly defined.					M = 4.59 μ = 4.47 σ = 0.71.svg	%	1%	1%	2%	40%	55%	100%	M	**4.59**
	1%	1%	2%	40%	55%	#	1	1	2	35	48	87	μ	4.47
													σ	0.71
													N	87
The course was well organized.					M = 4.61 μ = 4.44 σ = 0.76.svg	%	1%	-	9%	33%	56%	100%	M	**4.61**
	1%	0%	9%	33%	56%	#	1	-	8	29	49	87	μ	4.44
													σ	0.76
													N	87
Overall, the course was excellent.					M = 4.45 μ = 4.28 σ = 0.84.svg	%	1%	1%	15%	34%	48%	100%	M	**4.45**
	1%	1%	15%	34%	48%	#	1	1	13	30	42	87	μ	4.28
													σ	0.84
													N	87

Instructor Evan Lowe (govt2306.004.20s)

Evaluation Scale is 5 Level Likert Item	SD	D	N	A	SA	%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
The instructor was well prepared in the subject area.					M = 4.8 μ = 4.68 σ = 0.56.svg	%	-	-	5%	23%	72%	100%	M	**4.81**
	0%	0%	5%	23%	72%	#	-	-	4	20	63	87	μ	4.68
													σ	0.56
													N	87
The instructor communicated information effectively.					M = 4.74 μ = 4.49 σ = 0.86.svg	%	1%	5%	3%	25%	66%	100%	M	**4.74**
	1%	5%	3%	25%	66%	#	1	4	3	22	57	87	μ	4.49
													σ	0.86
													N	87
The instructor seemed genuinely interested in teaching.					M = 4 μ = 4.8 σ = 0.46.svg	%	-	-	3%	10%	86%	100%	M	**4.92**
	0%	0%	3%	10%	86%	#	-	-	3	9	75	87	μ	4.83
													σ	0.46
													N	87
The instructor provided timely feedback.					M = 4.72 μ = 4.53 σ = 0.71.svg	%	-	1%	9%	25%	64%	100%	M	**4.72**
	0%	1%	9%	25%	64%	#	-	1	8	22	56	87	μ	4.53
													σ	0.71
													N	87
The instructor was accessible outside of class.					M = 4.70 μ = 4.48 σ = 0.75.svg	%	-	-	15%	22%	63%	100%	M	**4.70**
	0%	0%	15%	22%	63%	#	-	-	13	19	54	86	μ	4.48
													σ	0.75
													N	86

		SD	D	N	A	SA	%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
The instructor evaluated students fairly.	M = 4.68 μ = 4.52 σ = 0.70.svg	0%	2%	5%	32%	61%	%	-	2%	5%	32%	61%	100%	M	**4.68**
														μ	4.52
								#	-	2	4	28	53	87	σ	0.70
														N	87
Overall, this instructor was excellent.	M = 4.76 μ = 4.58 σ = 0.66.svg	0%	0%	9%	23%	67%	%	-	-	9%	23%	67%	100%	M	**4.76**
														μ	4.58
								#	-	-	8	20	58	86	σ	0.66
														N	86

Student Experience for govt2306.004.20s - State and Local Government

Evaluation Scale is 5 Level Likert Item		SD	D	N	A	SA	%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
I was free to ask questions and express my opinions and ideas.	M = 4.65 μ = 4.46 σ = 0.71.svg	0%	0%	13%	29%	59%	%	-	-	13%	29%	59%	100%	M	**4.65**
														μ	4.46
								#	-	-	11	25	51	87	σ	0.71
														N	87
My performance was evaluated fairly.	M = 4.59 μ = 4.45 σ = 0.70.svg	0%	2%	5%	38%	55%	%	-	2%	5%	38%	55%	100%	M	**4.59**
														μ	4.45
								#	-	2	4	33	47	86	σ	0.70
														N	86
I discussed ideas from this course with others outside the classroom.	M = 4.02 μ = 3.83 σ = 1.18.svg	6%	7%	23%	27%	37%	%	6%	7%	23%	27%	37%	100%	M	**4.02**
														μ	3.83
								#	5	6	20	23	32	86	σ	1.18
														N	86
This course has been (or will be) of value to me.	M = 4.00 μ = 3.88 σ = 1.03.svg	2%	7%	24%	33%	34%	%	2%	7%	24%	33%	34%	100%	M	**4.00**
														μ	3.88
								#	2	6	21	28	29	86	σ	1.03
														N	86
This course inspired me to learn more.	M = 3.85 μ = 3.77 σ = 1.06.svg	2%	9%	28%	30%	30%	%	2%	9%	28%	30%	30%	100%	M	**3.85**
														μ	3.77
								#	2	8	24	26	26	86	σ	1.06
														N	86

Comments - *Access to comments is restricted. You have permission to view comments*

What aspects of this course should remain the same?

1. I genuinely think you are a great professor who is passionate about teaching. You are very engaging and explain things very clearly. I really do enjoy the online exam reviews because they are a great tool for studying for the exam. Although the homework assignments were implemented because the course was made online, I think that would be a good addition to the course. It really forces you to understand the material well and is a great tool.

2. The material was relevant and the way my professor presented it was stellar.

3. Everything.

4. I like the schedule of the class.

5. The professor and how he interacts with students.

6. Posted lectures to review topics covered in this class

7. Interactive lectures.

8. The class lectures were extremely helpful. Having the powerpoints allowed me to focus on the lectures instead of trying to write down everything.

9. Pretty much all of it.

10. Everything should remain the same for the most part.

11. The content and structure is fine, as is the exam pattern

12. love the tophat application.

13. I like his enthusiasm. It's a pretty organized course. Chill professor

14. all of it

15. All of it

16. Interesting class lectures and discussions

17. Everything. Such a great teacher

18. The use of Top Hat was very helpful and assisted in allowing for people to express opinions in a very large classroom without the fear of being judged.

19. Everything should remain the same

20. The course material should stay the same.

21. I actually really liked the testing on TopHat, it's something I have never done before but it was fresh and very easy to take. I think the weighting of the tests and the optional final were very helpful as well. I also appreciated the unlimited attempts on the quizzes, since they were pretty challenging.

22. Everything

23. The use of TopHat was quite nice for the interactive questions asked during lectures to review recently taught material.

24. Dr. Lowe is a very passionate speaker, any question you ask related to policies, no matter how random it may seem, he shockingly can provide the answer to. He is very kind, very easily accessible outside the classroom, and rarely gets frustrated when multiple students ask the same thing. He really brings his personality to the class and he likes to pace which keeps the lecture somewhat more exciting. It is obvious he is very passionate about state government and very knowledgeable. I especially LOVE how all the due dates are given at the beginning of the semester.

25. The course was overall really enjoyable and engaging.

26. The professor was really good and the textbook as well as the assignments were fair and taught a lot. Professor clearly cared about the topic he was teaching and was very interesting as a person.

27. Great professor

28. His teaching methods. He creates an environment where people can freely ask questions and responds to them in a respectful manner. He doesn't condescend or make people feel wrong for asking questions. He also communicates information effectively by showing real-world examples of the things he teaches.

29. Keep Mr.Lowe he's the best and his lectures are the best thing.

30. The use of TopHat to make "lecture assignments" is very beneficial for students to understand the key aspects of the chapter/subject that could have been missed if the student was simply reading the lecture.

31. Mr. Lowe is a great Professor who takes pride and ownership as a teacher for State and Local government. His teaching style is engaging, informative, and well structured making learning in his class enjoyable (even if government generally isn't your favorite subject).

32. Interesting lectures

33. I really enjoyed the lecture style.

34. I loved how passionate you are about teaching government, making people who aren't really interested interested. Grading is fair as well. Enjoyed learning in this class!

35. Everything should remain the same (except for top hat, I hate top hat).

36. I love how the exams were done, with only the top 3 of 4 grades being used. Top Hat also wasn't too expensive or difficult to use.

37. The way the course was taught was effective. I'm very glad we didn't have to write an essay. The exam review guides that contained all the terms we needed to know were extremely helpful for preparing for the exams.

38. This is my second class with Professor Lowe and I found the class interesting and loved the lectures and the general structure of the class. With my studies involving Political Science I enjoyed the course content and wished Professor Lowe would still be at the University next semester.

39. I really liked top hat

40. the way the professor taught the class

41. His powerpoint and notes were very informative. They were very useful when studying for the exams. I think the use of TopHat was excellent. I used it in my other government class as well, and I think it's a good way

to track attendance and take tests.

42. The use of tophat and the organization of the course, and the engaging lectures (with slight improvement).

43. Clearly conveying ideas and connections between them, providing supplemental resources and references that relate to the topics, providing course materials online for students, enthusiastic engagement with the students.

44. I liked the fact that Dr. Lowe utilized Top Hat this semester. It was convenient, cheap and an easy way to earn attendance points every day! Also, it was a convenient place for him to post the slides online after every lecture, which I also liked because that way, if we had to miss class for any reason, then we could see what we missed. I liked that the exams were all multiple choice because that made it a lot less stressful for us in the long run and I liked that format. I also liked that our grades were already padded because of the readers assignments, which helped to bring our grade up by at most three percent! That was very generous of Dr. Lowe to do that!

45. n/a

What aspects of this course need improvement?	

1. I didn't particularly like the powerpoints. They are a great guide for the lecture but when going back to study on my own time they are a bit choppy and not very thorough. Many students have different learning styles and its hard for many, including myself, to retain everything in class. I like to go over things multiple times on my own, but the powerpoints weren't very clear in my opinion.

2. No aspects needed improvement that I found, it was an amazing course.

3. Nothing.

4. N/A

5. The pace at which information is given/more elaboration.

6. The amount of information in this course can be overwhelming and should be better organized.

7. Tests could be worded better.

8. Preparing students for exams. Providing real exam reviews. Providing relevant exam questions. Providing useful study material for exams and clearly define what will be tested over.

9. N/A

10. A lot of people seem bored in the class, maybe making class sizes smaller would help improve that. (Which I know is probably impossible).

11. Nothing really needs improvement.

12. Doesn't need to be a core class. It is easier for those who know all this beforehand, but a lot more difficult for the international students

13. maybe do not make two books required. tuition is already expensive

14. Wish his slides were just a little more in detail in terms of definitions and clarifications of concepts. Online exams would be nice. As well as not many tophat questions

15. nothing

16. None of it

17. the exams were unnecessarily hard and did not assess my knowledge fairly

18. TopHat should not be used.

19. Maybe look into paper tests, online in class was just weird

20. Not much needs to be changed.

21. There are no aspects that need improvement

22. Nothing really.

23. Not much, but the reader quizzes were fairly daunting since I didn't know what I had right or wrong. I am not suggesting that we be able to see the answers, but it would be very beneficial to know what I got wrong so that I don't question things I got right and get confused later, especially when the quizzes are 25+ questions each.

24. Nothing

25. I feel that the class size was the biggest detriment to this class. The class size was far too big for every question to be able to be answered.

26. Homework setup makes it difficult to learn/review the concepts

27. none

28. Reminders about homework would've been great but I should've been paying attention more to the

assignments if i'm being honest. But besides that everything is perfect

29. n/a

30. Quite a lot of assignments for a core class, but it wasn't too bad. The fact that I was not able to go back on questions during the exam provided the most infuriating test-taking experience I have been through. I would rush through the exam so I would have enough time, then be left with a handful of minutes at the end to do nothing with. I would've preferred if I could've used that time to answer the questions that I was struggling with. I do not see how this strategy would stop cheating, it only hurt me (and others) and probably did little to prevent cheating.

31. N/A

32. Nothing. Professor Lowe is an amazing Professor.

33. The teacher would go off on tangents which made paying attention confusing. I feel like the teacher stayed on certain topics too long and not long enough on other topics. This made taking notes in class difficult since I wasn't sure what to take notes on.

34. Paying $30 for tophat wasn't worth it at all. Yes, we did use it during each class, but I feel like it didn't really make a difference in helping facilitate information as opposed to other free options. Reader assignments should be over the textbook instead of the "reader" that contains fluffy articles; the "reader" chapters did not help me learn valuable information. Exams are a little too specific.

35. Course was very flexible and the exams and homework were related to the content but I would have loved if the readings and studies discussed in the book were discussed in class, purely out of interest. Content was excellently represented on exams.

36. n/a

37. I think the course was really great; no need for improvement.

38. The lectures are entertaining; however, I feel that when I come to class prepared to take notes the instructor can talk for 30 minutes and I will have nothing of substance to write down. This would result in me coming to class but not having learned anything and learning everything from the textbook (Governing Texas) instead. Moreover, there were several times within the semester where I was told to refer to the syllabus for said thing to not be in the syllabus. Also, the reader assignments are quite tedious and pointless as they add pretty much nothing to the course. I have never felt that I learned something from a reader assignment because they were never tested on in exams (not that they should be). The entire course could have gone without the reader assignments and should most likely be replaced with an alternative.

39. Nothing I can think of.

40. I don't think that anything really needs to be changed because I liked every aspect of this course.
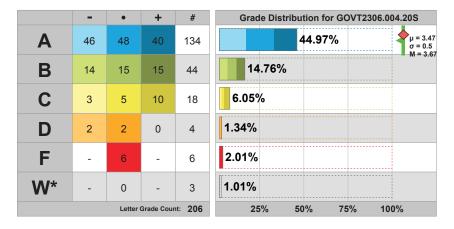
41. n/a

42. tophat

Additional comments:

1. It was very good, and although he used the software Tophat (which was an extra cost), he used it well and made it worth the money.

2. why are there two textbooks?

3. The class overall was excellent, but I felt like I was getting an overwhelming amount of information to remember in such a short time, without receiving much elaboration or clarity on specific topics.

4. Homeworks were not difficult.

5. N/A

6. Everything was pretty solid, textbook was alright, tests were good, homework was simple but made you think, overall the assignments in this class were great.

7. offer this course online. it was really efficient.

8. --

9. None

10. N/A

11. I don't think TopHat was necessary and provided anything supplemental. Why not use Blackboard as a means to do attendance or use it as a means to also facilitate class discussion or polling

12. Love the way you teach this class. Keep up the good work!

13. Overall, I enjoyed the class. I didn't mind going to class at all and felt like we got a lot of material into those short time periods. I was familiar with a lot of the material from high school, but it still didn't become boring or dry thanks to the engaging manner of the lectures.

14. Professor Lowe is very entertaining

15. T

16. TopHat was a good resource, cheap yet muli-purpose.

17. The assignments and tests were pretty fair.

18. Something I really appreciated was that this professor always showed passion in the things he taught. He helped me understand the importance of many things we learned about and inspired me to be more involved in government as a citizen. I find it really unfortunate that this will be the last class I take with this professor and wish I didn't already use my free electives.

19. Keep Mr.Lowe at this school please. I have friends coming here and i've heard horror stories about other gov teachers. Mr.Lowe is the only gov teacher I would recommend to my friends next semester pleeeeeeease don't let him leave! He is honestly such a good professor

20. Thought course material was up to date as it should be, and contrary to other classes. Outside required resources like topHat was reasonably affordable and effective.

21. The professor genuinely cared about students especially after the transition to an online format.

22. N/A

23. Sad to se

24. This teacher would swear in class and I personally think that there should be no swearing during a lecture but it doesn't affect his teaching ability.

25. The textbooks were helpful.

26. TopHat was a great addition for class polls and attendance and experienced really no problem with the service and found it very convenient. The class polls were really a great way to have more participation in class without having to be super outspoken, especially in such a large class setting.

27. I really liked that the exams asked questions over material that we actually covered in class. What he taught is what we were expected to know and were tested on.

28. Everything was fine, but in the the facility there are chairs that have floppy backs which causes me to fall backwards sometimes.

29. I really liked Dr. Lowe as an instructor! He always tried his hardest to make the class interesting for us every day, and he's pretty funny too! He definitely kept me engaged throughout class and I feel like I learned a lot this semester as a result! I would definitely recommend him for anyone who wants to take GOVT 2306 in the future! I liked that there was not much homework in class other than the reader assignments, textbook readings, and studying for the tests. This class was very manageable and enjoyable for a core class and I'm glad I took it this semester.

30. n/a

Class Grade Distribution (GOVT2306.004.20S)

	−	•	+	#
A	46	48	40	134
B	14	15	15	44
C	3	5	10	18
D	2	2	0	4
F	-	6	-	6
W*	-	0	-	3
			Letter Grade Count:	206

Grade Distribution for GOVT2306.004.20S

- A: 44.97%
- B: 14.76%
- C: 6.05%
- D: 1.34%
- F: 2.01%
- W*: 1.01%

$\mu = 3.47$
$\sigma = 0.5$
$M = 3.67$

class GPA 3.47

DF% 4.85%

WDF% 6.22%