

Cornell University  
 Course Evaluation Response Summary  
 Semester: Spring 2019 Course Owner: FWS  
 Course: ENGL 1147 SEM 105 CID: 17784  
 Title: FWS: Mystery In The Story  
 Instructor: O'Leary  
 12 Responses, 16 Enrolled, 75% Response

For your First-Year Writing Seminar, please answer the following:

Question	Mean	StDevP	Count	1	2	3	4	5
1) The most important reason I chose this seminar: 1) I liked the course description. 2) I thought it would be challenging. 3) My advisor recommended it. 4) It was offered at a time I had open. 5) I could not get into one of my top preferences.	2.17	1.67	12	8	0	0	2	2
2) How much reading did you do? (1=An appropriate amount, 2=Too much, 3=Too little, 4=Far too much, 5=Far too little)	1.33	0.84	12	10	1	0	1	0
3) How much out-of-class writing did you do? (First-Year Writing Seminar guidelines suggest a minimum of five essays and a maximum of eight.) (1=An appropriate amount, 2=Too much, 3=Too little, 4=Far too much, 5=Far too little)	1.17	0.37	12	10	2	0	0	0
4) How much time was spent learning about writing? (1=An appropriate amount, 2=Too much, 3=Too little, 4=Far too much, 5=Far too little)	1.42	0.75	12	9	1	2	0	0
5) How much time was devoted to learning how to revise essays? (FWS guidelines suggest that a minimum of three essays go through a process of guided revision.) (1=An appropriate amount, 2=Too much, 3=Too little, 4=Far too much, 5=Far too little)	1.83	0.98	12	7	0	5	0	0
6) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized choosing the words that best express ideas.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.67	0.84	12	1	4	5	2	0
7) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized writing grammatically correct sentences.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	3.00	1.29	12	2	2	4	2	2
8) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized structuring sentences carefully.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.50	1.38	12	3	5	1	1	2
9) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized providing appropriate documentation for sources  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.33	1.02	12	3	4	3	2	0
10) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized developing a strong argument.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	1.58	0.75	12	7	3	2	0	0
11) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized writing well-focused, coherent paragraphs.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	1.75	1.01	12	7	2	2	1	0

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12) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized making transitions from one paragraph to the next.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.08	1.18	12	5	3	3	0	1
13) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized focusing an essay on a significant problem, hypothesis, thesis, argument, or idea.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	1.25	0.43	12	9	3	0	0	0
14) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized supporting claims with pertinent, substantive evidence.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	1.75	0.72	12	5	5	2	0	0
15) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized incorporating and analyzing source material and quotations.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	1.92	0.49	12	2	9	1	0	0
16) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized editing essays to eliminate flaws of grammar, word choice, spelling, and format.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	3.08	1.32	12	2	2	3	3	2
17) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized revising essays to enhance interest, clarity, and persuasiveness.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.33	1.17	12	3	5	2	1	1
18) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized writing in a style appropriate for a particular purpose.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.67	1.31	12	2	5	2	1	2
19) In class, in conferences, or in paper comments, the teacher emphasized writing in a style appropriate for a particular audience.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.92	1.03	12	1	3	5	2	1
20) In this seminar, reading and writing assignments formed an understandable progression.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.75	1.23	12	2	4	2	3	1
21) In this seminar, the level of difficulty of the readings seemed appropriate.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.67	1.10	12	3	1	5	3	0
22) In this seminar, I learned to read with care in the discipline of the seminar.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.83	1.21	12	2	2	6	0	2
23) In this seminar, informal/preparatory writing assignments helped me understand the readings and write an essay.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.50	1.19	12	3	3	4	1	1

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24) In this seminar, I had opportunities to confer privately with the teacher.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	1.83	0.89	12	5	5	1	1	0
25) In this seminar, the teacher was well-prepared.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.00	1.08	12	4	6	1	0	1
26) In this seminar, the teacher directed discussions well.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.00	0.91	12	4	5	2	1	0
27) In this seminar, the teacher treated my writing with respect.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	1.83	0.89	12	5	5	1	1	0
28) In this seminar, the teacher graded my papers fairly.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.25	0.92	12	3	4	4	1	0
29) In this seminar, the teacher returned our papers within a reasonable length of time.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	3.45	1.30	11	1	2	2	3	3
30) In this seminar, comments on each returned paper helped me improve the next assignment.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.75	1.42	12	3	3	2	2	2
31) In this seminar, I felt intellectually stimulated.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.58	1.32	12	3	3	4	0	2
32) In this seminar, I became a more confident writer.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	3.00	1.41	12	2	3	3	1	3
33) In this seminar, I became a more skillful writer.  How much do you agree with the above statement? (1=Very strongly, 2=Strongly, 3=Somewhat, 4=A little, 5=Not at all)	2.82	1.33	11	2	3	3	1	2

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**C01. What are your overall impressions of the course? Please be as specific as possible in analysis of strengths and/or suggestions for improvement.**

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78109. Readings are a little bit hard for me

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78205. Good

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74781. The design of the course is good, it would be better if the teacher and return out essays earlier so that we can look at the feedback and make appropriate improvements in the next essay.

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67854. I enjoyed this course and the material presented. The class would have been more fair if the syllabus was changed more based on the number of absences given to the teacher. I believe that it was unfair to keep the pace at which we were at when more classes were canceled than met.

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81203. The class is interesting and thought-provoking.

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54010. This class was a hot mess. There was too much material, she canceled too often, we barely got any grades, all she taught us was the three part thesis statement over and over again.

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57499. I loved the class. I loved the books we had to read, and the movies we had to watch, as well as the assignments. It required a lot of analysis.

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67881. I think the teacher put a lot of effort into organizing the class and creating challenging assignments. It is also hard to keep students motivated who do not want to be motivated. I think it would've been better if the assignments were smaller and the teacher had used blackboard instead of google drive.

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47040. It was interesting, though there could have been a more even spread of the assignments

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47068. A lot of classes were cancelled, but I definitely understand why. I've dealt with medical conditions and not being able to be where I need to be because of them, so I get it. However, it did take away from the overall immersion of the class. The schedule changes were sudden and difficult to follow at times. Consistency would definitely help with this class, although I can see difficulties in achieving this. Also, it was hard to apply essay feedback given the time it would take to get papers back to us. I enjoyed the readings from the beginning, but honestly, Alias Grace was a drag, and I don't think such a drawn-out text should have been assigned, especially considering the instructor did not seem to favor it. Keeping readings concise while still offering important literary analyses should be considered.

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64480. Having your medical condition in mind, the return rate of the papers isn't really an issue for me. I hope you get better as time moves forward.

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**C02. Do you believe your writing has improved? If so, how did the course promote this improvement? Are there aspects of writing we should have stressed more heavily?**

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78205. Yes

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74781. Yes. The course tells me what an essay is all about. I don't know about writing at all before and right now I am confident that at least I know something about writing.

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81203. Yes.

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54010. no

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57499. I do feel like my writing has improved because I was given the opportunity to practice aspects of writing that I struggle with a lot.

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67881. No, I do not think my writing has improved. I think the teacher should've put more stress upon essay structure rather than literary devices.

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47040. yes somewhat

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47068. I don't feel like my writing has improved much. The only thing I improved on was outlining and organizing my essay. I just wish there was a bit more clarity with what was expected of us. Also, as mentioned before, essay returns took awhile, so feedback couldn't exactly be applied for later essays; there wasn't a standard I could hold myself to.

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64480. I do believe my writing has improved as the course has gone further. I went to the writing center a lot which really helped improve my writing the most.

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**C03. Were written comments on papers helpful? If so, why? If not, why not?**

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78205. Yes, it is extreme helpful

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74781. Yes. Feedbacks are always helpful right?

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67854. These were not helpful as it felt like the instructor wrote a full page of irrelevant information and then added 1-2 sentences of my own specific writing. The feedback was very vague.

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81203. Yes.

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54010. no we didn't get comments until the end of the semester.

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57499. I feel like the written comments were not extremely helpful; the comments pointed out what to fix but I was still unsure of how to fix it.

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67881. Once and a while they were helpful, however, most of the time they were pretty convoluted and confused me more. That being said, the teacher was always available to clarify any questions I may have had.

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47040. yes, they were very lengthy but very descriptive, a surprising amount of feedback was given: very helpful

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47068. Written comments were helpful because they allowed me to focus on areas I needed to improve on, and I do feel I have worked on these areas when given the opportunity to, along with timely feedback.

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64480. They were helpful to understand what I could improve on in further essays.

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**C04. How useful were class discussions of the assigned texts? of writing?**

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78109. Class discussions could help me think the topic in different ways which is good

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78205. It is super helpful

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74781. Very useful for the topic of the coursee.

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81203. Useful most of the times.

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54010. they were fine

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57499. The class discussions were very helpful. Texts were analyzed in depth, which was very helpful to understanding the material.

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67881. On a scale of 1-10 (unhelpful-helpful), I would say about 6.

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47040. very useful

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47068. I found in-class discussions to be useful for drawing out ideas and opening up different perspectives. I feel in class discussions were slightly more valuable for texts than writing itself. This is because sometimes it felt like we were just reading instructions without going into the "how".

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64480. The discussions were very helpful and helped me understand the texts on a deeper level.

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**C05. After taking this course, what do you consider to be your greatest strengths and weaknesses as a writer?**

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78109. I have many good thoughts, but the weakness should be to express my thoughts freely.

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78205. Since English is my second language, I think my greatest strength is my writing ability.

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74781. Greatest strengths: I know systematic ways to formulate an essay and how to write how to start etc.

Greatest weaknesses: I am still new to writing so... still need to improve in many ways

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81203. Strength will be I have a lot to talk about and weakness is how to arrange them into my essay.

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54010. my writing has not changed this semester

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57499. I think some of my strengths involve being able to find and analyze academic sources, but some of my weaknesses include writing a research question and a thesis statement.

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67881. I have pretty strong ideas for essays I think my weakness lies in my structure.

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47040. My organization and my language use: I am very good at coming up with ideas and finding sources to support my arguments but the way I transition from ideas and the ways I structure them are not always the best.

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47068. Strengths: claims and analyses, grammar, language

Weaknesses: putting time into organization, coming full circle/identifying the bigger picture

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64480. Greatest strength may be my creativity and my weakness may be vocabulary to put my ideas into a concrete sentence.