

DigHT 215, Fall 2017

Write a letter to future students in the class (or other classes I teach), letting them know what you think is most important about the instructor, the class, the assignments, and/or the reading.

Attendance and participation are the most vital parts of this class. Do the readings and do the assignments, but know that most of your learning will be in class.

Dear future students, Professor Croxall is wonderful. He really knows how to make class time engaging and assignments interesting. He also cares about our opinions which is nice. I liked that he's not afraid to be goofy. The class seems like it's very open to change, so I somehow doubt you're doing all the same projects that we did, but I enjoyed at least some aspects of all the projects, and learned some useful tools for the future. I hope you have just as good of an experience.

Dear Student, The class you are about to take is a fundamental step in your journey forward as a Digital Humanities student. But take a minute to step back from the academics involved in this class. Say you are, for some reason, not involved in the Digital Humanities-why should you take this class? Well, the primary reason is, this class is a lot of fun. Never before have you been presented with an opportunity to think outside the box and look at literature and media in a new, constructive way to the extent to which you will in this class. You will not only learn new things, but you will learn new ways to think, and new ways to approach information and literature that you had not even considered previously. I truly hope you enjoy this class as much as I have, and I hope you continue in your path of Digital Humanities.

N/A

Dear Future Student, - definitely try to finish all of the readings - make sure to participate in class discussions - it is ok to not know what a reading is about and it is ok to tell Professor Croxall and the rest of the class that as well, because chances are they are thinking the same thing and if they think they know what it's about they are probably just pulling it out of their butt - you don't have to be a kiss-up to Professor Croxall, just share your raw opinions and he will respect you

Dear future Croxallians, Professor Croxall is like Michael Scott from "The Office" in that he is your boss (for this class), but he is also your friend. Professor Croxall is not like Michael Scott in that he is respectful, not racist, and knows very well what he's doing. I have only had one class from him (and am sad that my schedule will not allow for another one next semester), but it was one of my very favorites in my whole time at this university. I was eager to come to class to discuss interesting and intriguing reading assignments. I felt welcome to share my thoughts and opinions without being criticized by Professor Croxall or other students. The assignments are actually pretty fun. They don't take too long, but they're not too short either, which helps you to enjoy doing them. I never felt overwhelmed by what was expected in this class, but I also didn't feel like it was a class that I could just sit back and relax in. There was a great balance, which also contributed to how much I enjoyed the class. Don't let a semester with Professor Croxall pass you by without having a ton of fun while learning some really cool things.

Hi students, Intro. to Digital Humanities is a pretty good class. Professor Croxall seems to be passionate about his work and has connections in the digital humanities academic network. Usually the homework load is relatively light, but projects took me between 1-7 hours, depending on technology requirements/hold-ups. Readings can be either esoteric or easy, but Professor Croxall seems to make a good effort in explaining difficult concepts in both. It was an enjoyable class in which I encountered real-world applications and concepts that I'd never learned before in any other class. Best wishes, DIGHT 215 Fall 2017 student

There is value to most of the content material. There is a lot of busy work. I survived by being somewhat sarcastic and pretending that I was in a literature class. That said the teacher is engaging and (usually) well prepared for class. You will rarely feel like there is an unclear reason for the work you do but you will probably feel like the requirements for completing said work are somewhat unreasonable for a 200 level class. It wasn't my favorite class but it was my no means my least liked or hated class. There is a special place for those classes. It's worth your time to stick it out and if you complete your work on time and attend class you are likely to receive a good grade.

Dear Future 215 Students, A few things to know. First, this is a humanities class. It may say digital, but it's humanities. That's not a bad thing either. The class is set up so you can see the difference in traditional humanistic inquiry and digital humanities inquiry. So don't be surprised when you read a poem or write an essay. It's just to show you the way digital tools will eventually open up the text in new ways. Second, prepare to be provoked. Perhaps that should go without saying in a humanities class, but just be ready to have biases challenged, sensitivities poked at, and awkward moments with the assigned readings. It's worth it! You'll probably despise several of the software used in class. Things will rarely work 100% as described. Don't give up on them. Just work through it and use your peers. The end result was always worth the trouble. Mrs. Dalloway is a bit of a drag. Carol Ann Duffy is amazing but confusing. The summed films are rewarding. Hemingway is boring. Take the time to read the articles, though. They were memorable and applicable. Dr. Croxall is nice, but don't expect him to be warm. He'll rarely accept a compliment and he's terrible at ending conversations. He's hilarious though and absolutely speaks his mind. I enjoyed taking this class from him. Best of luck, though you won't need it.

Dear Future Student, Professor Croxall is a great professor. He makes the subject matter interesting and facilitates class discussions in which the students are eager to participate. Every assignment encouraged deeper thinking about the humanities in new ways and with new technologies. I also valued the opportunity to write and read blog posts from other students about the assigned readings. Every week I learned something new that I had not thought of myself. The assignments are not too heavy, which has been great. They have not stressed me out, but I've gotten the experience I need to understand new concepts and how to use technologies in the digital humanities. Professor Croxall was always conscious of the load that he was giving us and allowed the time necessary to complete assignments. He has been very reasonable in his grading and has been patient in helping students learn about things that they have had little experience with up to this point.

Ask yourself why Professor Croxall does things. Why read this? Why do this assignment? And so on. He's very conscious of the way he structures the class, so this will help you figure out what direction you're headed and what the overall goals are. What's especially cool is that he will involve you in real research projects that he's undertaking, so you feel like your work isn't being sucked into a black hole. Take time to meet with him personally, he doesn't bite hard.

Future students, There is a lot that can be gained from this class. I think the most important things that you as students could do is make attendance and participation a priority every day in class. This means that you need to make time to do the readings that he assigns. He is very understanding and gives a great amount of readings, nothing that is too much. Because he is understanding of us as students, he also asks for the same respect in return. If you just bring yourself and your opinions to class and do what he asks, a lot can be gained by taking this course. I would suggest it to anyone who has an interest in English, computers, or in different programs to analyze data in general. He'll ask you to think about things differently, so bring your creativity and open-mindedness as well!

Professor Croxall is a teacher who is very respectful to his students. He is willing to really work with you and your concerns and shows that he really does care that his students succeed in his class. He creates a fun learning environment full of discussions that really help students feel engaged in the learning process. If you don't like group projects, then this professor probably isn't for you. We did multiple group assignments that involved a lot of technology and scheduling conflicts but it all worked out in the end. Professor Croxall gives you a lot of reading and classes are based on discussing that reading. Be prepared to raise your hand and share your opinions. You won't get a good grade in the class if you don't actively participate.

Dr. Croxall is a very fair teacher. This class was very experimental, and he had a few assignments that didn't work out how he expected. Each of those was graded fairly, and he always gave us the benefit of the doubt. That being said, he doesn't take any flak. He was receptive to student suggestions, but also knew when to put his foot down. I would take the class again.