

 

Office of the Registrar

The Course and Teacher Evaluation Council (CTEC)

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Department: POLI_SCI Political Science

Course: 230-0-01 Introduction to Law in the Political Arena

Quarter: Winter 2008

CTEC Online TA Report for Toby Wayne Bolsen

Teaching Assistant Questions

Wording of Statement

	Number of responses	6 (high)	5	4	3	2	1 (low)	Average
22. The lab teacher was able to answer the students' questions adequately	47	31	13	3	0	0	0	5.60
23. The lab teacher was well prepared for each session	47	32	15	0	0	0	0	5.68
24. The lab teacher communicated ideas in a clear manner	47	30	17	0	0	0	0	5.64
25. The lab teacher showed strong interest in teaching the course	47	34	12	1	0	0	0	5.70

Comments: // He's great. His grading style is neither easy nor hard - it's fair. And fairness is so hard to come by at this school! He's dedicated to the subject and encourages participation. / Toby Bolsen was one of the best TA's I've had at Northwestern, knows all the material, is a great communicator. / he was really interested in the subject and made section interesting, too. / My TA was very personable; easy to talk to, but still able to be authoritative in class. / toby's awesome. great ta. / Toby is an excellent TA who stimulated interest, discussion, and kept the class entertained while challenged. / Toby made the class worthwhile. I wish I had 3 weekly sessions with him because he makes me think, gets me excited about the material and piques my interest in topics I normally wouldn't care about. He communicates exam material better than any professor or TA I've had and doesn't try to fool the students or make them feel like second-class citizens. He is the best TA I've had at NU, bar none. / LOVED TOBY!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Seriously my best T.A. at Northwestern so far. / Toby knows the material well and is very capable of using limited amount of discussion session to summarize most important aspects of the course and throw in additional materials from the readings. / Toby was great, really helpful and really enthusiastic. He wanted everyone to learn and do well. LOVED Toby. / / / Toby presented the material in a very organized fashion and really helped me prepare for the exams. / He was great! Made discussion very interesting. / / He's a great TA. He gets a little carried away sometimes but it's only because you can tell he's really passionate about this topic. / / Toby is great! He goes over the most important topics in lecture, which greatly helps. Also he makes himself available out the normal office hours. / strengths: he is passionate weaknesses: no particular ones / / Toby was a great TA. I liked how he made the section a neutral forum despite the whining democrats, and Obama junkies. I wasn't afraid to voice my opinion, and that was because of him. / Toby was excellent; Orderly section with several helpful points brought up that helped for the exams. / Toby was really helpful and always prepared for section. He did a good job stimulating interesting discussion and was all around a really good TA. / / / He was very good in preparing the students for tests. Very important as the only grades are 2 midterms and a final. / Very Good. Extremely motivated. Instilled interest for the subject. / Toby was great. It too bad we never had time to go through the readings. Maybe he could have assigned people every week

to take a reading and outline the main points for the rest of the class. That way everyone would have read something and been able to contribute. It was too much reading per-week for everyone to finish before discussion section. / Toby was wonderful. He helped us focus the content from the reading, answered all of our questions, and sparked insightful discussions. / Toby Bolsen was always prepared for class, answered questions adequately, and seemed like a genuinely good guy. The problem was that no one really came to discussion having read the material, nor was anyone prepared. In no way was that Toby's fault, but it did detract from discussion sessions. He was a very fair grader as well and well-liked by his students. / My TA obviously loved the subject, and was passionate about the material. He was not only organized with his agenda and notes, but always helped us prepare for exams as well. Also, he really made an effort to get everyone engaged in discussion, and applied real world examples to what we were learning. He was also supportive when I had questions and or when someone needed clarification. He was an excellent TA. / / Toby was a great TA. He always came to discussion sections very well-prepared. He did a good job focusing the information and highlighting what he thought were the most important concepts from lectures and readings. / / My teaching assistant was awesome. He was not only interested in the subject but interested in us as students and why we were taking the class. Sometimes he got a little off topic, but overall he was a great TA. / Toby is an excellent TA! He is clear in teaching and appropriates time well in class. He plans the time well and listens to students and makes the right comments. / / / Toby was a VERY GOOD TA / He was always able and willing to answer the questions, and he was able to facilitate discussions. He always asked us questions to make sure we had a grasp over the relevant material. / He was enthusiastic. / / / He was an excellent TA. He understood the material very well and had an enthusiasm for every part of the course. He also was able to answer any questions we had clearly, and he even expanded on the things we had been taught in lecture and helped me to gain a better understanding of them. Also, he greatly helped us prepare for exams and was always available to answer any questions we had. /