

## CrCrTh 618, Summer 2015, Creative Thinking, Collaboration, and Organizational Change 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 the text of questions 1-3 by choosing any evaluation from this page: <http://cct.wikispaces.umb.edu/CourseEvaluations>.*

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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 15 respondents who gave permission for these comments to be shared on the web (out of 16 total received).

- CRCRTH618 is a course designed to challenge and encourage creative thinking and its connections to organization change. Towards this end, the course does not tell you what to think, but explores structures and theories for HOW to think--and specially, HOW to think in ways that may not be the norm or the most natural. Instead, the course uses experiential learning and ties it to conceptual frameworks with the goal of changing the way you, as a learner, work within your school or organization. Highly powerful stuff--what learning really is all about.
- I would highly recommend this class to anyone who is open to change and wants to try new things in order to improve themselves, their work place, or their daily interaction with people. This class really makes you slow down and take a look and adjust to the space you're in and what your role in that space should be.
- All in all, this course offered me with the essential tools to become a better individual as a person, team member, student and part of an organization. I'm confident now that I can perform better in teams and I can make changes.
- This class is an intense 6 day (3 Friday, 3 Saturday) session that combines online and classroom learning. Students work in various ways: together as a large group, independently, and in small groups, to learn and practice the concepts discussed in this class. The diversity of the class members (age, location, work experience) brings an incredible amount of knowledge and skills sets into one room. You learn as much from the other students as you do from the books and instructor led exercises.
- The class had lots of material to cover and we were able to take our time and revisit material if necessary. The activities during the session were engaging and created higher team building skills. Although it was all day sessions we were able to have breaks and activities were enriching to the point where when we started the course we had to have an introduction of 5 minutes and I tend to speak fast and didn't get to the full five minutes. After the activities were of 5 and 10 minutes of speaking time that I was able to exceed the time because the material was so rich and interesting. How comfortable I felt with my classmates. I was able to grow as an individual and acquire skills to bring to my work and for my personal areas of growth.
- I highly recommend this course for anyone who is interested in taking a good look at their own thought process. I loved everything about this course. Jeremy was a terrific instructor. This

course exceeded my expectations by far. I expected it to be fun and challenging, but it was far more fun and far more thought provoking than I even expected. There is no way of wording the course description more correctly except maybe to mention how enjoyable it was.

- This class does everything that the syllabus states and more. For me, I am more connected to my thoughts and listen better to others. I feel like I got a human tune up, and I didn't know I needed it. It was time well spent.
- Very engaging course that I can highly recommend for those wishing to improve on their leadership and communication skills