Spring 2013

HDFS 3920: Issues in the Family System (2 Sections)

4.19, 4.35

Students commented on the use of discussion and in-class group activities to help make the material engaging. In both sections, students commented that the quizzes helped prepare them for the exams. A student commented that the instructor "Dr. Kozak is not only knowledgeable about the material; she conveys it in multiple ways to ensure that all of her students understand it." Most students found the comprehensive literature review very difficult. Some students thought the assignment was not connected to the course, while others found it extremely useful to apply the content of the course to a topic of their choice. Other students mentioned that they “really enjoyed the class and learned so much.” They mentioned that the instructor was approachable and available outside of class for help, and some mentioned that they should have utilized that opportunity more.

HDFS 5900: Pre-Internship

4.45

Students commented on the open environment created by the instructor. They felt able to discuss their concerns in the classroom. Students liked the use of Piazza, an on-line discussion tool to ask questions and interact with peers. Students felt prepared to enter their internships. One student mentioned that, “not only did I learn a lot about professional development, I learned a lot about myself.” They mentioned that the instructor is very organized and walked them through the process of obtaining an internship very well. A few students commented that the fact that they did not have to turn in suggested homework assignments actually hindered them because they chose not to complete the assignments. They suggested requiring the submission of these assignments. One student also said, “Dr. Kozak tries her best to make that unique connection with each individual student that she has.”

Summer 2013

HDFS 5910: Internship

No Student Evaluations formally offered. However, I send a final evaluation of the student experience personally. When asked about what helped their internship experience, they said they would have preferred more time to find one, but understood the legal restrictions. They said they appreciated my weekly responses to their logs and were excited to introduce me to their supervisors and other staff during my site visits.

Supervision of 18 students

Fall 2013

HDFS 3920: Issues in Family Systems

4.73

Students commented on the clear presentations and examples used for lecture. One student said, “I really enjoyed the thoroughness of the lectures, and the openness of the professor to work with the students. It is VERY apparent that Dr. Kozak cares about her students, and I REALLY appreciate her desire to better her course for future students.” Others also mentioned the use of my frequent evaluations throughout the semester. They liked the use of media and appreciated having quizzes and little knowledge checks to keep them accountable and up-to-date on readings. Students also commented positively on the various exam formats because they felt it allowed them to demonstrate their knowledge of the material – and retain it. They also liked the opportunity to present information about a topic in an alternative manner.

HDFS 4880: Family Life Education Methodology

Overall, students frequently commented that it was a lot of work, but that they learned more than any other course in their past. One said, “The work is hard and often frustrating, but it pays off and I would've been a bigger wreck if she wasn't as understanding as she was throughout the semester - always offered help and advice and even sent helpful articles via e-mail when we didn't ask. She stays on top of things, knows what she wants to cover week by week and doesn’t change things up last minute.” I took frequent evaluations in this course as well, so when they needed more time with a topic, we took that time. Some students felt that although that they needed more time at the beginning of the semester, as opposed to the end.

HDFS 4870: Human Sexuality Across the Lifespan

Students commented on the open and safe environment to have discussions and ask questions. The current event analysis assignment allowed them to apply the material they enjoyed while also retaining the information and understanding various perspectives. When students ask questions beyond the course, I always made it a point to find those answers and provide them in class immediately – this was commented on positively. Some students did not enjoy the smaller group discussions, but mentioned that it was mainly their own bias.

HDFS 5900: Pre-Internship

Overall, students they appreciated the guidance. One said, “Dr. Kozak's approachableness. I know thats not a word but that is exactly what she was. She absolutely was fabulous at keeping us up to date with things we needed to know and consider and when stress got high and fears were begging to increase she was there to save the day. She constantly encouraged us and was great about giving us the tools to simplify the daunting task that were ahead. Even how she made time to meet with us individually, it just really meant a lot to me. As a teacher she wanted to understand where I was heading, what my strengths were, what my ambitions were, and how she could come along side me and help me to maximize my

potential. Really really great teacher. Sad I only got her for one semester. And trust me I DO NOT say that unless it is 100% true." Some students commented that they felt some assignments were busy work, so I've made adjustments.

HDFS 5910: Internship

No Student Evaluations formally offered. However, I send a final evaluation of the student experience personally. When asked about what helped their internship experience, they said they would have liked to work on holding each other accountable more. However, when asked about how their departmental knowledge was utilized, one student said, "I believe the HDFS department has enhanced multiple areas of my life. For example, my personality and work ethic are two areas I can see play out in my daily routine. This major opens and shines a new light on how to look at the world. I feel this is important for hat I actually want to accomplishment in the education realm." All students mentioned an appreciation for my continuous feedback and accessibility for questions or concerns. All students also mentioned that they improved their confidence in their abilities to apply their knowledge and exist in a professional environment.

Supervision of 12 students