

Title: **A&S Spring 2016 Standard Evaluation**

Dates: **04/25/2016 - 05/06/2016**

Course: **POLSV1501\_001\_2016\_1 / Introduction to Comparative Politics**

Responses: **61/98 - 62.24%**

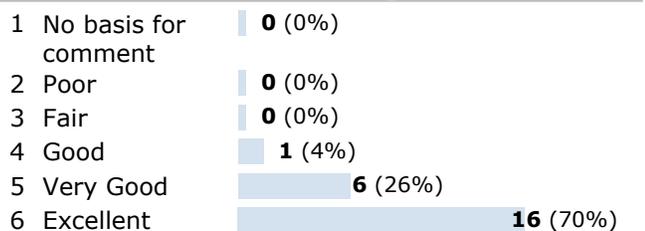
Instructors: **Kimuli Kunihiro Kasara**

Number of Participants: **98**

Enrollment of All Students: **98**

TA Graph Report for: **Lindsay Renee Dolan**

**1 What is your overall assessment of the effectiveness of the teaching assistant? N=23**



Median **6** Interpolated Median **5.78** Mean **5.65** Std Dev **0.57**

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Enrollment of Registered Students:**98**

Enrollment of All Students:**98**

TA Comments Report for: **Lindsay Renee Dolan**

**Q1 What are the strengths and weaknesses of your teaching assistant (discussion section leader, lab section leader, grader, or other assistant) as an instructor, and how might his or her teaching be improved?**

- I found lindsay to be an excellent TA. Her response time to questions was always quick and her discussions classes were nicely organized. Also she took time on certain days to provide us with group activities to help us think about material covered in class in a fun way.
- Lindsay was very understanding and good at communicating the course material to us. I did feel that the exams were quite arbitrary; if you studied and knew vast amounts of material, the TAs and Review Sessions did not help you refine your knowledge base. You either got lucky or didn't on the exams regarding what you knew. Lindsay was very understanding of extenuating circumstances which I greatly appreciated. She allowed me to attend her other section at short notice; which I know is not the point of a cohesive recitation section; but it was greatly appreciated. I wish we could hear more about our TA's research and interests, I would love to write a paper that was in their wheel house and receive criticism from an up-and-coming expert. I think it would help both sides and would make me more engaged in what they were trying to pursue. Overall, Lindsay was great and very nice. Her feedback for my paper (which I didn't even respond to :( re: Belgium) was very helpful and helped shape my thesis. I am grateful.
- Very willing to help and clarify issues.
- She explained the topics very clearly and made them more understandable than the readings did. She is very knowledgeable, good at answering questions, and encouraged students to participate in the discussion sections.
- Lindsay was an excellent TA - very organized, and especially helpful in providing outlines prior to exam review. Always friendly, enthusiastic, and engaging during discussions.
- Lindsay is a very good instructor: she is very clear in her presentations/explanations, always available for feedback, very comprehensive and meticulous in her coverage of the material.
- She we nice, well organized, approachable, but a little too by-the-book for my taste. Very rarely did she bring in her own experiences/knowledge-base
- Lindsay was very good at encouraging discussion and would always recap a students answer to make sure everyone understood. She answered questions in a timely manner and used media as well as other group activities to help with concepts in the class.
- She's a good teacher but nit-picky and intimidating.
- Lindsay is an excellent TA. She really made sure that we understood and could apply important concepts and principles of the class, while also trying to change up class and help us learn through different exercises and activities. I really loved the Borgen class where we learned about parliamentary systems.

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TA Comments Report for: **Lindsay Renee Dolan**

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- good teacher
  - She always made herself available, was ready and prepared for recitation
  - great TA. explained things well, brought in good examples from outside
  - Has a clear lesson plan for every discussion section and does a good job encouraging discussion and participation.
  - Lindsay is one of the best - if not the best - teaching assistant I've had during my time at Columbia. I'm thoroughly convinced that if she wanted to, she could teach an entire lecture on her own. She is able to clarify dense material relatively easily, and does a good job of engaging the class in discussion during section. I have no suggestions for improvement.
  - She created sections that were appropriate given the low likelihood of us doing the readings the day after an exam. She was excellent
  - Lindsay is a great TA! She always has a plan for discussion section and is sure that we get through everything. She explains the difficult concepts of the course more clearly and is very good at encouraging participation. She also provides us with opportunities to practice IDs and short answer questions for the exam. Section each week definitely made sure that I understood the lecture material.
  - Lindsay was a great discussion leader. She comes off as an expert in the material and asks effective questions in section to prove participation. She has a very positive and encouraging attitude and I felt comfortable participating sometimes although I tend to be silent in discussion sections.
  - Great discussion section leader! Explains concepts very clearly. Prepared us extremely well for exams.
  - Lindsay is an incredible TA. She's organized, helpful, knowledgeable-- a notably effective individual. She sends our section emails ahead of time telling us which readings to focus on, sticks to a schedule within our hour together, ensuring that we hit all of the key points. It is clear that she has a very thorough understanding of the curriculum, and is always able to answer our questions accurately and efficiently. She is also always very accessible if we would like to meet outside of class for whatever reason
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