

Selected Student Comments

1) PHIL 234: Business Ethics (Summer 2020)

"I love the feedback in this course via discussion board and grading comments. This course made me look outside the box."

"Maria was very easy to talk to and worth with for any questions/problems/help I needed."

"Thank you for being so accessible and willing to help. You are a wonderful teacher and I really enjoyed the class."

"This was a great course and you made it very enjoyable"

"The professor of this course is very knowledgeable and allows us to express our thoughts and then challenges us to look at multiple viewpoints."

"I enjoyed writing the papers that were required. Instructor was prompt when responding to emails."

"I loved the class!"

Personal correspondence/email:

"I just wanted to say thanks again for teaching such a great class this summer. I learned so much, and I am really proud of the work I did here. You totally helped make this possible through all of the hard work you put in to making sure the modules were very substantive and cohesive both individually, and as one! The concepts were hard to grasp at times, but challenged me to think differently and deeper about a lot of issues. All of the feedback and suggestions you made for the final project were so insightful and really helped me take a clear direction with my last paper. In the end, I really cranked out a product that I was extremely happy with and it flowed so much better once your suggestions clicked."

2) PHIL 233: Biomedical Ethics (Spring 2020)

"I liked how up to date and relevant the material we covered in class was. The class discussions were engaging, and we often ran out of time rather than looking to fill space – it is rare to find a philosophy course for me where I'm not looking at the clock the entire time."

"At first there were quite a lot of required readings but the instructor modified this after comment from the class. That was very appreciated!"

"I signed up for this class for a pre-rec for nursing school, I tried to avoid it my entire college career. I was skeptical coming in because I haven't had great experience with ethics/philosophy, but I was pleasantly surprised. This was one of the most interesting classes I have ever taken. I learned practical knowledge of healthcare and healthcare in politics. I actively utilize the knowledge I gained from this class and I think it makes me a better person, US citizen, researcher,

and ultimately, it will make me a much better nurse. I think everyone should take this class because healthcare is in everyone's life and it is important get insight into it."

"Thank you for being so awesome throughout all of this! I've really appreciated how you are always so responsive and all of the work you put into the PowerPoints and discussions."

"I would like to thank you for being patient with me."

"Thank for teaching such an incredible class. I admit that I did a lot of eye rolling before taking this class because my experience in ethics classes have not been great. I often asked "when will I use this," or thought I knew what the issues were in healthcare – I was very wrong. We dove right in with the class discussions and they were so interesting. I had a lot of opinions, but I stood corrected a lot. You handled very tense and stressful situations during those discussions very well and never made anyone feel like what they had to say was irrelevant. I would look forward to our class discussions after the reading assignments and class went by so quickly because of those discussions. The papers were thought provoking. You made me write about things I didn't think I cared about or tried to avoid thinking about. However, the thing that I appreciated most about your lecturing is that you admitted when you didn't know something. Someone would ask, "is this right or wrong?", you would present your side of it but in the end say "but honestly, I could be wrong." For a subject that is changing rapidly, you understood that you didn't have all of the answers and wanted us to come up with our own. From day one, I have wanted to thank you for your teaching and guidance. Thank you for making me pay attention to things I have wanted to avoid and doing so in an engaging and intriguing manner."

3) *PHIL 233: Biomedical Ethics (Fall 2018)*

"Maria was very energetic and passionate about Biomedical Ethics. She was confident in what she taught, and she was consistently punctual for class."

"Very interesting subject. Kept me thinking about my own beliefs and moral standards"

"Take this course, because there are some interesting topics to discuss"

"Good teacher"

"[This class] exposes you to real topics that are hard to discuss outside of the classroom"

"[If you take this class], you will learn about biomedical ethics, but more generally, how to partake in philosophical thinking, which is very valuable."

"Read the articles, they are interesting"

"Thank you for your time and teaching throughout the semester. Also, thanks for being available for questions."

"This class was really enjoyable. The things that I didn't like about it did serve a purpose in personal growth, at least in some way or another. The topics of the readings were extremely interesting. Even if something was out of date, it was still relevant."

"I appreciated your consistency. For example, when an assignment had a different due date than listed on the syllabus – there was an instance where you addressed that by saying, "Well, I said it, so we will stick with that." It showed you stand behind what you say. That is an extremely honorable quality."

"I appreciate her taking the time out of her day to accommodate me with a family situation. That spoke volumes."

"Effective teaching style, made it interesting, upbeat"

Personal email/correspondence:

"Thank you for an interesting semester. I thoroughly enjoyed the readings and exploring what I originally thought about a topic, and then what I truly felt about it when I closely examined it. Great class!"

"I appreciate all your patience with me and being very accommodating. You were a great teacher!"

"I feel like you pushed me this semester and took the time to help me grow, so I thank you for that! Your class was one of the most interesting classes I have ever taken, real life topics too! Thank you for everything."

"Now that the semester is over and it won't seem like an attempt to influence bias (that would be unethical), I can share how much I enjoyed your class. All the topics of the readings were interesting and fun to discuss. The class was so diverse, so there was a lot of opportunity to hear the perspectives of individuals from many walks of life. I learned a lot about something unfamiliar, and hopefully can refine those skills in the future."

The importance of understanding ethics is an aspect of medical and science careers that students can sometimes undervalue. There is so much more to the job than just the technical side of things. You highlighted that. A personality trait that I'm sure you are aware of is your ability to truly listen without pushing personal opinion. That takes extra effort in positions where your knowledge about something very specific is far greater than the other participants. I really appreciated it, and think you are definitely in your wheelhouse as an ethics teacher."