**Teaching Evaluation Summary**

Sidita Kushi, Ph.D.

Courses taught at Northeastern University

(All individual records available upon request)

**Teaching Evaluations for Instructor of Record, POLS1160 International Relations**

**Table 1.** POLS1160MyTrace Course Means

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Spring 2016 | Summer 2 2016 | Fall 2017 |
| Instructor Effectiveness | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.8 |
| Instructor-related | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.8 |
| Learning-related | 4.5 | 4.7 | 4.7 |
| Response Rate | 73%  (n=30) | 37%  (n=16) | 72%  (n=18) |

Note: Scores range from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest level of approval.

**Student Comments for POLS 1160:**

“Sidita is amazing. She was an incredibly effective teacher, able to evaluate every angle of the theories and arguments we discussed in class. She is great at explaining complex concepts and at connecting topics in ways I wouldn't have been able to or thought to have done on my own. I think that she really thoroughly knows all of the material of the course and that she loves it, which enhances the whole classroom experience. She's a motivated, passionate, brilliant woman and it was such a pleasure to be in her class.”

“This course was amazing, and I feel like such a more deeply informed thinker about international relations now. It was really effective at providing an overview that touched on enough to feel complete, but obviously there's a ton more to be learned. I loved the theoretical frameworks presented, so for those of us in the class who enjoyed that type of thinking, it was amazing. The homework readings were helpful and totally necessary to do well, but so long as you did do them, everything made sense and was really interesting.”

“Professor Kushi is one of the best professors that I have had at Northeastern so far. She clearly has a passion for IR and brings her drive and enthusiasm every day to class. She answered any concerns clearly, especially since I had class during her office hours and had to send any questions her way via email. I would highly recommend Professor Kushi to anyone planning on taking POLS 1160.”

“Sidita is honestly one of the best professors I have had so far. Her lectures are incredibly informative and really break down the often dense chapters in the textbooks. Her enthusiasm for teaching and international relations itself as well as her willingness to help her students are what really make her an effective teacher. She also still tries to keep matters interesting by bringing in real world examples and facilitating discussions in class. Plus, we were able to pick any topic of interest as a class for her to talk about in the context of international relations, so we basically talked about aliens for the last few classes and watched part of District 9. If you're going to take POLS1160, I would highly, highly recommend that you take Sidita's class.”

“I really appreciate the passion and excitement that Professor Kushi has for this course. It made the class environment better. Her enthusiasm in the course really helped make a three and a half hour 8:00am class in the summer bearable. I would definitely recommend her as a professor.”

“One of the best professors I've had at Northeastern.”

“I really hope NEU will have more professors like Sidita, because she is willing to help students in an efficient way. She has strong teaching skills and communicating skills, I really enjoy her class!”

“Sidita Kushi was an excellent professor who strived to make class interesting and entertaining for her students. I enjoyed attending this class.”

**Teaching Evaluations for Instructor of Record, POLS 2400: Quantitative Techniques**

**Table 2.** POLS2400 MyTrace Course Means

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Fall 2015 | Fall 2016 | Spring 2017 | Summer 2 2017 |
| Instructor Effectiveness | 5.0 | 4.9 | 4.6 | 4.9 |
| Instructor-related | 4.9 | 5.0 | 4.3 | 4.3 |
| Learning-related | 4.6 | 4.7 | 4.6 | 4.2 |
| Response Rate | 58%  n=17 | 73%  n=19 | 40%  n=25 | 50%  n=16 |

Note: Scores range from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest level of approval.

**Student Comments for POLS 2400:**

“Sidita is a fantastic professor! I was not looking forward to taking this class, however, Sidita always came to class w/ a great attitude and energy, and made what is some pretty dry material as interesting and informative as possible. Sidita is always willing to help students out both in class and during office hours. Additionally, her PowerPoints are way easier to follow and clearer than the book, in my opinion. Sidita is a super fair grader, who really cares about learning. Additionally, she makes a huge effort to teach students useful skills (like basic SPSS and STATA). I highly recommend taking QT w/ Sidita.”

“Sidita is one of the best professors I have ever had, together with another one or two professors who have been teaching for much longer than her. Yet, I can, without any problem, compare her to them. She is extremely knowledgeable, passionate, funny and above all, amazing, caring person who would do anything for her students. I have known from the very first class that she is very much committed to her class and cares about her students. She wants us to understand and she gained students' respect immediately. Again, even though she is young, to me she is at the same level of teaching as other professor who have many years of teaching experience. I wish all of the professors at NU were like Sidita; if I could I would take all of my remaining classes with her! I absolutely love her!”

“This course is one of the best I have taken so far but that is also very much attributable to Sidita because she is an amazing professor and person. The course is interactive, funny and teeming with new information. I can say that I have learned a lot about statistics and it was not that hard thanks to the great organization of the class and Sidita as a lecturer. Truly loved it!”

“Professor Kushi is master of her own craft. She knows what to have the class focus on that will serve them best in understand key concepts of statistics, and she is an extremely pleasant, caring, and overall helpful person to learn statistics from. She will make plenty of time outside of class during her office hours to help any student in need. Overall, I'm very happy to have taken this course with her and would highly recommend her as a professor for this subject.”

“Sidita is one of the best professor's I've ever had. She was always professional: dressed well, on time, respectful, polite, etc. She had vast knowledge of the subjects she taught on, and explained concepts clearly. She made math fun! She was so nice and so fun to hang out with if you needed to go in for office hours. Couldn't have asked for a better professor!”

“Very thorough instructor. One of the nicest most helpful and understanding professors. Sidita Kushi sets the bar very high for the next wave of Professors here at Northeastern.”

“Sidita is an amazing teacher. She is so enthusiastic about her classes and is extremely understanding. She tries so hard to make course material accessible and understandable to students, and it works so well. She actually made me love statistics with this course, and I hope to pursue it in the future!”

“Excellent professor who made concepts that seemed difficult or daunting much easier to understand. Took the time to guide us through problems and answer questions. Made a three hour lecture go by very quickly!”

“This is one of the best professors that I have had at my time at Northeastern. She was very good at explaining concepts and emphasizing the important concepts. Also has a very engaging and easy to listen to lecture/teaching style.”

**Political Science Department Teaching Evaluations for Instructor of Record, all courses**

**Table 3.** Department of Political Science, Northeastern University Course Means

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Fall 2017  POLS1160 | Summer 2016  POLS1160 | Fall 2016  POLS2400 | Spring 2016  POLS1160 | Fall 2015  POLS2400 | Teaching Assistant (all classes) |
| Effectiveness | 4.8 | 4.9 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 5.0 | 4.9 |
| Responses | n=18 | n=13 | n=14 | n=5 | n=15 | n=24 |

Note: Scores range from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest level of effectiveness.

**Department Evaluation Student Comments:**

“Sidita is a perfect instructor. She is kind, ready to help, knows a lot, and cares about her students. Really one of the best I have ever had! Nothing really [no complaints]. This course was amazing and I have truly enjoyed it and learned a lot.” – POLS2400

“I love Sidita and her wonderful, warm, friendly, but most of all helpful and interesting class. I can’t believe how much I’ve learned and I’m sad the course is over. Learning about the political theories has totally reshaped my view of politics and the world. She is very effective at explaining abstract concepts and making class fun and interesting. She’s really great and makes me want to learn and come to class!” – POLS1160

“Sidita’s ability to blend relevant, current issues into the material you’re learning is incredible. The course structure built upon itself and I feel prepared me well to understand all course material. The professor brought the course to life! I also nominated Sidita for a teaching award…she was that wonderful!” – POLS2400

“Made understanding quantitative analysis easy, gave a great understanding of both SPSS and STATA. Lectures were thorough and interesting, which is quite the achievement for a class that is otherwise looking at cells of data on a screen. Really helped with understanding the application for research. Great orator, made the class fun and engaging. Offered a lot of out of class help. Worked hard to get us hands on time in the lab.” – POLS2400

“She has a great deal of insight on almost all of the topics, incredibly knowledgeable and was very engaging and fun. I liked her a lot. No suggestions for improvement.” – POLS1160

“Very good teacher. Able to be very clear and effective in a difficult class. Have never learned this well in a stats class before.” – POLS2400

“This course opened my eyes to a new perspective on math. For someone who doesn’t necessarily like math, I really liked this course because it was applicable and relatable. Sidita is seriously awesome. She was professional, knowledgeable, and friendly. Loved her!” – POLS2400

“Amazing in making sure students understood the material and always available for questions or queries. Very compelling lectures.” – POLS2400

**Teaching Evaluations for Fall 2020**

**Assistant Professor of Political Science, Bridgewater State University**

*Comments sourced from voluntary, informal student survey as official evaluations were not given this semester due to the ongoing pandemic.*

**Student Comments from POLI 260: International Relations:**

“Professor Kushi, you are one of the best professors I've ever had! I'm sad I couldn't have taken this class in person, but I really enjoyed learning from you. This semester was tough for all of us but I looked forward to learning our material every week. That definitely helped the semester overall! Thank you for everything you've done for us these past few months.”

“I am so happy we met this semester and that I took this course! I wish I had a little more time left at BSU and could take another course with you. Loved our zoom convos and how you were so willing to help students, especially during this time. It is professors like you that make students want to stay in school and learn even during a pandemic, and I sincerely mean that. Thank you for being so kind!”

“This was definitely my favorite course this semester. I loved it so much and wish I could take the same professor next semester! I learned so much about international relations; this course was extremely beneficial and I now have a better understanding of world politics. Thank you so much, Professor Kushi, for being an amazing teacher, especially during these unprecedented times. I loved this class so much and will definitely miss it.”

“I think the lectures were very well-made and informative. The professor was also very nice and understanding and taught the material wonderfully. I loved her feedback on all my discussion posts and assignments. They were super helpful. I honestly have no complaints or ways in which she could improve! I was very satisfied with the way the course was run.”

“I found that Prof Kushi was immensely professional, immensely informative, quick to respond to questions, she had put herself out there for Office hours every week, she had excelled. I found the explanations throughout the live lectures were fascinating and I was always so incredibly excited to be able to have the opportunity to read my books and be excited to bring them to the discussion boards every week. Prof. Kushi was an amazing web instructor and she had done everything right.”

“Even though, this has been the most challenging class I took in my life. I am extremely grateful for how supportive Dr. Kushi has been throughout the semester! This is by far the best class I’ve ever taken!”

“Dr Kushi's feedback on assignments is very clear, which is helpful for anybody looking to grow as a thinker and/or writer. Despite the current conditions, the class was extremely enjoyable -- thank you for a great semester!”

“Professor Kushi's biggest strength is how willing to help she is and how understanding she is. She did her best to make the class feel like it was being taught in person and succeeded in that.”

“Strengths:

1. Supportive

2. Knowledgeable

3. Digestible content

4. Great at teaching difficult concepts

5. Awesome delivery in lectures - made it fun and easy to learn

“As an instructor Dr. Kushi is great! Extremely knowledgeable and passionate about her career! She really transmits it and motivates students to continue to learn.”

“I thought you gave so many opportunities to learn throughout this course, especially when you would organize the zoom lectures with guest speakers. Honestly, I have no idea what else you could have done. The books and articles were also super helpful and were not horribly difficult to read through. My favorite part of our class was the policy briefings and how we were able to delve deeper into the material that interested us, while also being able to get involved with everyones through the discussion boards. The exams for me were the most challenging, but you provided us with study tools that helped so much in preparing for them.”

“Aside from learning about the different theorists and their different positions in IR, I loved how you made all of the Powerpoints so accessible and we were able to download them. I looked forward to the lectures, especially the ones that you recently posted about environmental issues and corona virus. I loved how all of the lectures were not too long, but still packed with information. Sometimes I feel like when professors post these online lectures, and go on for over an hour, I tend to zone out. But this was not the case in your lectures. Everything about this course was awesome, both content wise and how you structured it, and I loved chatting with you during our zoom office hours! Even though it was an asynchronous class, I feel like out of all of my classes this one was the most engaging and I thought I learned the most from it.”

“I really enjoyed the policy briefings. It was so fun to read classmates' briefings and reply to them, and I immensely enjoyed creating my own briefing as well. I also loved the flipgrid we did for Week 3. It was one of my favorite assignments because I got to see my other classmates and it definitely made the whole online aspect of the course a lot more fun.”

“Dr. Kushi did an amazing job with this course, the lectures every week were consistent, well thought out, and the class driven discussions were phenomenal.”

“Professor Kushi's support throughout the semester was unmatched. I loved reading everyone's policy briefings and responding to comments.”

“The instructor did an amazing job adapting to the current pandemic and teaching an amazing course!”

“How helpful Professor Kushi has been to me and probably to other students as well! She is always willing to help her students.”

“All of the resources offered to help us understand the material and the lectures posted in short clips rather than one long one.”

“The Discussion Board was very effective and thought-provoking. Also the cat cameos in the lectures!”

**Student Comments for POLI 199: First Year Seminar: Debates in International Politics**

“From this class I have learned so much about international politics and the workings of affairs in countries, organizations, and a lot of things I never once knew about. A year ago I absolutely despised politics and knew nothing about them. I feel like I am really learning in this class and while it is still an extremely complicated field, I am very interested in the whole thing and I find it incredibly fascinating in understanding human behavior, morality, ethics, and goals in this field. I love how you break down and define all the terms I've been hearing for years but have never understood the meanings, even by looking it up online. It is easier to understand here in your class. You have also been an incredibly understanding teacher and are very thorough and precise with your work, and the time you take for us through email and office hours is so much appreciated. Thank you for everything you've done and for being a great teacher!”

“I really loved learning about international politics and the innerworkings of the many different systems and organizations and concepts we touched upon! I've heard so much about these for a while but never truly understood how they all worked and I think you taught the class very well and I was able to understand these concepts much better now”

“I appreciated the clear grading and work criteria.”

“I loved the discussion boards and being able to chat with fellow classmates.”

“Quick and prompt with responding over email, very communicative, very well informed, and happy to stay and help until we understand the information in the class.”

“She explained all of the topics down and made it easy to understand. She also made sure that she included everything the textbook included, as well as current event topics.”

“She is very likeable and makes it fun to learn. I don't think she needs to improve!”

“Thank you so so much professor! This has been a great semester and I learned a lot from you :) You really do a great job teaching!”

**Student Comments for POLI 384: US Foreign Policy**

“I appreciate how much she checks in on us and cares for her students. Not every professor does that and it's soothing to know at least one of my professors does. I also wanted her to know I admire all the work she's put into this course and in her political career in general. Having a successful and accomplished woman in politics leading me through this course is such a lovely change of pace and I hope to be as successful as her one day. I hope I am able to take another one of her classes in a different semester soon.”

“I’m extremely happy that I took this course. You are a fantastic professor and person with a heart of gold and a fun sense of humor. I wish I wasn't graduating this coming spring or I would have taken a lot more classes with you. You're so smart!”

“I enjoyed how we were able to discuss our opinions on the subject matter and to openly debate about the topics.”

“The professor and the materials were just right for the class especially during this time of COVID19.”

“Professor cares about her students and offering to help out.”

“The professor is very nice and provides excellent feedback on the discussion boards.”

“Attentive to detail, enjoying watching the lecture videos.”