

Columbia University: Barnard College
Fall 2025 - Barnard Evaluations [Barnard Lecture/Seminar Evaluation]

Course: POLSBC1401_001_2025_3 - DEMOCRACY AND DICTATORSHIP IN EUROPE
Instructor: Sheri Berman
TA: Kevin McGinnis, Juan Rua-Serna *
Response Rate: 29/45 (64.44 %)

1 - How would you rate your teaching assistant in the following areas?															
The overall effectiveness of the teaching assistant															
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means										
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%												
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%												
Good	(3)	0	0.00%												
Very Good	(4)	8	50.00%												
Excellent	(5)	8	50.00%												
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%												
					0	25	50	100	Question	Department	Barnard College				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	Barnard College	Mean	STD	Median				
16/45 (35.56%)	4.50	0.52	4.50	379	4.21	1.04	5.00	4013	4.01	1.13	4.00				

1 - How would you rate your teaching assistant in the following areas?															
The TA's ability to clarify course material															
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means										
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%												
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%												
Good	(3)	0	0.00%												
Very Good	(4)	7	43.75%												
Excellent	(5)	9	56.25%												
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%												
					0	25	50	100	Question	Department	Barnard College				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	Barnard College	Mean	STD	Median				
16/45 (35.56%)	4.56	0.51	5.00	379	4.18	1.06	5.00	4013	4.00	1.15	4.00				

1 - How would you rate your teaching assistant in the following areas?															
The TA's effectiveness in answering questions															
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means										
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%												
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%												
Good	(3)	0	0.00%												
Very Good	(4)	8	50.00%												
Excellent	(5)	8	50.00%												
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%												
					0	25	50	100	Question	Department	Barnard College				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	Barnard College	Mean	STD	Median				
16/45 (35.56%)	4.50	0.52	4.50	379	4.23	1.01	5.00	4013	4.01	1.14	4.00				

1 - How would you rate your teaching assistant in the following areas?															
The TA's ability to raise challenging questions															
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means										
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%												
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%												
Good	(3)	1	6.25%												
Very Good	(4)	7	43.75%												
Excellent	(5)	8	50.00%												
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%												
					0	25	50	100	Question	Department	Barnard College				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	Barnard College	Mean	STD	Median				
16/45 (35.56%)	4.44	0.63	4.50	379	4.28	1.03	5.00	4013	3.99	1.16	4.00				

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1 - How would you rate your teaching assistant in the following areas?												
The TA's feedback on your work												
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means							
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			4.44	4.14	3.94	Question	Department	Barnard College	
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%									
Good	(3)	2	12.50%	█								
Very Good	(4)	5	31.25%	███								
Excellent	(5)	9	56.25%	█████								
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%									
					0	25	50	100				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	Barnard College	Mean	STD	Median	
16/45 (35.56%)	4.44	0.73	5.00	379	4.14	1.15	5.00	4013	3.94	1.20	4.00	

1 - How would you rate your teaching assistant in the following areas?												
The TA's ability to stimulate student participation												
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means							
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			4.25	4.06	3.92	Question	Department	Barnard College	
Fair	(2)	1	6.25%	█								
Good	(3)	1	6.25%	█								
Very Good	(4)	7	43.75%	█████								
Excellent	(5)	7	43.75%	█████								
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%									
					0	25	50	100				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	Barnard College	Mean	STD	Median	
16/45 (35.56%)	4.25	0.86	4.00	379	4.06	1.13	4.00	4013	3.92	1.19	4.00	

1 - How would you rate your teaching assistant in the following areas?												
The TA's feedback on assignments and examinations												
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means							
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			4.38	4.12	3.92	Question	Department	Barnard College	
Fair	(2)	1	6.25%	█								
Good	(3)	1	6.25%	█								
Very Good	(4)	5	31.25%	████								
Excellent	(5)	9	56.25%	█████								
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%									
					0	25	50	100				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	Barnard College	Mean	STD	Median	
16/45 (35.56%)	4.38	0.89	5.00	379	4.12	1.15	5.00	4013	3.92	1.22	4.00	

1 - How would you rate your teaching assistant in the following areas?												
The TA's ability to communicate effectively with students												
Response Option	Weight	Frequency	Percent	Percent Responses	Means							
Poor	(1)	0	0.00%			4.56	4.30	4.04	Question	Department	Barnard College	
Fair	(2)	0	0.00%									
Good	(3)	1	6.25%	█								
Very Good	(4)	5	31.25%	████								
Excellent	(5)	10	62.50%	█████								
N/A	(0)	0	0.00%									
					0	25	50	100				
Response Rate	Mean	STD	Median	Department	Mean	STD	Median	Barnard College	Mean	STD	Median	
16/45 (35.56%)	4.56	0.63	5.00	379	4.30	1.02	5.00	4013	4.04	1.15	4.00	

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2 - Please provide any comments on the teaching assistant's effectiveness

Response Rate	
11/45 (24.44%)	

- Juan was very helpful when it came to clarifying complex ideas and material, as well as preparing for examinations.
- Juan is great, he puts a lot of effort into making sure everyone understands the material. He answers our questions well and always looks for dynamic and diverse ways of teaching the class. When we have doubts about a topic or an assignment, he sends very elaborate emails clarifying the topics and helping guide us for the exams. He is also very patient, answers emails quickly and is very understanding.
- Juan was lovely to have as a TA, definitely helped me so much through the most challenging class I've taken. Went above and beyond providing study guides and summaries for our lecture and readings. Receiving summary emails from him felt like finding water in the desert. Genuinely needed all the help I can get to get through this class.
- He has been a key part of my learning in this course. He goes over and above to help us comprehend and think further about the course material. One of the best TA's I've had so far.
- Went above and beyond. I switched into his discussion half way through the semester and found his discussions to be much more engaging and helpful.
- Loved having him as a TA, very calming presence and fun discussion sections activities on course materials. Very empathetic and good at discussing materials
- I love the interactive activities he would come up with every week.
- I actually would not have passed this class without all of his insights. He was genuinely an invaluable resource, and I am beyond grateful to have had him as a TA.
- He was amazing and provided amazing review from the class. He answered emails in a timely manner. Super knowledgeable and willing to go the extra mile.
- He's very nice and wants to engage with students
- He was wonderful! So knowledgeable and really willing to work with the students. He always let us know ahead of time what we would be discussing in section, and I feel like our meetings were so engaging. One of the best TA experiences I've had!