Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310
Semester:  Fall 2010  Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   
   VERY clear, they were pounded into our skulls every day

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?

   The assignments challenged me to learn how to use statistics to explain my arguments, and because of this I actually want to use regressions in my master's research project. The readings had great examples to spell things out, but I had a lot of trouble understanding the math stuff by simply reading it.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?

   Have a research design in mind, and work on it in increments over the entire semester instead of cramming all your research into 3 days.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   The mathematical concepts were difficult, but the other readings were relatively easy to understand and get the gist.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   Compared to my other classes this semester, the reading load was much lighter. The articles were not extremely difficult, and the book was easy to skim over.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   The assignments were much harder because I was learning statistical analysis, which is very difficult. I wish we could have gone over the assignments in class so I could fix what I did wrong.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   The grading is just right. In this class, you can't get away with half-assing. If you put in consistent effort, it shows through your grade.

5. Please circle one of the following: I've had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.
   
   YES
   NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
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About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?

   Yes

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?

   The assignments were challenging because most of them were due at the end of the semester. Yes, readings helped me to improve my research and analytical skills.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?

   Prepare to work hard and do work on research design as much as you can in the beginning of the semester.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   It was about the median average (mean).
   With some readings were more difficult, but it was manageable.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   The reading load was manageable as well.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   It was hard because all of the assignments from other classes were also due at the end of the semester.
   I wish really hope that we can do more short homeworks either at the beginning or middle of the semester.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   I think the grading is fair for this class and reasonable enough.

5. Please circle one of the following: I’ve had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

   [ ] YES
   [ ] NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310
Semester:  Fall 2010  Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?

   Absolutely. Develop the statistical tools necessary to conduct the final project **well**.

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?

   The assignments certainly helped practice of those techniques. The readings were less helpful on account of their density and technical jargon BEFORE concepts were explained.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?

   - ask for help if you need it
   - work in groups with your peers to understand
   - print and review slides beforehand.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

Moderate - usually it was one large paper or one chapter, which was good, but as mentioned earlier less than helpful

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

The assignments were certainly harder than in other classes. They usually took a few days to do and a lot of supplementary googling + researching. I might recommend eliminating 1 or 2 and setting due dates earlier. Concepts covered in the assignments were not always covered in class.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

Grading was absolutely fair.

5. Please circle one of the following: I've had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

YES

NO

One suggestion I have is to do all the assignments at the begging of the year at the project + relevant tasks after end. The last 2 assignments required a lot of time that detracted from time to do the project.
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number: DIPL 6310
Semester: Fall 2010  Professor: Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   
   Yes...

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?

   They played ironically off of each other. I felt like they may have had more value, however, if the readings were discussed at greater length in class, and if the assignments we had were at a sample template off of which we were writing.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?

   Do... leave yourself plenty of time for all it to be assigned.

   Buy the version of textbook prescribed - I bought the older one and it was vastly different.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   They are sufficient... most of time, however, when you open to the assignment and mesh questions, you tend to skip over, b/c we didn't understand.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Adequate - again the most important thing is adequately having themes and exploring in depth the readings in class.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Hard, but they should be. I just felt like it was problematic that we were not given examples or the problem for reference.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Again, fair. Detail oriented, but details matter in research, or some of the writing, such as assignment 2, I thought the grading was somewhat severe

5. Please circle one of the following: I've had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

   [YES] [NO]
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310

Semester:  Fall 2010   Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   Yes, most certainly

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   The assignments were freaking frustrating sometimes but I definitely learned from them... so they were worth it.
   The readings were ok; the book was dry but most textbooks are. The articles were definitely better and it was cool to dissect the data and work of others.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   Take really good notes in class, especially during the second half... they are vital to the homework. It's also very helpful to review the ppt slides before class.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   The readings were about the same as my other courses... save the book which was too easy.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   The reading load is lighter than my other diploma classes this semester but that was good in the second half when we had the assignments.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   The assignments are definitely harder but I think it's because they are so different.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   The grading for this course was fine compared to my other diploma classes & I think it should stay as is.

5. Please circle one of the following: I've had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

   YES   NO

Note: I did not like working on the student's homework assignments while also working on the research design. If the homework assignments could be earlier in the semester, that would be great!
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations  
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number: DIPL 6310  
Semester: Fall 2010  Professor: Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   Yes, they were clear.

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   The assignments were challenging. In terms of research, I had to pay closer attention to my findings. Readings (academic), that I would have used and trusted previously now require closer scrutiny. I like that I got to apply what I learned in the homework. It is very useful. The readings selected for class provide clear examples of what to do and what not to do.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   I would advise working on the quantitative assignments with your classmates. I would also recommend discussing the class readings with others before class. Finally, I strongly advise them to meet with Dr. Edwards to discuss any questions.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   Due to the quantitative and theoretical component, some of the readings were harder for this class.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   I believe the amount of reading is appropriate when compared to other classes.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   Out of all my classes, this class had the most assignments. However, I feel I have a better grasp of the material for this class.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   The grading is appropriate. The research design should carry the bulk of the grade.

5. Please circle one of the following: I’ve had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

   YES  NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations  
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310  
Semester:  Fall 2010  Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   Yes, very - from the beginning we are told what we will learn and what we are expected to do.

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   Assignments need to go back to earlier studying (statistics) but also pool of interaction from readings which were always selected (by the Prof) as means to improve our understanding and apply it to our own cases.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   Be ready to have fair amount of work and material to cover, however don't panic - it is not a bad thing because helps you in your as preparation for the next class - Master Research Project.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

They're hard because they're quantifiable, sth. we aren't used to see. But again they're helpful tools to develop our own research design.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

Not easier and much harder than others, even though it is difficult to cover them all, - they are quite helpful - .

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

They are harder and demand considerable amount of time, but practical, and practice makes us perfect or help us understand the topics.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

 Hin - not sure about the one.

5. Please circle one of the following: I’ve had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

YES

NO

Consent - I was discouraged from taking Dr. Edwards. Would make big mistake if I were to listen to such advice.

He is one of (if not the best) professors here.

He is always here to help, guide and make you understand what is not clear.

Very attentive to one’s individual care.
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations  
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number: DIPL 6310  
Semester: Fall 2010  Professor: Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   Somewhat

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?

   It was just a challenge, like pulling a cow up a mountain. Nothing seemed related to previous assignments & nor did it make sense.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?

   ★ read assignments for week ahead not indicated weeks as you would in other classes with other professors.
   ★ Google is your friend as you will be very confused, even about math.
   ★ You think you know English, think again
   ★ If in Duffy Hall again - wear many layers. The cold air is very distracting and it can be cooler inside then out.
   ★ See Edwards often.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the **readings for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   - Hard. Words started to blur and cause confusion, even when read several times. (from the textbook.) Class discussion occasionally helped explain but sometimes caused even more confusion.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the **reading load per week** for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   - Reasonable amount but difficult to understand due to presence of numbers in unfamiliar format.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the **assignments for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   - They lack cohesion. It is difficult to relate them to each other and build on what is taught in class. It feels like you are learning several different & unrelated concepts, until you get the homework back and realize your going to flunk grad school.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the **grading for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   - akin.

5. Please circle **one** of the following: I’ve had a **prior** class with Dr. Edwards.
   - YES
   - [ ] NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310
Semester:  Fall 2010  Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   yes they are

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   both assignments and readings made me to carefully read the results and avoid big problems.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   start working on every assignment early. ask questions
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   Some of them had lots of math and therefore are harder to understand at once.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   Articles are fine. The book is not an easy reading. But overall it is not more than in other classes.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   They are not too hard, meaning they are doable. However, they are not simple either and require attention and time.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   Same as in other classes.

5. Please circle one of the following: I’ve had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

   
   YES

   NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310
Semester:  Fall 2010   Professor: Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   Yes

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   - Assignments definitely challenged me to put class knowledge into practice.
   - Some readings I could follow (articles) + some still went over my head.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   - Take notes on the powerpoint slides.
   - For stats assignments find at least one partner to consult.
   - I would def recommend taking this course w/ you.
   - I greatly appreciate having paper proposal done for next semester.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Readings were easy enough but sometimes not so interesting, i.e. case-studies chosen.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Reading load was perfect, other classes do way too much and when you times that by 3 or 4 it makes it impossible to finish it all. Was always prepared for class.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   I thought the assignments were a little tricky but I usually figured them out, but only after discussing with fellow classmates. Could never have done them on my own.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   I think fair, hard to read comments to know what points I missed, but usually figured it out.

5. Please circle one of the following: I’ve had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

   YES  NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations  
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  **DIPL 6310**

Semester:  **Fall 2010**  Professor:  **Edwards**

**About the Course**

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?  
   - The objectives are clear.

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   - The assignments challenged me to really look at the information I produce, and to clearly explain the information (and its implications) to a broader audience. They forced me to be clear and concise. The readings challenged me to question the facts presented to me, and to examine them deeper to determine their applicability and validity.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   - I would recommend taking extremely clear notes during class, especially when learning to report results. Also, read the textbook as many times as necessary.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the **readings for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   The readings were about average. They challenged me but were not too difficult to understand.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the **reading load per week** for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   This was also about average. I could complete the reading with my other work while feeling some minimal pressure.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the **assignments for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   The assignments were a little more difficult simply because they were so involved.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the **grading for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   The grading was also comparable to other courses. I felt it was fair, but would like a little more feedback.

5. Please circle one of the following: I’ve had a **prior** class with Dr. Edwards.

   [ ] YES  [ ] NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations  
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310  
Semester:  Fall 2010  
Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?  
   Yes.

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and  
analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your  
research and analytical skills?

   Assignments were certainly helpful in applying  
   lectures to actual research work. (especially  
   assignments #3 - #6)  
   Readings only somewhat helpful.  
   Specifically readings were that provided examples were helpful.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help  
them succeed?  
   Be sure to print out slides of lectures  
   ahead of time and take extensive notes on how  
   SPSS outputs are used in class. While Prof Edwards  
makes it seem quick and easy in class, you will  
   forget every part if you don't have good notes.  
   Also, ask Prof Edwards to move Stat assignments  
   to earlier in the semester!
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   Easier in terms of volume. Harder in terms of complicated statistical models used in them to understand.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   As indicated prior, volume of reading easy compared to other classes.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   They are just hard enough.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   Grading is more thorough and specific than other classes.

5. Please circle one of the following: I’ve had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.
   
   YES  
   NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310
Semester:  Fall 2010   Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   Yes. The objectives were clearly defined.

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   Don't know where to begin. The assignments really encouraged us to think independently and with limited guidance. I learned a lot from the exercises given. The readings were also given so that we could analyze concepts discussed in class that were present in the text. Every challenging and rewarding all together.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   Stay motivated and don't give up when the math seems to complicated. It takes time to adjust to the methods of statistical significance, however it is not a difficult as it first appears.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the **readings for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   They were on par with readings that I was assigned in other classes.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the **reading load per week** for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   At the beginning of the semester there was a larger amount of reading. Intuitively, this tapered off as assignments were assigned and more time was spent on analysis.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the **assignments for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   They were challenging but not too hard. Learning cannot be achieved without difficulty.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the **grading for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Neither. Grading was justified according expectations clearly laid out.

5. Please circle **one** of the following: I’ve had a **prior** class with Dr. Edwards.

   - [ ] YES
   - [x] NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310
Semester:  Fall 2010   Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   
   Yes

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   
   "The challenge more to become a real "producer of knowledge""

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   
   - Always talk with Dr. Edwards
   - Write your lit review before you start SPSS stuff
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

fair

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

fair

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

The assignments were really difficult but at the same time would not challenge them.

I would have liked to have the Lit Review be one of the required assignments so I guess the written works were a little easy.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

fair

5. Please circle one of the following: I’ve had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

YES

NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310

Semester:  Fall 2010  Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   Yes.

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   The assignments challenged me in all aspects.
   The material and topics for this class were very unfamiliar to me.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   Be prepared to work hard and not know what you are doing in the beginning.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the **readings for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   "They are on the hard side, but they are relevant to class material & goals."

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the **reading load per week** for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   "Compared to other classes, the load was in the middle."

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the **assignments for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   "The assignments were hard but again relevant to the course goals. But, HARD!"

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the **grading for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   "In the middle, but a little hard."

5. Please circle one of the following: I've had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.
   
   YES
   
   NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations  
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310  
Semester:  Fall 2010  
Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   Absolutely.

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   This class made me a producer of knowledge.
   Very helpful.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   See the professor during office hours!
   Challenge yourself and think beyond where you are
   Simply reading, question everything.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   About the same. The reading complemented the class very well.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   Perfect.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   They are demanding but doable.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   The grading is about the same; however, the comments and suggestions an assignments go above and beyond from other professors.

5. Please circle one of the following: I've had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

   YES  NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  *DIPL 6310*

Semester:  *Fall 2010*  Professor:  *Edwards*

*About the Course*

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   
   *Yes*

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?

   *It challenged me to look at reading and decide if the models and variables used were correct. In some cases, we found data to be correct, but not significant. It helped my research skills by how being able to use SPSS and create dataset and decipher what makes a good dataset.*

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?

   *Pay attention, ask questions and do not be afraid to both to the professor outside of class.*
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the *readings for this course* too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   *approximately the same length, but all the stats in their mode some difficult* 

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the *reading load per week* for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   *No some on other course*

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the *assignments for this course* too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   *Some can be harder since 1985 was new, but often produce it got easier*

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the *grading for this course* too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   *No some, all guides are given and explained well.*

5. Please circle one of the following: I’ve had a *prior* class with Dr. Edwards.

   *YES*  
   *NO*
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310
Semester:  Fall 2010  Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?

   yes indeed

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?

   forced me to look beyond the
   obvious and probe deeper into the
text and derive my own conclusions
   rather than just repeat what I heard in class.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?

   get ready for the seminars.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   I had already seen some of the readings for mid class before so to me it wasn't too much of a struggle.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   It was pretty easy compared to my other classes so I was grateful for that.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   A bit harder but that's only b/c I ain't normally spend my time running regressions + analyzing data outputs.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   The grading was fair.

5. Please circle one of the following: I've had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

   YES

   NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310
Semester:  Fall 2010  Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   
   Yes

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   
   The assignments were very challenging and made me apply the readings and the in class notes.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   
   Take excellent notes on how to read SPSS. That was the most challenging part clearly documenting the output.
**Benchmarking**

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the *readings for this course* too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Harder. This felt like a real graduate class.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the *reading load per week* for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Similar. There was a fair amount of reading.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the *assignments for this course* too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   They are hard, but it makes you think.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the *grading for this course* too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Perfect - very fairly graded.

5. Please circle one of the following: I've had a *prior* class with Dr. Edwards.

   YES [ ] NO [X]

   I enjoyed the class it was a challenge, but I felt when he explained how to work with SPSS he needed to slow down and put it into English, not Stat language.
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310

Semester:  Fall 2010  Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   Yes

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   The assignments were not always clear in what the professor wanted. Lots of guess work was involved. The readings were not helpful - they felt assigned just for the sake of being assigned.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   Ask questions, pay attention, and work in groups. Being able to work together on assignments is helpful.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   Too hard. Lots of voicing, random info that is not explained in class or in texts.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   Average. Not more or less than normal.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   Too hard. Too much guess work involved but often found self getting lucky on answers w/o knowing what I was talking about.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   Average. Too hard at times, too easy at others. Needs to be standardized.

5. Please circle one of the following: I've had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

   YES

   NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310
Semester:  Fall 2010  Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   
   Yes

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   
   The assignments make you think about data and understand what it means in a deade way. And readings show their application in research.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   
   Pay attention un class
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the **readings for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the **reading load per week** for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the **assignments for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   The assignments are not too difficult. They are doable, but certainly require effort. If we had had to break down the authors' data like Prof. Edwards does in class, it would have been too difficult.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the **grading for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   The grading for this course is fair.

5. Please circle **one** of the following: I've had a **prior** class with Dr. Edwards.

   YES  
   NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310
Semester:  Fall 2010  Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   Yes

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?

   The assignments forced me to think through the concepts of the class and use my new skill set. The readings were more difficult to use without intensive explanation from the professor but helped provide examples on which to base my research.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?

   Be prepared to work and be prepared to ask questions.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the **readings for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Similar. They pushed me to apply what was learned to real life examples.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the **reading load per week** for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Easy. It was lighter than other classes but based on the statistical material it was the correct amount.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the **assignments for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Hard. Forced much more thought and outside research to understand concepts.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the **grading for this course** too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   About the same. Reflective of the work that was put into assignments.

5. Please circle **one** of the following: I’ve had a **prior** class with Dr. Edwards.

   YES [ ] NO [ ]
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:   DIPL 6310

Semester:   Fall 2010   Professor:   Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   yes

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   Assignments using SPSS were confusing. I would have liked more guidance. Examples from class were helpful, but I still had trouble interpreting SPSS data.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   Take good notes on interpreting SPSS data.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   *Fine - Average amount compared to other courses*

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   *Average compared to other courses*

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   *Too hard - SPSS assignments written assignments were fine*

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   *Hard grading, but helpful critiques of written work*

5. Please circle one of the following: I've had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.
   *YES*  
   *NO*
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310
Semester:  Fall 2010   Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   Yes

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?

   It's not just about spitting out the data. It's about the analysis; the "so what," and the back story to why we're crunching the numbers in the first place, the instructor drove that home in every assignment. (A good thing)

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?

   Edwards goes fast in class sometimes, so reinforcing the info given beforehand (read the power points), as well as discussing the readings of peers, and not being afraid to ask questions, will go a long way.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   Readings are the same level, but students have to realize that since this is a stats analysis class, you have to read differently and look for different things. This point could be brought across more at the beginning.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.
   
   Per for the course. Nothing that's different from other classes (I think it's all too much anyway).

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   I like having a higher frequency of assignments rather than two to three large projects. The higher frequency is a plus for the class.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Grading is fair.

5. Please circle one of the following: I've had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

   [ ] YES
   [ ] NO
Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Course Evaluation

Course Name and Number:  DIPL 6310
Semester:  Fall 2010  Professor:  Edwards

About the Course

1. Are the objectives of this course clear?
   Overall yes - The "theme" is clear but individual objectives not as much.

2. In what way did the assignments challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills? In what way did the readings challenge you to improve your research and analytical skills?
   Assignments were really good, though very opaquey challenging at times.
   Same with the reading, sometimes they were hard to decipher but that was more stylistic issues.

3. What advice would you offer to students taking this class next semester to help them succeed?
   Be really attentive when SPSS is gone through - maybe try to record-video that part so you can watch again. Just listening to the directions/lecture might not be enough. I hear SPSS on youtube helps too.
Benchmarking

1. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the readings for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Sometimes they are hard b/c they are so heavily quantitative and actually require you to think. They are much harder to skim. This is not necessarily bad.

2. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the reading load per week for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   It's hard b/c it's hard to split up, but really, the expectation isn't unreasonable.

3. Compared to other diplomacy classes, are the assignments for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   They are significantly more difficult b/c they are skills that we only just get introduced to once.

4. Compared to other diplomacy classes, is the grading for this course too easy or too hard? Please elaborate.

   Honestly, it's fine. Maybe a bit harder, but very honest.

5. Please circle one of the following: I've had a prior class with Dr. Edwards.

   YES
   NO

If you could just slow down when introducing new stuff, that'd be really helpful. It's hard sometimes to recognize where joke ends and "work" begins.