

**Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating**  
(Online Survey)

| <b>Hickel</b><br>Spring 2014, 01:790:306:01 — American Presidency (index #63070)<br>Enrollment= 101, Responses= 45<br><br><b>Part A: University-wide Questions:</b> | Student Responses       |   |    |    |                      |                | Weighted Means |        |       |             |
|---|-------------------------|---|----|----|----------------------|----------------|----------------|--------|-------|-------------|
|   | Strong<br>Disagree<br>1 |   |    |    | Strong<br>Agree<br>5 | No<br>response | Section        | Course | Level | Dept        |
| 1. The instructor was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner  | 0                       | 0 | 1  | 9  | 35                   | 0              | <b>4.76</b>    | 4.76   | 4.41  | <b>4.45</b> |
| 2. The instructor responded effectively to student comments and questions   | 0                       | 0 | 1  | 10 | 34                   | 0              | <b>4.73</b>    | 4.73   | 4.43  | <b>4.47</b> |
| 3. The instructor generated interest in the course material   | 0                       | 1 | 2  | 11 | 31                   | 0              | <b>4.60</b>    | 4.60   | 4.30  | <b>4.36</b> |
| 4. The instructor had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material  | 0                       | 0 | 0  | 8  | 37                   | 0              | <b>4.82</b>    | 4.82   | 4.55  | <b>4.58</b> |
| 5. The instructor assigned grades fairly  | 0                       | 0 | 7  | 14 | 24                   | 0              | <b>4.38</b>    | 4.38   | 4.38  | <b>4.45</b> |
| 6. The instructional methods encouraged student learning  | 0                       | 0 | 6  | 16 | 23                   | 0              | <b>4.38</b>    | 4.38   | 4.17  | <b>4.24</b> |
| 7. I learned a great deal in this course  | 0                       | 1 | 3  | 13 | 28                   | 0              | <b>4.51</b>    | 4.51   | 4.31  | <b>4.30</b> |
| 8. I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course   | 0                       | 1 | 11 | 11 | 22                   | 0              | <b>4.20</b>    | 4.20   | 4.09  | <b>4.04</b> |
|   | <b>Poor</b>             |   |    |    | <b>Excellent</b>     |                |                |        |       |             |
| 9. I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor as   | 0                       | 0 | 5  | 17 | 23                   | 0              | <b>4.40</b>    | 4.40   | 4.22  | <b>4.25</b> |
| 10. I rate the overall quality of the course as   | 0                       | 1 | 4  | 14 | 25                   | 1              | <b>4.43</b>    | 4.43   | 4.21  | <b>4.25</b> |

**What do you like best about this course?:**

"Very straightforward"

"Learning about the different jobs and functions of the President. "

"Mr Hickel is an awesome professor down to earth, relaxed, but not too easy he is a great teacher"

"The fact that the PowerPoints were available online for further perusal."

"Material was interesting but a little too opinionated about the issues. But overall nice and respectful professor. "

"Covered a lot of material and yet still gave a fair amount of time to all of the areas"

"Professor was awesome!"

"A lot of evidence to back up claims well thought out material just great stuff"

"The way the information was presented with enthusiasm. "

"Funny Professor"

"The style of Hickel's lecturing, very fun and engaging"

"teaching style"

"very interesting subject in general, and just learned many things about each President, their impacts, and their presidencies."

"the subject and organization of the class"

"Good, concise powerpoint slides, good supplemental resources"

"It was very well organized and taught effectively. As far as covering every president and the theories of why they do certain things everything was very clear."

"I liked how he used the words of the presidents to contrast their actions in an interesting way that got me to think outside the box in a critical manner"

"Flavio's directness and ability to engage with students on a personal level"

"My teacher was very kind and understanding. He was an honest man and treated his class as equals."

"Professor Hickel is really great at addressing student's questions and making somewhat dry material more interesting to listen to. "

"The power points were very helpful "

"exams are straightforward "

"His way of explaining the material in a way that makes it easy to comprehend and remember. Was also very straight forward in his expectations of us and what we should know for exams"

"You can tell that he loved what he does. His teaching methods made it easier for you to learn "

"The use of examples to make the theories more understandable."

"The professor made the course material very interesting and easy to learn and understand. "

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**If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?:**

“Nothing”

“It didn't seem like he knew about many questions. He knew what he had to teach very well, but couldn't answer many questions about outside material. I'd do more research.”

“Sower with the slides.”

“make class a little more engaging”

“I wouldn't do anything differently!”

“Reading quizzes no paper exam instead ”

“Try to involve more discussion questions to get class more interacted. ”

“I prefer to have the passwords for the powerpoints available before the class starts. I find that rather than trying to write down the slide information and the additional notes provided by Prof. Hickel leads to missing notes. If the powerpoints were available before class, they could be annotated with the additions provided in class in PowerPoint or they could be printed out so that more detailed notes could be written on the slides during class. I feel like more accurate and detailed notes could be taken this way”

“I would provide a narrow topic guideline ”

“no”

“a term paper OR a final, not both.”

“the passworrd on powerpoints is flawed because the people that goto class have to take notes twice they should be given the password before class”

“less reading”

“Slow down.”

“The readings were very long, so if I were to change something it would be to assign less readings but encourage students to do them. Hypothetically if you do not do the readings it would be possible to just coast through the class by studying the powerpoint slides. ”

“I would prefer a final exam or a paper, not both. ”

“have a little bit more patience in explaining the material to the students and speak slower to gain a better understanding of what are on the slides ”

“Allow for a greater degree of discussion by doing some in-class activities reflective of source material”

“Speak slower, but he ended up speaking slower by the end of the semester.”

“maybe fit some videos to supplement the lectures”

“nothing really”

“Grade the exams more leniently! ”

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**In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?:**

“Made me think deeper”

“He's taught me about different theories that are interesting.”

“Flavio is a great teacher, he generates interest and finds the perfect balance between friendly and professional. also doesn't allow personal bias to come through in the material too much, which is hard to do in a class like this”

“Made himself available for office hours!”

“Flavio made me see the big picture its great Im going to go change the world now”

“He makes me want to further my pursuit of a double degree in Political Science”

“His fun and engaging style made me attend class regularly”

“freedom with term paper allowed me to pursue what i really wanted to learn about”

“The instructor was very helpful on my term paper and gave great ideas and was very knowledgeable about the topic, this caused me to not waste time searching everything about it but really go into detail with what he told me I should focus on.”

“he made me question the intent of presidents and the reality of the presidency that has me thinking in a way ”

“Challenging me with the degree of scholarship as research material”

“I am much more aware of the executive branch's power boundaries and the past presidents we have had.”

“He is chill enough that students never feel bad asking a question in class and he generates further interest by always being available to talk more with students. ”

“yes, he showed me how interesting studying the presidents can be”

“The term paper was really great. It encouraged students to find a topic in the course they were truly interested in.”

“He has taught a lot of material and made it fun and interesting to learn.”

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**Other comments or suggestions::**

“Talk a bit slower - the professor blasts through some of the slides really quickly”

“I did not like that he would encourage us to be broad on our answers and to not overthink it. But then he would tell us we need to be more specific. ”

“Great Class!”

“Smart Professor ”

“more extra credit”

“n/a”

“Overall a very good class and instructor, the only thing I would change is the burdensome readings. Maybe less but ask more questions or quizzes or something of the sort.”

“N/A”

“ten page papers are fucking retarded”

“Flavio knows his stuff and absolutely is a master of the American Presidency”

“maybe release all of the passwords for that week at the end? or right before the final exam release all the PowerPoint passwords, just in case.”

“I enjoyed taking your class!”

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