

TEACHING EVALUATIONS **for MARTY P. JORDAN**

The evaluation results and comments here are taken directly from (n=408) students' anonymous rating of and written comments regarding my teaching in the following ten undergraduate or graduate courses (ranging from class sizes of 15 students to 227 students) at a Research I public university (Michigan State University, East Lansing MI) and a private, residential Liberal Arts college (Hope College, Holland MI):

- PLS 201 Introduction to Political Science Methods, Michigan State University (Spring 2014)
- PLS 201 Introduction to Political Science Methods, Michigan State University (Spring 2015)
- POL 100 Introduction to American Politics, Hope College (Fall 2016)
- POL 110 Campaigns and Elections, Hope College (Fall 2016)
- POL 242 Research Methods for Political Science, Hope College (Fall 2016)
- POL 100 Introduction to American Politics, Hope College (Spring 2017)
- POL 242 Research Methods for Political Science, Hope College (Spring 2017)
- POL 295 Comparative Politics of Developing Countries, Hope College (Spring 2017)
- PPL 801 Quantitative Methods I, Masters in Public Policy, Michigan State Univ. (Fall 2017)
- PLS 201 Introduction to Political Science Methods, Michigan State University (Spring 2018)

EVALUATION HIGHLIGHTS

(n=408 students)

- 100% of students rated my enthusiasm for presenting course material and interest in teaching as “Superior” or “Above Average.”
- 93% of students rated my use of examples or personal experiences to help get points across in class as “Superior” or “Above Average.”
- 87% of students rated my encouragement to students to express opinions and my receptiveness to new ideas and others' viewpoints as “Superior” or “Above Average.”
- 85% of students rated my ability to relate the course concepts in a systematic manner as “Superior” or “Above Average.”
- 86% of students rated my stimulation of class discussion and their opportunity to ask questions as “Superior” or “Above Average.”
- 77% of students said their improvement in their competence in this area due to the course was “Superior” or “Above Average.”
- 67% of students said their general enjoyment of the course was “Superior” or “Above Average.”
- Overall, students evaluated my involvement, student-instructor interaction, course demands, and course organization, on average, as somewhere between “Superior” and “Above Average.”

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STUDENT RATINGS

Student Instructional Rating System (SIRS), All Courses—408 student responses

	Student Responses (Percent of Total)				
	Pct. Superior	Pct. Above Avg.	Pct. Average	Pct. Below Avg.	Pct. Inferior
1. The instructor's enthusiasm when presenting course material	91%	9%	0%	0%	0%
2. The instructor's interest in teaching	87%	13%	0%	0%	0%
3. The instructor's use of examples or personal experiences to help get points across in class	59%	34%	6%	1%	0%
4. The instructor's concern with whether the students learned the material	65%	25%	9%	0%	0%
5. Your interest in learning the course material	23%	31%	35%	9%	3%
6. Your general attentiveness in class	20%	35%	29%	13%	2%
7. The course as an intellectual challenge	23%	39%	31%	7%	1%
8. Improvements in your competence in this area due to this course	34%	43%	20%	2%	1%
9. The instructor's encouragement to students to express opinions	61%	26%	11%	2%	0%
10. The instructor's receptiveness to new ideas and others' viewpoints	57%	28%	13%	1%	0%
11. The student's opportunity to ask questions	64%	28%	7%	1%	0%
12. The instructor's stimulation of class discussion	50%	30%	15%	4%	1%
13. The appropriateness of the amount of material the instructor attempted to cover	44%	29%	24%	3%	0%
14. The appropriateness of the pace at which the instructor attempted to cover the material	41%	29%	26%	3%	0%
15. The contribution of homework assignments to your understanding of the course material relative to the amount of time required	34%	31%	28%	6%	1%
16. The appropriateness of the difficulty of assigned reading topics	30%	29%	37%	3%	0%
17. The instructor's ability to relate the course concepts in a systematic manner	50%	35%	13%	1%	0%
18. The course organization	45%	37%	16%	2%	0%
19. The ease of taking notes on the instructor's presentation	47%	30%	19%	3%	1%
20. The adequacy of the outlined direction of the course	49%	31%	19%	2%	0%
21. Your general enjoyment of the course	37%	30%	23%	8%	2%

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STUDENT WRITTEN COMMENTS¹

Below are all anonymous written student responses to the prompt: *“One way in which an instructor can improve his or her class is through thoughtful student reactions. This instructor hopes to use your responses for self-examination and self-improvement. If you have any comments to make concerning the instructor or the course, please write them in the shaded area below.”*

PLS 201: Intro to Political Science Methods, Michigan State University (Spring 2014)

“Marty is a great instructor. He is enthusiastic every day and always expresses a want to help us understand the material. He has helped me outside of class on numerous occasions and is probably the reason why I will pass this course. I would recommend everyone / anyone to take a class with him.”

“Marty always cared for the students and made sure to go over topics until we understood them. He also made the class fun with his awful jokes.”

“Marty is the best TA I’ve ever had here at MSU. He is passionate about the material and making sure his students are successful, too.”

“This is the best TA I’ve had yet. He explained every-thing well and was always enthusiastic. This wasn’t my favorite topic, but he made it more interesting and relatable.”

“Great instructor; did a very good job teaching course and relaying material. By far best TA I ever had.”

“Marty is a good instructor. I know that he tries hard and puts effort on motivating students to learn the material.”

“Marty is an extremely enthusiastic instructor who wants to get everyone involved and it is hard not to. He makes sure everyone understands the concepts.”

“Excellent instruction from both lecturer and section leader. Enthusiastic for teaching; second to none. Organization and enthusiasm for class contributed to what will hopefully be a good grade.”

“Superior instructor. Will be a great professor one day. Very energetic and enthusiastic. Genuinely cares about his students’ success. Amazing human being.”

“Marty was a phenomenal TA. I never felt an inability to ask questions or request clarifications. He worked around my schedule to meet with me and make sure I understood the material. His passion towards political science and course topics motivated me to study harder for class and increase my attendance. There are not enough good things I could say about Marty.”

¹ Scanned copies of the summary evaluations by section, and scanned copies of original hand-written evaluations are available upon request.

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“I think Marty was a phenomenal instructor. He always made sure everyone understood the material before moving on. If there was one thing I could change, it would be for us to cover less materials and do more exercises. Other than that, great job!”

“Marty is by far was the best TA I’ve had at MSU. He is very enthusiastic about teaching the material and isn’t boring in the way he presents it. I definitely benefited from his discussion section and I believe I did well in the class because of it. I really have nothing to say other than that. Doesn’t need to change the way he runs things.”

“Marty was probably the best TA I’ve ever had. He was always excited for class, even at 9:10am, and he really wanted to make sure every student understood what he was teaching. He even had his wife (who is a lawyer) come in and talk to students who were interested in going to law school. If that’s not dedication to his students, I don’t know what is.”

“Marty is a great TA!”

“Best Leprechaun ever!”

“Don’t change a thing! I hardly ever speak up in class but Marty is so approachable, kind and funny I was never afraid to be wrong. I’m so glad to have been in his section.”

“Overall, he enjoys political statistics...for some reason. But, his enthusiasm inspires me to become more interested in the class. He is a good teacher that tries [sic] to interest students (which is difficult) and doesn’t have that many teaching defects.”

“Marty has been a great T.A. he goes over the material well and answers any questions students have.”

“Marty Rocks!”

“Marty is the best TA I’ve ever had for a class. He is extremely helpful when students don’t understand a certain topic, and will demonstrate multiple examples until topics are clear. He is very enthusiastic, and makes in-class participation enjoyable. He takes problem step-by-step and clearly addresses how to go about solving for each step. His office hours are also really helpful; he is really easy to talk to.”

“Wooo! Nice Job Marty! Keep up the energy.”

“Hands down, you have been one of my favorite instructors, and my absolute favorite TA here at my 4 semesters at MSU. Your enthusiasm and ability to explain even the most difficult concepts made this class so easy for me. Keep up the good work, Marty!”

“One of the best TAs I’ve ever had.”

“Marty is a great teacher. He helped me understand many topics that I had trouble with over the semester. Makes things clearer and simpler to understand.”

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“Marty is [sic] been really helpful specially [sic] when this course is really hard. He is always has [sic] smile on his face and so motivated to help and start the class.”

“A way to improve would be through providing more examples in class. Overall the examples and sample problems were very helpful in understanding the course material. The instructors enthusiasm also help make the class more interesting and easier to understand.”

“Best TA I’ve had; paid attention to student’s needs. Perfect mix of learning and fun. Never boring or dull. Never tried to go too quickly. Always looked towards students before moving on. Con: Won’t be teaching me next year?”

“Loved having Marty in section and [Prof.] Black in lecture. Material was difficult.”

“Marty was very energetic, helpful, and informative. Keeping complicated concepts simple allowed for a very cultivating educational environment. His personable personality made asking for assistance very easy and helped me, as a student, better understand the more complex areas within the text and homework.”

“Marty is the man! He was really helpful in conveying the info. I would follow him into battle any day.”

“Marty was really enthusiastic and knowledgeable and it really helped clear up questions from lecture.”

“My experience in PLS 201 in Marty’s section was thoroughly enjoyable to say the least. Marty was always available to help me whenever possible and responded promptly to my emails. He was very personable and when he becomes a professor I would gladly sign up to take his class. 😊”

“Marty kicks ass. 10/10 would recommend.”

“Honestly, you’re a great teacher, give me a recommendation.”

“Marty was extremely helpful throughout the whole year and was by far my best TA yet. His knowledge of the subject was extensive and very good in helping to teach the subject.”

“The only thing I believe that could improve his class would be better structure of class content on a visual level. Things such as power points, visual examples, movies, etc. I would have even been able to grasp the content better seeing it structured rather than just quickly done by hand on the board. Really just a power point of important course material would have helped greatly.”

“As a senior, I can say with confidence that Marty is by far the best TA I had at MSU. I really don’t care about this class, yet Marty has been a fantastic resource throughout the venture.”

“This is the only class I have ever wanted to come to for fear of missing knowledge and the professor noticing I was gone. Marty is THE BEST!!”

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“You did a great job! You are one of the few TAs I’ve ever had that made sure we could understand what we were learning.”

“I feel like I could have skipped lecture every week but still learned it all here. You were great. You were approachable, intelligent, and effective.”

“Marty was willing to meet students at their convenience, regardless of his family responsibilities he made time for us all outside of class. Marty was always receptive to questions and ensured that everyone felt comfortable asking them.”

PLS 201: Intro to Political Science Methods, Michigan State University (Spring 2015)

“Your appreciation for what you do is incredibly evident and helpful to students. I think you are the best TA I have had here at MSU and I think it is because of your passion and dedication. It allowed myself and I’m sure many others to feel comfortable reaching out to you and getting help, which ultimately boosted my grade. There are few like you and it is appreciated.”

“Honestly, the only reason I showed up at nine a.m. every Wednesday is because Marty is a good T.A. and he deserves the respect of showing up to his class.”

“Marty is an outstanding TA. I really enjoyed my time in his class.”

“I would say there is nothing to improve. He did an amazing job breaking down the topics covered in the main lecture. Also I liked how he was able to help everyone who needed help when doing assignments.”

“I really enjoyed how enthusiastic Marty always during class. He always took time out to answer questions and make sure the class was clear on material.”

“Keep up the enthusiasm.”

“All I have to say is that he is a very good teacher.”

“I really enjoy Marty as an instructor. I feel he is able to convey the information appropriately and does a good job answering questions.”

“Marty was a great TA! He is approachable, enthusiastic, and genuinely cares that we fully understand concepts and their real world applicability.”

“I love how much energy you always have and you’re willing to answer any questions; slow down when presenting information so taking notes is possible.”

“Best instructor I’ve had yet.”

“It was difficult to contact him for help unless it was in person. He didn’t reply to emails fast, if ever. He was very enthusiastic though.”

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“Marty is a great instructor. How we he comes in with so much energy at 9AM, I have no idea.”

“Marty is very enthusiastic about his job and is very helpful when students don’t understand something in the course material. Marty always responds to emails in a timely manner as well. I wasn’t a huge fan of the course material, but Marty made it interesting and fun!”

“Marty is an outstanding TA. I really enjoyed my time in his class.”

“Marty was excellent, as usual. His attentive nature and eagerness to help educate is rare among TAs at Michigan State. I specifically enrolled in his section because although he isn’t the easiest grader, he is an excellent teacher.”

“Instructor’s positive attitude and knowledge of material and willingness to help was above and beyond what any other I have had. He did a wonderful job.”

“You really make learning the material fun. You are by far one of my favorites.”

“Marty is awesome! The best TA and professor I have had at MSU thus far! He is always willing to help and always goes above and beyond! He is very enthusiastic when teaching and uses very relevant lessons, examples, and activities in class. Marty will always make time if you need help or just have a question. He made this class very enjoyable and easy to understand!”

“To go to students that are having trouble in class if it’s noticeable; if student doesn’t go for help for him to have incentive to go to the student. Besides that his high energized personality helped a lot during this class and can tell he is very passionate about this that he is teaching.”

“Your enthusiasm for the course / section definitely kept me focused and interested. I truly gained a lot out of section. Personally, I always felt like you truly cared about us full understanding the material. You’re awesome Marty!”

“Marty was extremely enthusiastic and made the course entertaining. I was not the most diligent student but Marty helped me stay up to speed, when most instructors would have let me slip.”

“Marty is a great TA. Very easy to talk to and ask questions.”

“Marty is a very enthusiastic teacher who always presents the material in an engaging way. He uses great real world examples to explain concepts!”

“Honestly I didn’t have much. Marty is a great guy and really made the class worthwhile to attend. His passion and enthusiasm is contagious and I’m grateful he was my TA.”

“Marty is the guy.”

“Marty cared about everyone’s learning and was very passionate. He was my previous TA and I switched to have him again. He made a subject I did not totally enjoy very fun. He’s a great teacher and any student that gets to have him as a teacher is lucky.”

“Marty was very helpful and enthusiastic.”

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“Marty you were great! You always found ways to make sure everyone was on the same page and your examples always made. My only critique would be to be a little more conscious in regards to going around and helping everyone. Other than that you made this semester afterwards.”

“Marty was a very enthusiastic instructor. I really enjoyed having him as a TA.”

“I’ve been at MSU five years and Marty is easily the best TA I’ve ever had. He’s so helpful and enthusiastic. Even though I liked Prof. Juenke a lot, I felt I learned the most in weekly recitation with Marty.”

“great class, Marty is great!”

“Great job teaching the course.”

POL 100: Intro to American Politics, Hope College (Fall 2016)

“This is honestly my favorite class of the semester”

“I appreciate how much you care about us and how we’re doing.”

“It’s Great!”

“I like how the class is organized, easy to stay on track with homework and topics.”

“Like how interested you are in teaching and that you enjoy it. Lots of reading for homework.”

“I would enjoy more student discussions because an hour and 20 minute long powerpoint is sometimes hard to keep focused on.”

“I appreciate how engaging and enthusiastic you are.”

“Love this class! Great teacher ☺”

“Very fun class. I feel that I am generally knowledgeable on the topic but Prof. Jordan has still taught me a great deal.”

“I have been very impressed with this class, the content, and the professor”

POL 110: Campaigns and Elections, Hope College (Fall 2016)

“As I am someone who thinks government is quite frankly ridiculous and who doesn’t enjoy politics, you made the material interesting, applicable, and overall enjoyable. I know much more about politics after this course.”

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“You are the man, Professor Jordan.”

“Great job!”

“I really am enjoying this class, much more than I thought I would.”

“I love how engaged you are and you make this class more interesting. Having good power points would be beneficial to my notetaking.”

“You are a great professor! I was nervous for this class because I feel uneducated in politics but you made it comfortable!”

“Just want to make sure I know everything about each chapter after each chapter. I mean there is a lot of stuff in each chapter and it is sometimes confusing.”

“I really enjoy this class. I feel like I have learned a lot so far. I am still working to know this stuff as well as I'd like but you are a really good professor and make this class interesting!”

“I feel that I am strengthening my already acquired knowledge but also feel like I am not learning new concepts.”

“A little worried about the strategy memo.”

“Good class, makes students comfortable with getting involved in class and different topics.”

“The one ‘above average’ [instead of a superior] was because this was political science; it's a bit challenging to keep peace in the classroom, which was done very well.”

“I really enjoyed having the guy come in and talk about politics; please do more of that.”

“I loved how much enthusiasm you had while teaching; it made me feel like you genuinely cared about how well your students did.”

“Very good professor.”

“Really enjoyed this class ☺ Thank you!”

POL 242: Political Science Research Methods, Hope College (Fall 2016)

“Love this class, love the teaching style. Professor Jordan also takes an interest in his students, which I believe is necessary to foster a positive academic environment.”

“✓+”

“I hope you stay this excited about what you do. It's entertaining, hilarious (in the best way), and inspiring. ☺”

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“Your [sic] doing a great job! Keep up the good work! ☺”

POL 100: Intro to American Politics, Hope College (Spring 2017)

“Professor Jordan is great!”

“Best college class I have ever taken yet.”

“You’re an amazing teacher and your class is a high light [sic] of my day. Good luck with your future endeavors, you’ve changed my outlook of politics from a negative to positive one.”

“This class has been great and I now have a greater interest in government. Thank you!”

“Very energetic & enthusiastic which is great; much better than some profs who are very mundane.”

“I really enjoyed this class and after taking it I decided to make poly sci my minor. I liked coming to class and found that you made it very interesting.”

“Love how passionate you are about the material, makes class a lot more interesting! Thank you!”

“I enjoyed you as a prof. your enthusiasm compared to all other profs. was outstanding. Best!”

“This class was great! The only things that I would say could improve it would be more activities / videos / things other than lecture. They’re out of the norm so I remember those lessons better. Good luck at MSU, Hope will miss you!!!”

“My absolute favorite class to take this semester. Not only did I learn a lot but did so in a way that truly engaged me. All of my teachers have my respect, but you’ve earned it beyond that. Thank you for being my teacher.”

“Maybe have students turn in homework / quiz every now or then to ‘force’ them to keep studying for this or/and classes.”

“I liked the interactive activities but personally had trouble following power points & taking notes during information-heavy lectures.”

“I honestly really enjoyed your class and you as a professor! I appreciated your excitement and attentiveness during every class period. I am really bummed you aren’t teaching here next year - I would have taken more of your classes as electives! I would recommend doing less review at the beginning of each class from the class before. It became redundant.”

POL 242: Research Methods, Hope College (Spring 2017)

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“I loved the course! You made something like boring old research methods into an actually enjoyable time. Good luck in your future endeavors and I hope you find a job with Polet-level pay!”

“Had a fun time learning about not so fun stuff. I appreciate you making research methods fun and interesting.”

“Overall great class, amazing energy and enthusiasm from instructor”

“I thoroughly enjoyed this course. Thank you for your help.”

“You took that ‘two apple trees’ thing too far ☺. In all seriousness: you will be missed.”

“Thanks so much for a great semester, really wished you weren’t leaving.”

“I really enjoyed the course!”

“I think you could have exerted a little more control in the classroom. One or two students tended to make outbursts often and it would disrupt the lesson. I think that the amount you care about what you teach and your students is extraordinary. Thank you!”

“Stay cool”

“It’s been fun but more [watching] Ancient Aliens [for pseudoscience topic].”

POL 295: Comparative Politics of the Developing World, Hope College (Spring 2017)

“I really enjoyed this course! I learned a lot that I hadn’t know about or really thought about prior. It increased my passion for politics in developing countries and wanting to help (but also learned what may not help). Your passion helped to enjoy coming to class and pay attention ☺. Also enjoyed variety of learning: videos, guests, etc.!”

“Thank you for a great 2 semesters!”

“Encourage more one on one time if you ever end up teaching at a small school! Totally going to miss you ☺”

“I really enjoyed this class and appreciated your general enthusiasm for the topics. Thank you for a great semester and all the work you put in!”

“Lots of reading, all interesting, just maybe too much. Thank you!”

“Wonderful class!”

“Thanks for a great semester!”

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“Thoroughly enjoyed the class. Very effective teaching style and text to supplement the course meaning / concepts.”

PPL 801: Quantitative Methods I, Masters in Public Policy, Michigan State Univ. (Fall 2017)

“Marty is an excellent teacher! He is extremely dedicated and does a great job making sure everyone learns from the class.”

“Marty’s enthusiasm for political science and stats bled into every aspect of this class, therefore, making what otherwise would have been an unbearable class enjoyable. He had the incredibly difficult task of teaching a group of students, all of whom had different levels of understanding, a lot of information within a very limited amount of time. He did this flawlessly. In addition, he was always available and welcoming during & outside of his office hours. The research project was incredibly helpful just in general but that & policy in the news really helped ground the lessons in the real world but also within the policy world. Thank you very much for all your help all semester long – it was enjoyable.”

“It would be better for content retention if this class was held 2x a week.”

“This class was very interesting to me, and I thought Marty did an exceptional job of conveying the material.”

“Marty is the professor I love best this semester! He helped me a lot even I am a foreigner and my English is not so good. He always explain [sic] clearly with so much patience. I don’t know how to express my thanks, but thanks for being so kind!!”

“Marty was a great professor who really cared about his students. However, there was too much to cover in class & we frequently ran out of time and glossed over topics.”

“Loved Marty’s enthusiasm and willingness to help. It is the only reason I enjoyed this class. I would have greatly benefited from answer keys to problem sets. Helps to have the confidence that you have the correct answer.”

“The course should be less abstract and more policy-centric. While the foundational math is helpful for a conceptual understanding, the course could use more realistic application i.e. more stata.”

“Even though this course was challenging, Marty made it extremely engaging, and I thoroughly enjoyed him as my instructor.”

“In some classes I think we moved too quickly through the material, especially in the 2nd half of the semester. I was really confused on the homework assignments the weeks that we didn’t get through everything or didn’t go to the lab when we were supposed to. I would have preferred covering a little less material but actually going over all of it in class.”

“Marty was superb! He was always enthusiastic, ready to help, caring and prepared. He got us through a huge amount of information in a short semester. My biggest tweak to the course would be to shorten some of the pre-lecture parts of the class (analysis in the news, general questions, etc). It ate into some of class and limited time with stata. Independently, I felt we could have spent just a

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little time less on probability. It was important but less so than more on regression/ANOVA. Other than that, the class was great! Thanks again!"

"Marty is a passionate and an enthusiastic professor, who is genuinely concerned with whether or not his students are understanding the material. He was very helpful in answering questions and easily approachable when one needed help. With so much material to cover in only one day per week, some class periods and the corresponding homeworks were more challenging. As someone who's generally bad at math, some formulas seemed elaborate and I could've used a bit more explanation during lecture."

"The instructor should give more examples relative to the concepts taught in class. Using more examples to explain concepts will be very helpful for understanding."

"Good man. Always available to help at office and through email/phone. Takes teaching very seriously. Cares that we learn the material. Considerate of what else is going on with our life/other classes and adjusts course-load accordingly. Overall, I'd vote for him above Trump for President any day."

PLS 201: Intro to Political Science Methods, Michigan State University (Spring 2018)

"I was genuinely shocked upon hearing this was Marty's first year as a professor at MSU. He organized the class in an extremely efficient manner. His enthusiasm made class enjoyable & concepts much easier to grasp. Overall Mr. Jordan has been one of the most memorable, passionate and genuine professors I've had. Good job hiring him."

"The class went at a great pace and everything was easy to keep up with."

"Less time on review and more time on newer material."

"Marty is my favorite professor at MSU. He genuinely cares about his students and will go out of his way to ensure their success. His enthusiasm for political science and teaching shines through in every lecture and I will be taking as many courses of his that I can before I graduate. Thanks for a great semester."

"Honestly there is nothing I would change. Great professor, really knows what he's talking about. 10/10. You killed it Marty."

"Prof. Jordan and TAs, Thanks for an amazing semester. You could be an amazing addition to MSU's tenured/full-time/Associate professors. Thank you! :)"

"Favorite person and an amazing/passionate professor."

"Professor Jordan & TA Briggs were wonderful."

"Nothing class was taught excellently."

"Very enthusiastic, poll everywhere wasn't good, but overall a great class."

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“Marty keeps the class interesting; overall he is a good prof. The course material is as boring as could be so it’s very hard to stay tuned.”

“I never do this part but Marty P. Jordan was an exceptional professor. I’ve been at MSU 5 years and he’s one of the most engaged and passionate teachers I’ve had. The course is challenging but it’s important to be challenged. I won’t be leaving this class with a 4.0 or anything close but I got a chance to learn new skills and apply old ones. I had a great semester in PLS 201.”

“Super enthusiastic professor, your positive energy and excitement about the subject made me want to learn about it.”

“Overall the class was awesome but I just wish it had moved a little bit faster. I feel at times it was slow and repetitive.”

“I feel like I’m leaving this course not having learned much. This is because the instructor, although probably the most enthusiastic and energetic professor I’ve had, is not explicit in the way he teaches but kind of talks around the concepts and expects students to fill in the blanks and make connections. It’s important for instructors of this course to remember that the majority of students taking this course are social science or JMC students and don’t have a lot of background with the material. It may feel slow and tedious for the instructor, but it’s necessary to teach at a slow pace, be explicit in explaining concepts and to review concepts.”

“Professor Jordan was a lot of fun and my favorite professor this semester, even though the class was a little boring he was great. More time on the research project would have been great.”

“Marty is honestly one of the best professors I’ve had here at MSU. This course was challenging for me but he did a great job at helping & explaining throughout the course (and not just individually but in lecture).”

“Wheelan was too easy and did not help me learn. I learned more from lectures. It felt like we should’ve covered more info in every class. Class was too easy to the point of being a little boring.”

“I truly enjoyed this course and all that it taught me. The professor was extremely excited about the material and it was infectious.”

“Great professor, maybe finding a way to make the material interesting. Also grading the content wasn’t hard, but the grading tended to be harsh.”

“I know you have to teach to students below the average but I felt like we moved way to slowly in the beginning.”

“It was an enjoyable and informative course.”

“Marty did a great job.”

“Taking notes in class helps me retain information. It’d be better if people had time to copy slides and combine corresponding notes. Maybe this class would be better as an online course. We rarely used the entire time allotted.”

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“Enjoyed Marty’s enthusiasm. Was not a very active student but he designed this course really well that makes it hard to not 4.0 unless you absolutely don’t try at all. Sometimes lecture got boring, could you make it 50 minutes?”

“I appreciate the attendance policy and Prof. Jordan’s general eagerness to teach. Some of the concepts were difficult to understand and the supplemental materials did not help too much in clearing them up.”

“The sweetest prof ever. Truly wants all his students to do well.”

“This was a great class and Prof. Jordan was awesome. He knew the material and taught it very well. He was always excited about it and made sure everyone understood it. I truly enjoyed this class, the material, and especially Professor Jordan.”

“My TA was pretty bad, didn’t get much if anything from recitation.”

“This class is not fun at all and barely relates to politics. That being said, Prof. Marty and TA Erica are great and funny.”

“Great course, thanks Marty!”

“Marty is the nicest man ever.”

“Knew the info he was teaching but was very awkward and boring most classes dragged on and everyone jumped up to go asap.”

“Really enjoyed his lectures and teaching style, always interested in helping the students learn and engage. 12/10 recommend this class. Also his teaching use of personal references helped my understanding.”

“The only thing I would change about this course is the exam format. The essay questions were too much too [sic] accomplish handwritten and in such a big lecture hall with people all around me. I would have preferred all multiple choice or some short answer questions.”

“No research project”

“Really enjoyed the lectures as Professor Jordan brought in jokes & personal experience to the lectures. He also filled in gaps from the reading excellently.”

“Marty was really smart and always had a lot of energy. The class could have been more interactive, but overall he did very well.”

“Marty Jordan was an amazing professor and I would recommend him to anyone! I learned a lot and I enjoyed the class. Great dude!”

“Marty is an amazing professor that really engages w/ students. My only issue w/ the course are the labs which I pretty consistently feel [sic] are a waste of time.”

TEACHING EVALUATIONS for MARTY P. JORDAN

“I feel like the project if he decides to do it again that it should be at the beginning of the semester rather than at the end because it is just a lot to deal with during finals trying to get it done and study for the test. There wasn't much work other than the project so maybe spread out the project over the semester.”

“Great course. I enjoyed learning more about other perspectives and the way the media manipulates data to influence the way citizens think.”

“Prof Jordan was enthusiastic, passionate, and a pleasure to work with. Much of the course material was presented clearly with a lot of opportunity to ask questions. Thank you.”

“Marty is an amazing professor. I would love to have him again. He deserves tenure, he is passionate and knows his stuff.”

“Honestly, I have been to your class a total of 2 times. Partly, it's due to my idiot friends asking me to join them. You seem like a cool dude, and you def. are enthusiastic. If you could teach like organic chemistry or any hard class that would be great. Insert fist bump.”

“Gucci [aka awesome]”

“Very organized, friendly, knowledgeable and enthusiastic guy.”

“I think the class would benefit if you started the research project at the beginning of the semester and took the whole time to go in depth and have greater understanding. Don't leave until the last 2 weeks of semester for 20% of the grade.”

“Marty is a great professor and really cares about his students learning and this course. This class should be taught in a bigger lecture hall. It was pretty cramped and hard to find seats sometimes.”

“I felt that this class was helpful and educational.”

“He's great!”

“Really enjoyed the awful Dad jokes; always encouraged us to do our best.”

“He was great. Very enjoyable to listen to in class. There is no way to improve this class.”

“Pollock was too dense and not necessary. A lot of things in Pollock we did not touch on in class. Plus, clear guidelines on essays would be nice. I know you mentioned it should be 3-4 dense paragraphs, which I did, but got 50% on. I'm in the Honors College and plan to intern at SHAPE, so I am pretty smart but the TA who graded question 1 was by far the worst grader ever. He should never be allowed to teach / grade again.”

“Great energy. A little too statistic oriented, but good class.”

“This class can be improved if we were more hands on. The final project was also communicated poorly. My TA told us different things than Marty. This course was confusing, but only because the instructors made it that way. Marty was funny and very likable but attendance policy was not good.”

TEACHING EVALUATIONS
for MARTY P. JORDAN

“Best college professor I have had so far. Very helpful, very funny and very concerned with whether we learned the material or not. 10/10.”

“Thoroughly enjoyed it.”

“The class is designed poorly, not the instructor’s fault, just a slow pace & too little information covered to stay interesting.”

“Professor Jordan was enthusiastic and knowledgeable. I think the course would benefit from a different structure. I would have moved it around so that the research project was finished earlier.”

“Amazing professor. Awful course. Xoxo!”

“I loved Prof. Jordan! He was an excellent professor who truly cares about his students and their success.”

“Don’t make 40% of our grade due in the last 2 weeks of class. So, you could have 2 exams during the semester and have the research project be the final or something to break up two large chunks of our grade.”

“Marty really enjoys teaching which makes it enjoyable to learn from him. He is a great professor and his class was just as great as him.”

“Marty is so enthusiastic & really cares about his students & profession. Erica Briggs was also an amazing TA & really went above & beyond.”

“Very enthusiastic and engaging. Overall, fantastic class. One point I’d like to make though. Be harder on us. It seemed as if most people wanted more time, but personally I felt you gave us too much. I think you need to hold us accountable of the due dates. You really did give us plenty of time originally, if not too much time. Very generous of you, but hold us accountable to finish our work. We will grow a lot more as people.”

“Marty is an amazing professor. He has a passion for PLS and that shows. I can honestly say I learned a lot from him.”

“He was an okay professor but I hated the course.”

“Marty is an excellent instructor.”

“Marty was very good professor. Class was just not challenging enough.”

“This course wouldn’t be anything compared to what it was w/o Marty. He has such a passion for teaching, is very patient, intelligent, and organized the class very efficiently.”

“Less enthusiasm, it makes people uncomfortable.”

TEACHING EVALUATIONS
for MARTY P. JORDAN

“Prof. Jordan’s enthusiasm was the best part of the class. I am not really all that interested in this area of poly science, but he made me enjoy coming to class every week. He made me care about what I learned.”

“Marty was super invested and enthusiastic about Political Science. I wasn’t really interested in this course coming into it, but he made it enjoyable. He was a great professor and very helpful.”

“Hated the way that the final product for the project was set up, would have preferred essay format.”

“Thought I would hate this course coming into it, but Marty is awesome. Super enthusiastic, cares a lot about his students. Could maybe have more guidance on Research Project and maybe make it due a few weeks before the final.”

“Don’t make research project due close to Final Exam. Too much material on Exams. Don’t put more than 1 essay question on exam.”

“Sup. This class was pretty good. However, one of your TAs, in my opinion, graded fairly rough on the midterm. I gave him a full sheet on why I thought I should get more points in my challenge, and I do not think he gave me a fair grade at all. Just because I didn’t say Kida said ‘x,’ he marked me down despite knowing the material. Also, he said my handwriting was bad. Never in my life has someone said that. He took a point off. Also, he said giving 5 examples was not enough, which is not possible to do more. I like you though. You’re chill.”

“The Pollock readings never shed any light on subjects, even ones I felt like I had a handle on. His writing style was confusing probably b/c I am not exposed to much of this type of writing in my field of study. It sometimes felt like we were moving very slowly in the beginning and then in the end we were moving a lot faster, sometimes too fast.”

“I think Marty has a strong future in teaching as his experience grows. He’s really enthusiastic about teaching, but it was clear at certain points that he was inexperienced.”

“Pollock and Wheelan were too easy and did not give enough information. I feel the reading didn’t add anything to the class, as I learned everything from lecture. The course was really slow at the beginning, but then we jammed the research project in at the end. The pace could be fixed.”

“Overall not a fun topic but I learned a lot. Marty seems very enthusiastic about the material all the time but I don’t know that it’s engaging. I only wish he was more receptive to student concerns when approached. Not all students are created equal.”

“Start the research project sooner with more deadlines per task with feedback so we know if we were doing things correctly.”

“This course should not be required for the major, or should be test-outable [sic]. Professor was good, but I was bored.”

TEACHING EVALUATIONS
for MARTY P. JORDAN

“Marty is a wonderful professor and deserves to be teaching at this university. On second thought, the University doesn’t really deserve him. His enthusiasm for teaching us is what every professor here should have, but they unfortunately don’t. He was the best professor I’ve had so far. The best. Other professors should look up to him. Thanks for everything, Marty.”

“I love Marty as a professor. One suggestion I have is to save discussion and review for the end. Lecture first with no discussion throughout; sometimes when there is a lot of discussion in between I lose track of what we are talking about.”

“I did not find this class difficult at all – however many students struggled on the midterm even though the multiple choice were previous iclicker questions. I think many students do not take this class as seriously because it is many JMC students taking a class outside of the college. Raise your expectations of students possibly? Let them know that it’s not a blow off. I liked Polleverywhere because cheap.”

“Marty Jordan was fantastically appropriate instructor for this class. He was enthusiastic, helpful, funny, and encouraging. He should be used again for instructing this course and others while he is still at MSU.”

“Professor Jordan is an amazing teacher. He goes above and beyond to help students learn. If people are confused he will do a review in class where everyone can ask questions and make comments. His teaching methods are very effective. I’ve learned a lot in this course.”

“Marty was an excellent professor. Very enthusiastic. Looked like he really enjoyed teaching. Course seemed pretty entry level in my opinion. Seeing how based around statistics I would maybe incorporate more calculations and statistics.”

“I have no suggestions because Marty is awesome. He’s so enthusiastic and it’s refreshing to have someone who wants to be here. It’s infectious and makes the class fun. His ability to convey material is superior to many other instructors in comparison. His availability to be of help is also something I, and many classmates, appreciated.”

“Prof. Jordan did a great job. It’s like he used the SIRs questions as a rubric for class. Always willing to help and had lots of energy.”