

**Faculty of Arts 2015S1 Survey
2015S1**
**University of British Columbia
Arts**

Course:	POLI 420A 921 - Advanced Topics in Comparative Politics	Department:	POLI
Responsible Faculty:	Paolo Spada	Responses / Expected:	8 / 8 (100%)

University Module		Spada, Paolo									
		Responses					Individual				
		SD	D	N	A	SA	N	Mean	Med.	Mode	Std Dev
Q1	The instructor made it clear what students were expected to learn.	1	0	0	4	3	8	4.0	4	4	1.22
Q2	The instructor communicated the subject matter effectively.	1	0	0	4	3	8	4.0	4	4	1.22
Q3	The instructor helped inspire interest in learning the subject matter.	1	0	0	1	6	8	4.4	5	5	1.32
Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5											

University Module		Spada, Paolo									
		Responses					Individual				
		SD	D	N	A	SA	N	Mean	Med.	Mode	Std Dev
Q4	Overall, evaluation of student learning (through exams, essays, presentations, etc.) was fair.	1	0	0	2	5	8	4.3	5	5	1.30
Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5											

University Module		Spada, Paolo									
		Responses					Individual				
		SD	D	N	A	SA	N	Mean	Med.	Mode	Std Dev
Q5	The instructor showed concern for student learning.	1	0	0	1	6	8	4.4	5	5	1.32
Q6	Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	1	0	0	1	6	8	4.4	5	5	1.32
Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5											

Arts Instructor Questions		Spada, Paolo									
		Responses					Individual				
		SD	D	N	A	SA	N	Mean	Med.	Mode	Std Dev
Q7	In classes where the size of the class and content of the course were appropriate, student participation in class was encouraged by the instructor.	0	0	0	0	8	8	5.0	5	5	0
Q8	High standards of achievement were set.	0	0	0	3	5	8	4.6	5	5	.48
Q9	The instructor was generally well prepared for class.	0	0	0	1	7	8	4.9	5	5	.33

Q10	The instructor was readily available to students outside of class (e.g., through email, office hours, or by appointment).	0	0	0	2	6	8	4.8	5	5	.43
Q11	The instructor treated students with respect.	0	0	0	1	7	8	4.9	5	5	.33
Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [D] Disagree=2 [N] Neutral=3 [A] Agree=4 [SA] Strongly Agree=5											

Arts Course Question		POLI 420A - 921									
		Responses					Course				
		VP	P	N	G	VG	N	Mean	Med.	Mode	Std Dev
Q12	Considering everything how would you rate this course?	0	0	0	3	5	8	4.6	5	5	.48
Responses: [VP] Very poor=1 [P] Poor=2 [N] Neutral=3 [G] Good=4 [VG] Very good=5											

Q13 - Please comment on any aspects, positive or negative, of your instructor's teaching, attitudes to students, class atmosphere, or any other matters affecting the quality of instruction that you consider worthy of note.	
Faculty:	Spada, Paolo
Response Rate:	87.50% (7 of 8)

-	I really liked Paolo as an instructor. He is very smart and was able to answer all questions pertaining to the subject matter. He did not let his own personal opinions show during the class and was excellent at facilitating discussion. He was very respectful of students' opinions and comments during group discussions. Paolo is also very personable and easy to talk to. He made himself readily available by email and offered lots of helpful advice for the major written assignment. I thought his marking was very fair as well. All in all, he did an excellent job.
-	I really enjoyed everything about this course. The teaching was effective and the environment encouraged participation and learning.
-	Excellent professor with deep understanding of course material and sharp sensitivity to the unique intellect of each student. More importantly he then tries to optimize the intellect of the student with encouragement and offering of insight. Very innovative approach to class format by encouraging in-depth discussions and independent research.
-	Classes were interesting and the teaching method offered a much more relaxed atmosphere than I had expected. Discussion was always good and the teacher did a good job of maintaining an informative conversation with the students. The professor gave good feedback if participation or homework was insufficient and he seemed legitimately concerned about the students succeeding in the course.
-	The instructor set high standards for the course. Consequently the students have had a strong work ethic. I have heard views expressed by every member of the class that were strongly connected to the class material. Contributions from students are always relevant to the course and their peers. The class was originally meant to be 20 students yet we have ended up with 9. I think this helped to improve the quality of the course because there was more space for each student to contribute.
-	In a very short amount of time, Paolo was able to teach us quite a substantial amount on participatory governance, something I had no previous knowledge of. He was always very well prepared for classes and we often received at least one email from him in between classes.
-	Paolo ensured at all times a safe and respectful environment where all students, myself included, felt motivated to participate in discussions and share opinions. Paolo made sure that each opinion was heard and given the appropriate attention. Paolo managed to inspire me so that I developed an interest in the topic of participatory democracy and intend to continue the exploration of this topic. Paolo was always organized and ready to offer the relevant advice so that I was able to progress in the understanding of the topic.

Q14 - Please comment on any aspects, positive or negative, of the format and content of the course.	

Response Rate: 87.50% (7 of 8)

-	I found the course to be boring however I am not a fan of seminars and group discussion and rather prefer lecture courses. I thought the topic was interesting since participatory governance is not a field that I have ever heard of being discussed in other POLI SCI courses. I did learn a lot about methods of participatory governance and thought the case study did a good job at teaching us how these processes take place. The reading load was perfect but the weekly reading notes were tedious. However in all, the assessment was very fair.
-	It was an intensive seminar, so the reading was a bit (a tiny bit) heavy at times in terms of content, not volume, but overall it was a very enjoyable course.
-	Most innovative course ever taken. Makes learning much more enjoyable and stimulating. It captures the essence of what education ought to be.
-	The format of the course made it very important to stay up to date with the readings in order to participate effectively. Because of this I never felt lost or behind. However, the reading load seemed a bit heavy. He did lessen it slightly, and I realize that this is a fourth year course, but I often struggled to get the readings done on time. Besides that, I found the class to be very informative and class never dragged on as I had expected with a 3 hour seminar.
-	The course is about govenance and the instructor has been clever to incorporate some of the techniques studied into the structure of selected classes. We have not only learnt by reading but through experience. The passion that the instructor has has also enhanced the quality of the course. The note taking strategy that was given to us was highly effective and ensured participation.
-	Very interesting course, lots of readings and was difficult to keep up with for someone with a very full schedule. The discussions made the class much more interesting than a regular lecture.
-	The alternation of lecture, presentation, and seminar style classes set this course on a whole new level of content assimilation. The course was interactive and allowed for the content to be explored in detail.