

Term
Spring 2021

Instructor
WALKER Kevin M.

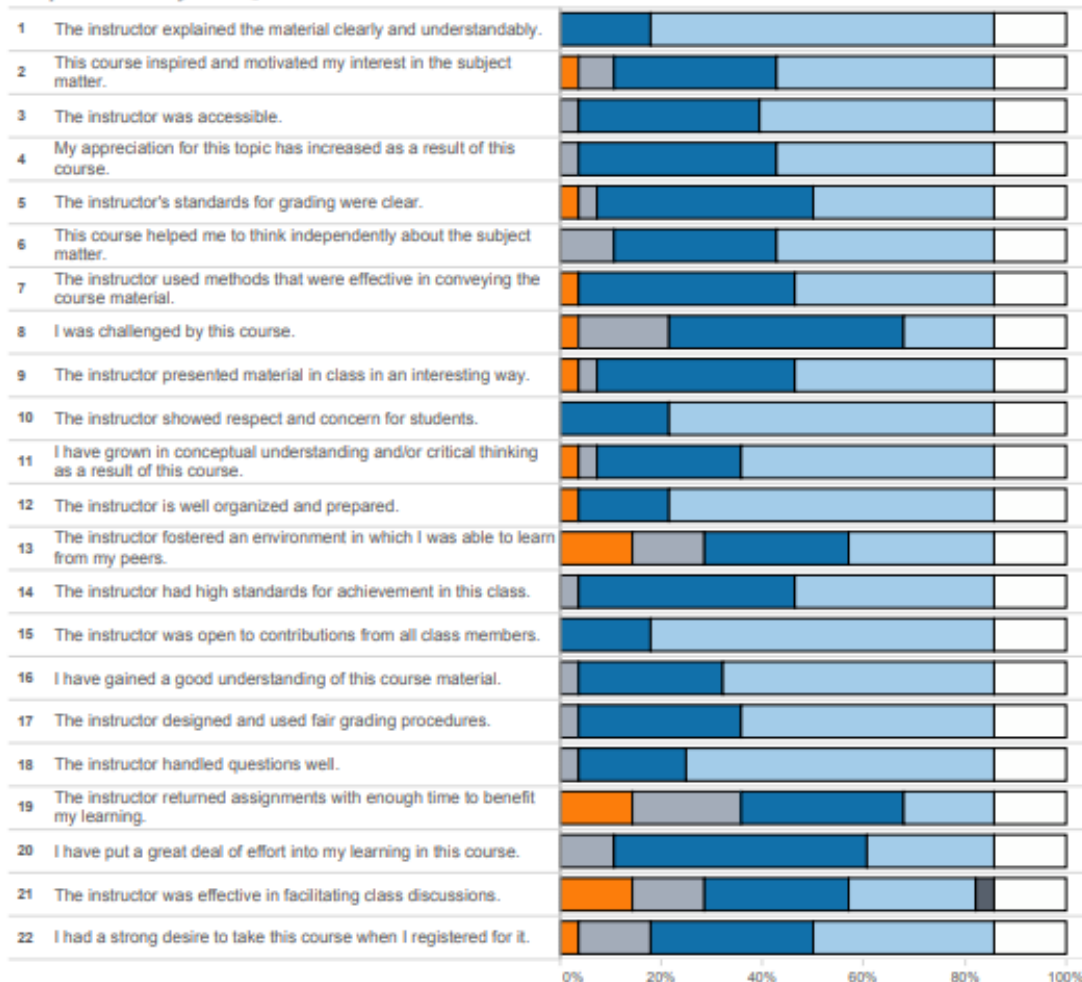
Course/Section
POSC 210 B

Course Title
Congress

Enrollment
28

Surveys
24

Response Analysis: Questions 1 - 22



■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Neither agree nor disagree
 ■ Strongly agree
 ■ Missing
■ Disagree
 ■ Agree
 ■ Not applicable

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Response Analysis: Questions 1 - 22

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable	Missing
1 The instructor explained the material clearly and understandably.	0%	0%	0%	18%	68%	0%	14%
2 This course inspired and motivated my interest in the subject matter.	0%	4%	7%	32%	43%	0%	14%
3 The instructor was accessible.	0%	0%	4%	36%	48%	0%	14%
4 My appreciation for this topic has increased as a result of this course.	0%	0%	4%	39%	43%	0%	14%
5 The instructor's standards for grading were clear.	0%	4%	4%	43%	36%	0%	14%
6 This course helped me to think independently about the subject matter.	0%	0%	11%	32%	43%	0%	14%
7 The instructor used methods that were effective in conveying the course material.	0%	4%	0%	43%	39%	0%	14%
8 I was challenged by this course.	0%	4%	18%	46%	18%	0%	14%
9 The instructor presented material in class in an interesting way.	0%	4%	4%	39%	39%	0%	14%
10 The instructor showed respect and concern for students.	0%	0%	0%	21%	64%	0%	14%
11 I have grown in conceptual understanding and/or critical thinking as a result of this course.	0%	4%	4%	29%	50%	0%	14%
12 The instructor is well organized and prepared.	0%	4%	0%	18%	64%	0%	14%
13 The instructor fostered an environment in which I was able to learn from my peers.	0%	14%	14%	29%	29%	0%	14%
14 The instructor had high standards for achievement in this class.	0%	0%	4%	43%	39%	0%	14%
15 The instructor was open to contributions from all class members.	0%	0%	0%	18%	68%	0%	14%
16 I have gained a good understanding of this course material.	0%	0%	4%	29%	54%	0%	14%
17 The instructor designed and used fair grading procedures.	0%	0%	4%	32%	50%	0%	14%
18 The instructor handled questions well.	0%	0%	4%	21%	61%	0%	14%
19 The instructor returned assignments with enough time to benefit my learning.	0%	14%	21%	32%	18%	0%	14%
20 I have put a great deal of effort into my learning in this course.	0%	0%	11%	50%	25%	0%	14%
21 The instructor was effective in facilitating class discussions.	0%	14%	14%	29%	25%	4%	14%
22 I had a strong desire to take this course when I registered for it.	0%	4%	14%	32%	36%	0%	14%

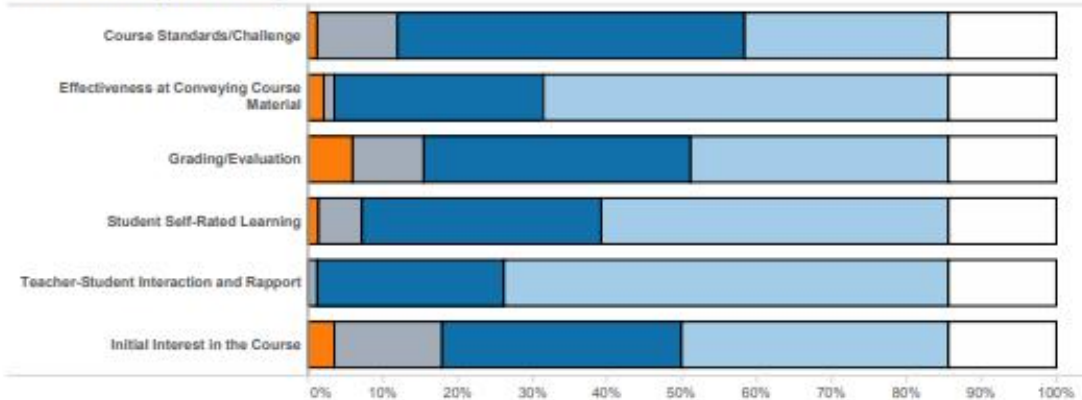
Term: Spring 2021
Instructor: WALKER, Kevin M.

Course/Section: POSC 210 B

Course Title: Congress

Enrollment: 28
Surveys: 24

Dimensions of Teaching



■ Strongly disagree ■ Neither agree nor disagree ■ Strongly agree ■ Missing
■ Disagree ■ Agree ■ Not applicable

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable	Missing	Responses
Course Standards/Challenge	0%	1%	11%	46%	27%	0%	14%	84
Effectiveness at Conveying Course Material	0%	2%	1%	28%	54%	0%	14%	140
Grading/Evaluation	0%	6%	10%	36%	35%	0%	14%	84
Student Self-Rated Learning	0%	1%	6%	32%	46%	0%	14%	140
Teacher-Student Interaction and Rapport	0%	0%	1%	25%	60%	0%	14%	84
Initial Interest in the Course	0%	4%	14%	32%	36%	0%	14%	28

Student: 1

Reason: Major or minor requirement

Reason: Reputation of the instructor

Reason: Interest in the course material

Additional Reason(s):

Effort: The class work was moderately difficult, it was important to stay on top of the readings and to take genuine and good quality notes in class in order to be prepared for tests and reflection papers.

Understanding & Appreciation: I went from a surface level knowledge of Congress going in to an in depth understanding of both the intricate rules and procedures that dictate the process of passing a bill into a law as well as the rich and at times crazy history of Congress and its members.

Intellectual Growth: The reflection papers really helped me not only understand the course material but learn how to take a position on an issue and really flesh out my own personal take on it. They really helped me think about certain issues and how I personally felt about them when trying to decide which side to defend/support.

Quality: Professor Walker demonstrates a clear knowledge and passion for the subject he teaches. He really cares about his students and works to foster an environment for growth and learning. We often are a day or two behind on material we are supposed to learn, but it is always because he loses track of time while telling fascinating stories about the history of either Congress or a political figure.

Student: 2

Reason: Major or minor requirement

Reason: Reputation of the instructor

Additional Reason(s):

Effort:

Understanding & Appreciation:

Intellectual Growth:

Quality:

Student: 3

Reason: Exploration of possible major or minor

Additional Reason(s):

Effort: This course required a lot of deep reading to prepare for class. It was normally a small number of pages but required a lot of focus because it was packed with information. Having class three times a week made it easier to split up chapters. Class was lecture style that gave Professor Walker time to elaborate on what we had read to prepare. After class I felt as though I understood the topic discussed in depth.

Understanding & Appreciation: This class gave me a glance at the complexity that is our country's legislative system. I think learning about the process of these laws being created let's me appreciate more and see how much we have progressed since then.

Intellectual Growth: This course taught me the importance of note-taking and deep reading. Last semester almost all of my classes were remote so I was able to stop and pause lectures when taking notes. This class taught me how to get the most important information down in my notes in a timely manner.

Quality: Professor Walker is one of my favorite professors here at Colgate. He is able to convey the magnitude of information in an accessible way. I would come to class feeling confused and leave feeling confident in my understanding of the law that we studied.

Student: 4

Reason: Major or minor requirement

Reason: Interest in the course material

Additional Reason(s):

Effort: I did not have to put too much effort into this course, mostly because I already knew some about the topic, and the instructor made the course materials very easy to understand. Compared to my other classes, I put in less effort than usual, but I still was able to effectively learn the content and apply it to my assignments.

Understanding & Appreciation: While I knew basic information about Congress, I was much less informed about the major legislation that had passed throughout history and how it affected the country. I now know more about the legislative process and the details that contribute to major bills passing, and have a better overall understanding.

Instructor: Walker, Kevin

Course: Congress

20 surveys / 27 enrolled in POSC 210 A (MWF 0920)

Intellectual Growth: This course focuses on information that is actually relevant to me outside of school, so I think it was important for me to get a better understanding of how my own government works. It helped me understand the details of how things work in Congress, but also how it works together with the rest of the government as a whole.

Quality: I thought Professor Walker was a very good instructor, and he knew everything that he taught very well. He was an understanding teacher and helped students if they ever had any trouble, and he taught in a way that engaged students and kept me interested throughout the class period. This more relaxed style of teaching definitely helped me as a student because I never felt pressured or stressed in the classroom. He did fall a little bit behind in the course schedule, but this was not a major setback.

Student: 5

Reason: Exploration of possible major or minor**Additional Reason(s):****Effort:** I showed up to almost every class and came prepared by reading the assigned readings. Then while in class I was able to take notes.**Understanding & Appreciation:** It gave me a ton of cool and interesting facts that I had not known about our US government.**Intellectual Growth:** It helped with my time management due to the number of readings.**Quality:** I believe that his clear and concise teaching was very helpful for taking notes in class and learning the material. Also, I appreciated the support he offered and quick responses to questions or concerns.

Student: 6

Reason: Major or minor requirement**Reason:** Reputation of the instructor**Reason:** Interest in the course material**Additional Reason(s):****Effort:** This class was particularly heavy on lecture and reading materials, so it required frequent and regular study to succeed.**Understanding & Appreciation:** It vastly broadened my background knowledge of congressional history and institutions and strengthened my ability to look at complex topics in this subject from multiple angles.**Intellectual Growth:** In general it encouraged frequent study due to its routine readings and lectures, promoting a strong work ethic and study strategies.**Quality:** This is a very well instructed and even a very enjoyable class. The material is taught clearly and effectively, class contributions feel heavily encouraged, and the professor is an excellent and enthusiastic orator who also makes himself easily accessible for help. There's a lot more energy put into this course than in most other classes.

Student: 7

Reason: Major or minor requirement**Reason:** Reputation of the instructor**Additional Reason(s):** N/A**Effort:** I put in a lot of effort into the course with having three papers and three exams and reading every night. It was an interesting class so it made the readings more enjoyable.**Understanding & Appreciation:** The course furthered my understanding of Congress and how impactful of a role they play in the United States.**Intellectual Growth:** The course taught me to be more proactive with assignments and to take organized notes to be able to use for studying when it came to the exam.**Quality:** The course was taught very well. I enjoyed the slides that the professor showed on the projector allowing students to visually learn as well. The professor was very clear in his lectures and I learned a ton from the class.

Student: 8

Reason: Elective outside major or minor**Reason:** Interest in the course material**Additional Reason(s):****Effort:** I put significant effort into this course by regularly and consistently studying the material outside of class and completing the reading assignments. For exams and reflection essays, I spent hours preparing.**Understanding & Appreciation:** The course positively contributed to my understanding and appreciation of the course subject as it provided a more in depth look into the subject matter than I had previously been exposed to, as well as with a different perspective that focused heavily on the role of congress more so than other parts of the government. Overall, my understanding of the subject matter and the role of Congress has improved since taking this course.

Instructor: Walker, Kevin

Course: Congress

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Intellectual Growth: The course contributed to my intellectual growth and education by improving my study habits and skills. Learning and absorbing a large amount of new historical information is a challenge and I have found that my study skills and efficiency have improved since beginning this course.

Quality: The quality of teaching in this course was very good. The lectures/presentations during class time were very effective and consistent which helped me to learn the course material. The lectures were engaging and presented the course material in a formulaic way.

Student: 9

Reason: Major or minor requirementReason: Interest in the course materialAdditional Reason(s):

Effort: For this course I did most of the readings to the best of my ability, spent lots of time studying for exams, participated whenever I could, and put lots of energy and thought into the writing assignments.

Understanding & Appreciation: This course taught me a lot about how Congress functions and about the significant pieces of legislation throughout its history.

Intellectual Growth: Through the writing assignments this course taught me how to critically engage with historical documents and the material.

Quality: Professor Walker does his best to try to engage students with the material during class and it is evident he is truly passionate about it which is great. One weakness is that sometimes he is not responsive to emails and the criteria for some assignments is not always very clear.

Student: 10

Reason: Major or minor requirementReason: Reputation of the instructorReason: Interest in the course materialAdditional Reason(s):

Effort: I put a decent amount of effort into this course. There are mandatory nightly readings for class that I would set time aside for and take notes on. Other than the readings there were only a couple of essays and 3 tests, so not a lot of homework was required to be done. This made the course work relatively light in comparison to my other classes.

Understanding & Appreciation: This course played the foundation for one of my major's and inspired me to stay in the political science field. I wasn't sure if I was going to continue my major in poly sci, but after this course I feel that I am interested in the subject and want to continue in it.

Intellectual Growth: This course deals with how do laws become laws in America. It leaves you reading the news with a new appreciation and understanding. I found myself more engaged in the political arena and more open to learn about the different issues that is currently being debated in congress.

Quality: I think you can notably tell that professor walker cares about his students and wanted us all to succeed. The class is mostly lecture style, but professor walker did a good job keeping it entertaining and I never felt bored in class. I wish there was more class discussion on the material, but often there wasn't enough time for both that and getting through all of the material.

Student: 11

Reason: Interest in the course materialAdditional Reason(s):

Effort: The material was very manageable, and the readings, papers and reading quizzes were fair

Understanding & Appreciation: This course has been very interesting and I enjoyed it alot

Intellectual Growth: I learned alot more about how congress works

Quality:

Student: 12

Reason: Exploration of possible major or minorReason: Interest in the course materialAdditional Reason(s): I am thinking of majoring in Political Science, which is mainly why I took the course.

Effort: I put a lot of effort into this course. I always took notes during the class period and I was always caught up on the assigned readings. I prepared for papers, exams and quizzes over time. I also attended several office hours to ask questions and go over some material.

Instructor: Walker, Kevin

Course: Congress

20 surveys / 27 enrolled in POSC 210 A (MWF 0920)

Understanding & Appreciation: This course contributed to my understanding and appreciation of the course subject because of the specific laws that we learned about and how Congress ended up passing each one. Before taking this class, I only knew broad information about Congress; however, I now know more specific stories and reasons as to why certain legislation either did or did not pass.

Intellectual Growth: The course contributed to my intellectual growth or education beyond my understanding and appreciation of the course subject because it allowed for me to enhance on my reading and writing skills. This course was very reading oriented, with readings due almost every class, so that was something that I was able to grow upon.

Quality: The quality of teaching in this course was great. Professor Walker was always available to meet with students either after class or during office hours. He also would go over the readings in class with a lecture followed by a power point presentation. I liked how the class was lecture based and students could ask questions about the material either during or after class

Student: 13

Reason: Major or minor requirementReason: Exploration of possible major or minorReason: Elective within major or minorReason: Elective outside major or minorReason: Reputation of the instructorAdditional Reason(s):

Effort: I put in a very good amount of effort, especially because it is my favorite course this semester and I find it genuinely interesting.

Understanding & Appreciation: Greatly did. This course gave me a depth of understanding of congress I had never had previously. It also fostered more interest.

Intellectual Growth: Gave me more opportunities to work my brain and understand and work with new knowledge. Also gave me an opportunity to expand on my knowledge and add my opinions with the reflections.

Quality: Great quality. Prof. Walker is one of, if not my favorite professor here thus far. He is incredibly organized, incredibly straightforward, while also allowing opportunities for individual expression.

Student: 14

Reason: Major or minor requirementReason: Reputation of the instructorReason: Interest in the course materialAdditional Reason(s):

Effort: For each class, we would have readings that weren't too hard, just took up some time. It was more for the tests that I had to put a lot of studying into. We also had reflection papers which made me compare things we have learned and look at them in different ways.

Understanding & Appreciation: I first learned the ways in which congress was organized and the functions that each department carried out. I then learned about the important laws that congress passed and how they have shaped America.

Intellectual Growth: I have a much better understanding of US politics which I think is really important in this day and age because so much is revolved around politics. I will be able to better contribute to discussions and further understand certain topics.

Quality: I think Professor Walker was extremely organized and his slideshows were very easy to understand. It's pretty lecture-based in my opinion which I don't mind, however, maybe there could be some more class discussion.

Student: 15

Reason: Exploration of possible major or minor

Additional Reason(s): I took this course because I was exploring the possibility of majoring in political science and I ended up really enjoying this course.

Effort: I put a lot of effort into this course. This one my only class that had in-person exams and I studied very hard for them to try and do well in this class.

Understanding & Appreciation: I think I got a better historical understanding of how the United States government is crafted and how it works.

Intellectual Growth: I think this course challenged me in many ways because I usually don't take political science classes but I ended up really liking it. It is a different way to think in comparison to other subjects so I had to change the way I studied and went about preparing for this class.

Quality: I really liked the teaching techniques that Professor Walker used. He kept the lectures very engaging and added fun facts here and there to keep the class on their toes. I thought I struggled with the preparation for this class in the beginning because I was not used to how political scientists think.

Instructor: Walker, Kevin

Course: Congress

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Student: 16

Reason: Major or minor requirementReason: Elective within major or minorReason: Reputation of the instructorReason: Interest in the course materialAdditional Reason(s):Effort: I put much effort into this course and I am going to study as hard as I can for the final because I know that I can do well if I meet with Professor Walker and ask him questions about the material.Understanding & Appreciation: I gained a greater understanding for how the American legislation process works and operates. I loved learning about all the congressmen involved in different legislations and the very different topics of each of the acts we learned about.Intellectual Growth: The thing I learned in this class that benefited me the most was how to write essays on two sides and how to present your argument and which side of the debate you agree with/don't agree with and why?Quality: I love learning from PowerPoint Presentations so Professor Walker did a great job there but I believe he could have done a better job of incorporating more contribution and discussion from the class as a whole. Additionally he took too long to hand back our tests and papers. But overall Professor Walker is a great professor and I would most definitely take him again!

Student: 17

Reason: Interest in the course materialAdditional Reason(s):Effort: I was always prepared, worked hard on papers, and participated a good bit in class.Understanding & Appreciation: I learned about how the legislative process works a bit more in depth, and then studied important historical laws. I've always been interested in Congress and politics, and this added to my knowledge of how it works and my knowledge of American history.Intellectual Growth: I am trying to get a congressional internship, so my expanded knowledge of Congress will help me with that.Quality: I thought that Professor Walker was a good lecturer. He went through the material like a story almost which was engaging. However, there wasn't any discussion, and at times he seemed to lecture the same material as we had read for homework. I did like how he structured his class in three sections of the semester with one law per week, and overall I enjoyed being in his class. I wished we had talked more about current events in Congress because this year was so fascinating with a 50/50 split, and some of the laws we studied had more presidential action than congressional action. I would take this class again.

Student: 18

Reason: Major or minor requirementAdditional Reason(s):Effort: I put a good deal of effort into the course (readings/exam studying/quizzes)Understanding & Appreciation: I have learned about Congress before but never as the sole topic of study so I think this really gave me insight into the full history of Congress, which I enjoyed as it is so relevant to real life and America's actual current government.Intellectual Growth: Studying Congress works to relate to a lot of other course subjects and I think I was able to apply what I learned to a lot of other school subjects.Quality: The quality of teaching was good and Professor Walker was dedicated to making sure the students have a full understanding of what we are learning about.

Student: 19

Reason: Major or minor requirementAdditional Reason(s):Effort:Understanding & Appreciation:Intellectual Growth:Quality:

Student: 20

Reason: Core or Areas of Inquiry (distribution) requirementReason: Reputation of the instructorAdditional Reason(s): I thought Professor Walker was an amazing teacher!Effort: I could have put in more effort.

Colgate University

Student Evaluation of Teaching

Spring 2021

Instructor: Walker, Kevin

Course: Congress

20 surveys / 27 enrolled in POSC 210 A (MWF 0920)

Understanding & Appreciation: It gave me a better understanding of how the American government was made.

Intellectual Growth: It gave me a sense of knowledge of politics.

Quality: Professor Walker was great at making the class interesting.
