#### Yale University OCE Dashboard

Term Course Primary Dept Primary Division Enrolled: 14
Spring 2022 PHIL 405 01 - Ethics of the Internet PHIL Humanities Responded: 13
Instructors
Blake-Turner, Joanna (P)

## #1 What knowledge, skills, and insights did you develop by taking this course?

Instructor: Blake-Turner, Joanna

**Declined to Answer Question:** 6

Respondent	Answer
1575981	11/10 course taught by an incredibly kind, flexible, and thoughtful instructor. I gained an understanding of many ethical issues relevant to the internet and the development of algorithms. Discussed algorithmic bias, fake news, privacy, 'surveillance capitalism,' 'algorithmic colonialism,' policing, echo chambers and mental manipulation, internet shaming/canceling, internet and the self.
1577285	So much about the internet: privacy, the existence of the internet, labor, social media, etc
1585248	Ethics of the Internet, Algorithmic Bias, Data Privacy, Echo Chambers, Surveillance Capitalism, Cancel Culture
1585382	This class was incredible! My writing skills improved dramatically and Professor Lawson showed us how to be critical thinkers who aren't overly pessimistic.
1585460	I learned a lot about reading tech based sources and thinking about them through a philosophical lens.
1585464	i learned so much about big tech and privacy and algorithms all from a perspective of philosophy. this course was so insightful and the discussions were so productive. i came into the class as a tech pessimist with little hope of things ever getting better. but i realized that we can change things. im leaving the class as someone whos tech critical, but hopeful.
1585718	Lots of ethical issues related to technology and the internet is algorithmic bias, algorithmic colonialism, privacy,

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## #2 Your level of engagement with the course was:

Instructor: Blake-Turner, Joanna

**Declined to Answer Question: 1** 

## **Average and Standard Deviation**

 Question Average
 Dept
 Div
 School

  $4.7 \pm 0.7$   $4.5 \pm 0.8$   $4.1 \pm 0.9$   $4.1 \pm 0.9$ 

Choice Label	Counts
very low	0
low	0
medium	1
high	2
very high	9

## #3 What are the strengths and weaknesses of this course and how could it be improved?

Instructor: Blake-Turner, Joanna

**Declined to Answer Question:** 8

Respondent	Answer
1577285	This course is as perfect as it gets!
1585248	The course was really organized and the goals of the class were clear from the start. It was really interesting to see a tech-philosophy course at Yale. Every class we discussed an interesting topic and I felt like there was never a dull moment. The weekly reading response helped students engage in the content and form their thoughts before class. The other big assignments we did, ranging from creating a Draft Prcis to just pure brainstorming allowed for low-stakes idea generation for the final project that really helped when it came to actually starting the final project. Additionally, the final project was open-ended, allowing you to create any medium that interests you was really cool. Overall, not only was the content SUPER interesting but the class was organized in a manner that facilitated learning and discussion.
1585460	I think the strengths came with the organization imposed by the professor, and the weekly assignments keeping us on task. I think the conversations started a little rocky, but they ended really strong.
1585464	strength: discussions; the way Joanna made us think about our final project all semester; brainstorming assignments weaknesses: none lol
1585718	Strengths: interesting discussions, seminar style perfect for this topic Weaknesses: topics got very repetitive, felt like we were having the same conversation over and over at a certain point. Also I felt that assignments were overly structured for our final paper, we had to do a brainstorming sheet, comparison exemplars (analyzing pieces of same genre) and draft all with extremely detailed instructions/requirements we had to fulfill that I feel took away from the creative process

## #4 What is your overall assessment of this course?

Instructor: Blake-Turner, Joanna

**Declined to Answer Question: 1** 

## **Average and Standard Deviation**

 Question Average
 Dept
 Div
 School

  $4.8 \pm 0.6$   $4.6 \pm 0.8$   $4.3 \pm 0.9$   $4.2 \pm 1.0$ 

Choice Label	Counts
poor	0
fair	0
good	1
very good	1
excellent	10

## #5 The course was well organized to facilitate student learning.

Instructor: Blake-Turner, Joanna

**Declined to Answer Question: 1** 

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
4.8 ±0.4	4.8 ±0.4	4.3 ±0.8	$4.3 \pm 0.9$

Choice Label	Counts
strongly disagree	0
disagree	0
neutral	0
agree	2
strongly agree	10

## #6 I received clear feedback that improved my learning.

Instructor: Blake-Turner, Joanna

**Declined to Answer Question: 1** 

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
4.6 ±0.5	4.5 ±0.8	4.4 ±0.9	$4.3 \pm 0.9$

Choice Label	Counts
strongly disagree	0
disagree	0
neutral	0
agree	5
strongly agree	7

## #7 Relative to other courses you have taken at Yale, the level of intellectual challenge of this course was:

Instructor: Blake-Turner, Joanna

**Declined to Answer Question: 1** 

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
3.2 ±0.8	3.4 ±0.9	3.3 ±0.8	$3.3 \pm 0.8$

Choice Label	Counts
much less	0
less	2
same	7
greater	2
much greater	1

## #8 Relative to other courses you have taken at Yale, the workload of this course was:

Instructor: Blake-Turner, Joanna

**Declined to Answer Question: 1** 

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
2.4 ±0.8	2.8 ±0.8	3.2 ±0.9	$3.2 \pm 0.9$

Choice Label	Counts
much less	1
less	6
same	4
greater	1
much greater	0

# #9 Would you recommend this course to another student? Please explain.

Instructor: Blake-Turner, Joanna

#### **Declined to Answer Question:** 4

Respondent	Answer
1575981	yes!! The course is a great once-weekly chance to discuss internet ethics and extremely relevant material in a small setting. It's also a perfect way to explore a topic of interest in a final project (incredibly flexible format).
1577285	Absolutely! This is an incredible course and Professor Lawson is a gem!
1585248	I would definitely recommend this course to another student! Courses like this are hard to find at Yale, and I'm glad that it was offered this semester. The content we discussed such as Algorithmic Bias, Data Privacy, and Echo Chambers, was all interesting. Regardless of your major, if you have an interest in technology and our interactions in everyday life you should take this course. The seminar format allows you to hear other people's thoughts and form new opinions. It was really interesting to hear everyone's opinion on tech ethics in today's society and how it applies to tech companies like Meta, Google, Amazon, etc. This class is also really good for CS Majors who are looking to work in big tech. The topics we discussed in this class are definitely applicable to their future. I really hope this course is offered again in the future!
1585259	Yes absolutely. It's important to learn about how technology can go awry and how we can combat that.
1585351	Yes. This course was one of my favorite courses so far. The discussions were engaging, the readings were interesting, and the teacher was great.
1585382	Absolutely. Professor Lawson was an amazing professor and I hope to take more of her courses in the future!
1585460	Absolutely, this is a relevant and important class to learn about modern social issues. If you have the opportunity to take any class with Joanna, you should take it!
1585464	YES YES!!! our generation desperately needs to be aware of how technology/internet is shaping us. joanna is such a good instructor and i cant recommend this class enough
1585718	Yes if you are interested at all in technology from an ethical perspective

# #10 How have the teaching and feedback you've received in PHIL 405 01 affected your writing? What have you learned about writing that you can use in future courses?

Instructor: Blake-Turner, Joanna

**Declined to Answer Question:** 6

Respondent	Answer
1575981	I appreciated the chance to explore a genre of writing of my choice, as well as to analyze pieces of writing I wished to emulate.
1577285	I was a lot more thoughtful and reflective about my writing. I was able to develop a process that really works for me and I take that approach post-graduation.
1585248	I have learned how to approach the writing process. The brainstorming, comparison exemplars, and Draft Prcis all helped when it came to the final project. I am going to use this writing process PHIL 405 taught me and apply it to my other classes. The writing process helped generate low-stakes ideas early on, so when it actually came time for the final project I had a clear direction for what I was doing. Additionally, the feedback I received helped made my writing stronger and clearer. I will know how to form a stronger argument in the future and be clear and concise when providing certain definitions in my paper. This class also has taught me to write in a new writing style, I haven't before, so it was really helpful. Overall, there was clear feedback that I can incorporate into my future writings that will make me a stronger writer. Additionally, the writing process that I was exposed to in this course I will use in the future as it was so helpful in developing a strong final project in the end. It made the final project not as overwhelming since it felt like I have been working on it all semester.
1585259	The writing process for the final paper was really helpful. Each step of the process was really well thought out. We were encouraged to reflect constantly. We used a lot of strategies (such as how to free write effectively as a tool for brainstorming and how to rewrite papers) that helped me improve my writing process. I'm definitely a more thoughtful writer coming out of this course.
1585351	I got clear feedback on my writing and how I could improve my writing.
1585460	I learned a lot about writing in different styles than just the usual academic writing I was accustomed too. I also learned a lot about brainstorming and drafting.
1585464	yes. i really enjoyed the brainstorming assignment that joanna gave us. we essentially wrote whatever we were thinking for 25 minutes without stopping. no fixing errors, no trying to find the best word. this exercise helped me write down my ideas without worrying about their structure. i will do this in future classes

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# #11 Summarize the strengths and weaknesses of the instructor. In what ways was their teaching effective and in what ways could their teaching be improved?

Instructor: Blake-Turner, Joanna

**Declined to Answer Question:** 7

Respondent	Answer
1575981	Ms. Blake-Turner (whom we refer to as Joanna), is an incredibly thoughtful, understanding, and knowledgeable instructor. I especially appreciate how she made clear her intentions behind assigning each piece of work. This helped get a sense for the purpose of each piece of writing along the way to crafting a final project. Her late policy is incredibly generous and well-reasoned; while being extremely conscientious of our busy lives, Joanna also established the important role our preparation plays in creating a productive classroom environment for all.
1577285	Incredible kind, thoughtful, organized, structured but also giving us the liberty to research and be passionate as we wished
1585248	Joanna is all around an amazing instructor. It was fantastic to see her get excited about the topics we were discussing and join in on the discussion too. You know it's a great course when the instructor also gets excited about what they are teaching! Additionally, she is very flexible with deadlines, granting students extensions when they need them. Overall, it really shows that Joanna really cared about her students and our learning. The activities and assignments she created were all useful to us in learning how to become a better writer, and the open-ended discussions in class really helped us engage with the material. We also got awesome feedback on EVERY single one of our assignments, and that was really amazing because it really helped me improve my writing and challenged me on various topics. Joanna really cared and I would definitely take another course with her if I had the chance.
1585259	Joanna was absolutely amazing. 10/10. She created such a kind, inclusive environment in the classroom. We all felt like she genuinely cared about our mental health and our experience in the classroom. The readings were excellently chosen. She did a great job of directing conversation and making sure all voices were included. She included interesting and relevant information from other fields (such as linguistics) to enrich our discussions.
1585460	Professor Blake-Turner was incredible throughout the whole semester. Her flexibility, dedication to making the physical class as accessible and productive as possible, and her interesting content selection led to a really great class. I think Professor Blake-Turner could take a little more control of the conversation, and though I found the group conversations helpful, I think that the intro's the professor provided were usually more useful.
1585464	strengths: understands academia and student habits wants us to become better writers and knows whats best for us; very fair instructor makes sure everyone has a fair chance of being heard and represented weaknesses: cant think of any

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# #12 Did you get anything out of this course that you weren't expecting to get out of it? What?

Instructor: Blake-Turner, Joanna

**Declined to Answer Question: 10** 

Respondent	Answer
1577285	An approach to getting work and writing done
1585351	I learned from this course that philosophy classes can be spectacular.
1585460	I really think more critically about tech, but also believe that one can make a positive impact in a tech position.

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