

TEACHING EVALUATIONS

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Below, I summarize five semesters of my performance as a teaching assistant at the University of Virginia. The results draw on evaluations from 170 students enrolled in three different courses and eighteen discussion sections.¹ The three courses are listed below:

- Introduction to International Relations (Fall 2015)
- Chinese Politics (Fall 2015, Fall 2014, Fall 2013)
- Ethics and Human Rights in World Affairs (Spring 2014)

Figure 1: Student Assessments of Yaping Wang as Instructor

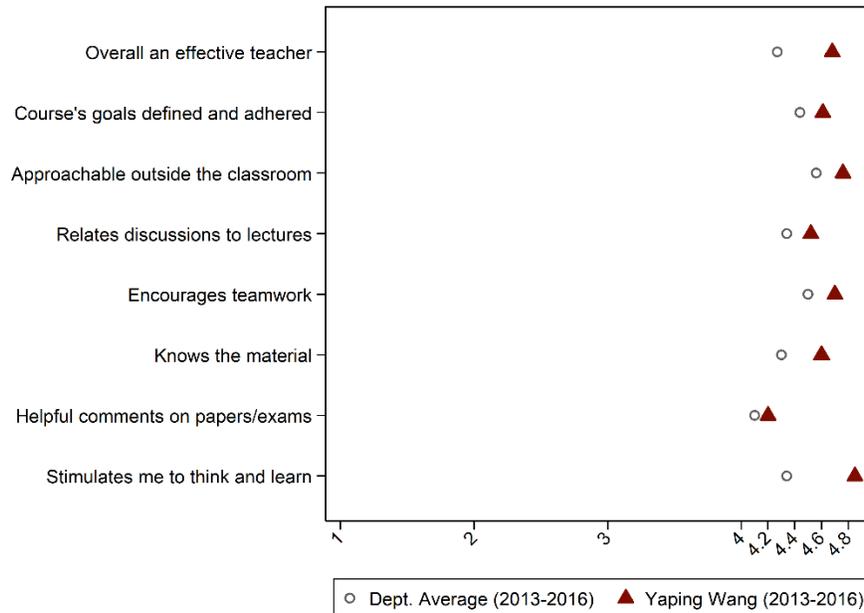


Figure 1 shows that my scores consistently surpass departmental averages across eight questions asked.² I performed particularly well, compared to the department average, on being “an overall effective teacher” and “stimulating students to think and learn.”

In addition, students enrolled in my discussion sections anonymously provided very positive written evaluations on my performance. I list a few sample comments below:

¹ 170 of 341 students enrolled in the courses responded to the evaluations.

² Students were asked to rate my performance on the following scale: (5) Strongly Agree, (4) Agree, (3) Neutral, (2) Disagree, (1) Strongly Disagree. For simplicity, I average my scores over the three courses and all discussion sections I have served on. Departmental scores are averages over all courses offered at UVA during the pertinent semester.

“Yaping is the best TA I have ever had at the university. She made this class exponentially more interesting.”

“She had a variety of activities in discussion which were stimulating and made it very interesting. I took more notes in discussion than in lecture. She asked us questions instead of giving us dry points which was very helpful.”

“Not only was she effective, but has firsthand experience with the issues and seems really smart.”

“Yaping was truly an amazing TA! One of the best I’ve had over my 4 years at UVa. She made discussions engaging in a variety of ways. Whether through individual presentations, class debates, or delving into our specific questions regarding different topics of the class, Yaping made it so our weekly meetings weren’t just blind discussions of the readings with no direction. She also showed deep knowledge of all readings and took an objective stance toward all topics despite the very likely circumstance of having her own opinions (having grown up in China).”

“She brought in cool examples from outside of class to relate to general class material, which was refreshing.”

“She did welcome alternative viewpoints and treated all students fairly. She was always willing to respond to questions and gave us plenty of opportunities to ask about topics we were confused or skeptical about.”

“She is the best TA I have ever had. She genuinely cares about her students.”

“I would ABSOLUTELY recommend her to other students! She is very nice and approachable.”

“Yaping was a great teaching assistant. She made discussion very valuable and really helped me to understand the material better. She is one of the best TAs that I have had, and I looked forward to discussion. I think her use of PowerPoint and writing on the board really helped me to understand the material better. She was a very fair grader and explained everything in detail. I liked that we did some other things such as group projects instead of just lecture.”