

CrCrTh 602, Creative Thinking, Spring 2018
Students' Synthetic Statements, from the Final Course Evaluation

The synthetic statement is the fourth question on formal course evaluations for the Critical and Creative Thinking Graduate Program. See questions 1-3 listed on <http://bit.ly/CCTEval>

Question 4: "Building on your comments from Questions 1-3 in the formal evaluation, compose a synthetic statement (1 or 2 paragraphs) evaluating this course. (Imagine readers who might not be willing to wade through all the answers to Qs 1-3, but are willing to read more than simply the numerical averages of standard course evaluations.) Please make comments that help the instructor develop the course in the future and that enable some third party appreciate the course's strengths and weaknesses. Among other things you might comment on the overall content and progression of classes, the session activities, and the use of mentors to support the learning in the course."

Below are the Synthetic Statements from the respondents who gave permission for these comments to be shared on the web.

- Overall, I feel that this course provides a good foundation in creativity and with amendments, it could be great. The activities and assignments are relevant regardless of your discipline/field of interest, and skillsets and mindsets are fostered that can immediately be implemented and developed in the real world. It is also a chance to experiment with art, poetry, and other forms of expression that one might not otherwise get the chance to in their daily lives. The workload is heavy in volume but not hard; if someone is hoping to complete all the mandatory readings and video, they should expect to devote a lot of time just to that, before assignments (some weeks 10 hrs worth, depending on speed of reading). The discussion board provides a great medium to try and get to know other students and their ideas better. Because the way the course is structured there are not frequent touchpoints with other students or even the prof, I would highly recommend that students find a like-minded buddy as a sounding board and to do more work collaboratively in this course. It can be a challenge to coordinate people for the group assignments, but perhaps if the course is restructured slightly to allow more planning time for group work, it would be a good way to move forward - collaboration made the course activities more fun.
- Overall, this class was incredibly insightful and eye-opening for me. It allowed me to be self-reflective and consider the ways I currently learn and approach the world. It was challenging but it a good way. I felt that at times the description of some of the projects were a little vague or confusing, but the instructor was always available for questions. If you are really interested in learning about yourself and the creative process and how it can apply to ANY field, this is a great class.
- Overall, I wish there were more lectures from the instructor and more dialog with the instructor instead of relying on pre-recorded lectures from other instructors and the bulk of feedback from peers. I also would like to see more up to date media examples. There is so much in the world of TED talks that apply to the course material and is more relevant to what's happening in society today.