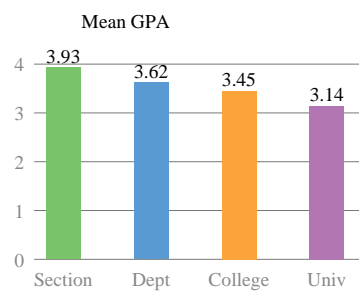
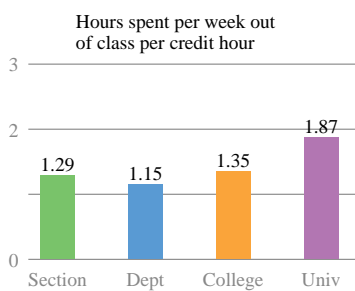
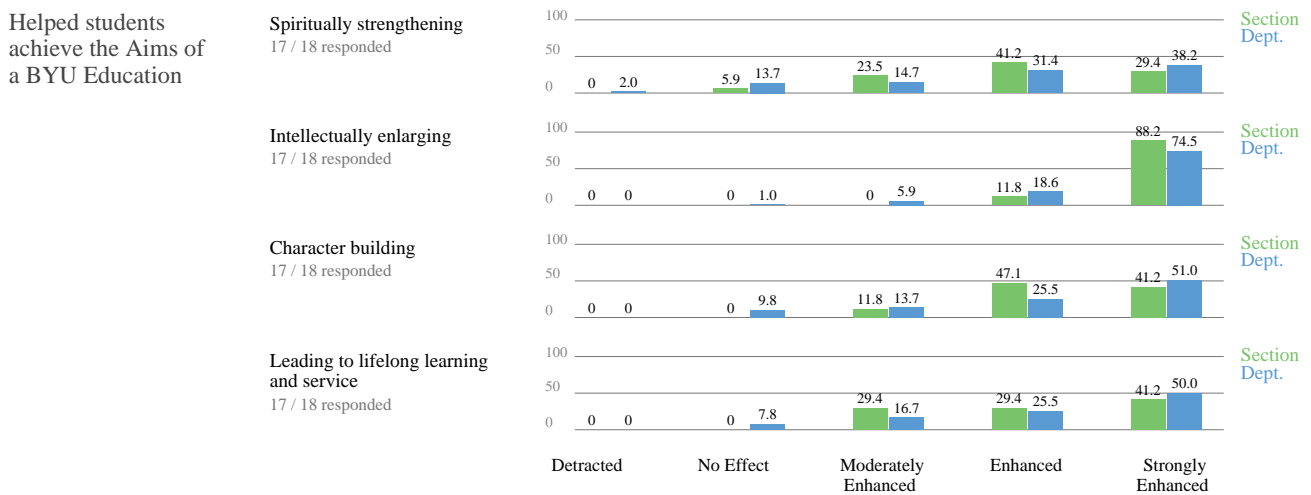
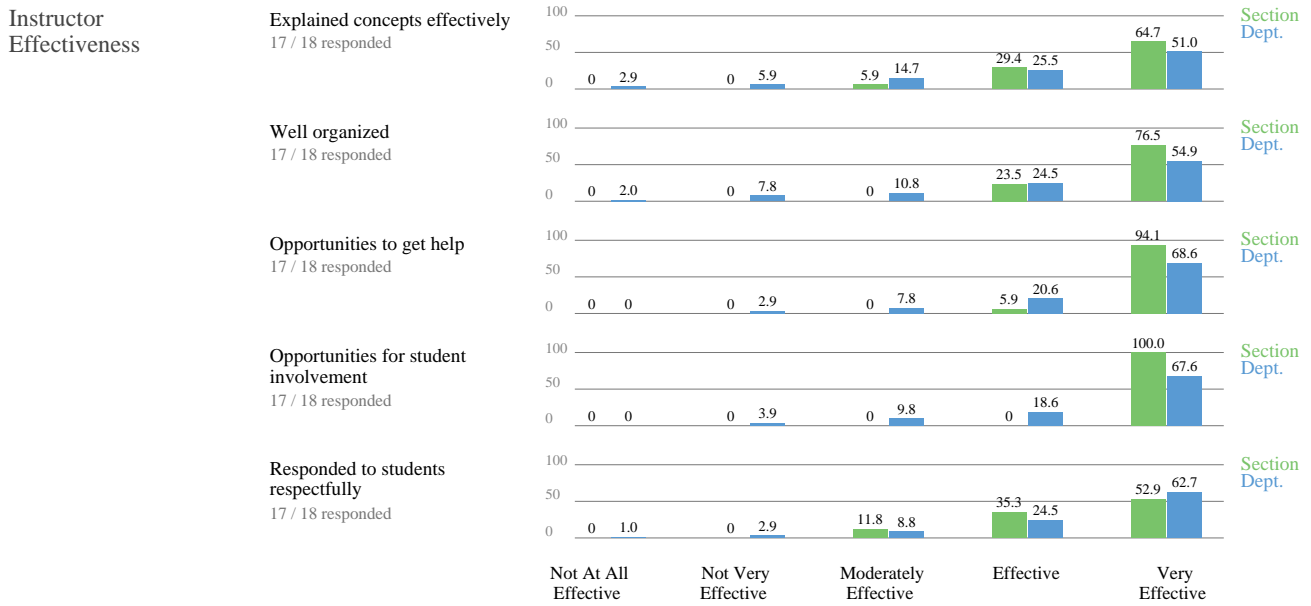


BYU Student Rating Individual Section Report

DIGHT 215 Intro to Digital Humanities - Fall 2019
 Section 001
 Brian Croxall

Historical Course Average
 4.5

Composite Student Rating
 Section 4.5 - 4.9
 Course 4.7
 Department 100-299 4.2 - 4.6
 College 100-299 4.5
 University 100-299 4.5



Grade distribution (%)

Grade	Section	Dept	College	Univ
A	94.4	69.9	64.4	55.3
B	5.6	20.4	20.1	18.9
C	0.0	2.2	4.2	6.3
D	0.0	0.3	1.3	2.1
E	0.0	1.4	2.0	2.2
W	0.0	5.3	3.5	4.3

Instructor Comments - Brian Croxall

Explained concepts effectively

1. Some of the readings from the class were pretty difficult and/or confusing, but I never felt uncomfortable coming to class with questions or concerns. He usually was quick to answer them or to give us a chance to express those feelings. He teaches in a very clear and organized way that also sparks further thinking.
2. I learned so many cool softwares in this class that I had never thought about that could help further the study of DH.
3. Most everything had sufficient explanations. Blogging was a little stressful being so subjective from B to A gradewise, but it wasn't as bad as I thought it would be.
4. This class challenged me because I was reading literature and analyzing it in ways I never had before. Dr. Croxall never just dumped an assignment on us because he realized that could get confusing. Instead he introduced each unit with reading, class discussion and thorough directions on the assignment. This helped a lot because it got my brain in a place where I could stretch my mind and think about how to understand these challenging concepts.
5. Every day we talk about some of the hardest issues facing the world at this time. It's always brain-stretching because there aren't solutions. I love this way of learning and getting insight from my peers and professor helps me see things in a different light.
6. Some of the assignments were rather complicated, but he gave us step-by-step instructions on his blog. Sometimes the instructions were a little unclear, but we were almost always able to figure them out.
7. The instructor was great at going over requirements and processes in class, and assignments were broken down into easy to follow steps. For some of the harder assignments, it would be useful to add a list of common errors, or a sort of FAQ, so we could try to troubleshoot without having to contact the professor or TA directly.
8. Because this was an Intro to Digital Humanities course, Dr. Croxall spent a sufficient amount of time discussing with us what Digital Humanities is/what different Digital Humanists define it as. When we had to use new software to complete assignments, he carefully and efficiently demonstrated how to do each step.
9. Some of the concepts we learned were challenging, and he constantly provided support for us to discuss and work through solutions with each other.
10. Professor Croxall is not afraid to admit that he doesn't have all the answers. Indeed, as stated previously, he acts more as the moderator of a class-wide discussion so that we can tackle these difficult and sometimes controversial questions as a class. On the other hand, Professor Croxall is very good at outlining important key concepts and logically following through on these by allowing us to engage with the information through projects which apply this knowledge. Because much of the learning was so hands-on, it really helped me to feel as if I could understand the material to a greater extent.
11. Sometimes very extensive explanations were given on how to do something, other times there was not enough. But he was very open when students have questions; he was willing to answer either in-class/in-person or over email.
12. For the readings we had that were more difficult than the others, I found it helpful to split into groups and break the essay into sections and work on a section in a small group, then talk about the section with the class.

Well organized

1. The class website was well organized and class time was well-timed to be able to fit everything in nicely. This class was very easy to navigate and to know what we were supposed to be doing when/how we were supposed to be doing it.
2. This was a super organized course.
3. I would have loved more explanation on what was going on when and why. I know it ruins the surprise for some parts, but knowing what I'll be doing helps me get a better understanding of what I'm learning. But the pacing was good and stuff didn't seem too off. I have to admit, some of these short stories are kinda revolting. So, something more light-hearted there would have been nice. But the video games and gifs and even mapping and the summed images were very interesting and helped a lot. The website assignment helped too.
4. Even though it through me off a little that we only used Learning Suite for grades, Dr. Croxall had a VERY organized website for the class schedule and assignment information. His due dates were always clear, assignment expectations were always well explained and detailed. You can tell he put a lot of work into his class structure.
5. This class involves so much participation it's impossible not to learn. A lot of the content is bizarre and tricky, but that makes me look forward to my homework. The way we blog and write papers helps me to dive in deeper to issues I don't often consider on my own.
6. The course was well-organized with clear units and projects at the end of each unit.
7. Assignments were always connected to readings and were explained in detail well in advance to allow us time to work on them and ask questions.
8. The class was very organized and many of the readings tied very clearly into our class projects. This definitely enhances learning and engagement with the course material.
9. The organization of the class is great. My only suggestion would be to make all of the big projects available on the website at the start of class, so that students have a chance to gauge the semester at the start, and not a week before the assignment is due. Not all weeks are created equal, so if students can better gauge the time constraints of the bigger assignments, they can better plan and balance their workload with other classes.
10. All of the readings were applicable; they were texts I mostly would not have read otherwise, and there was a lot we all learned from them.
11. I felt like there were compelling reasons to do each of the assignments in the order we did them, and I appreciated the pacing of the class - although the Mrs. Dalloway section was very heavy on reading.
12. Professor Croxall was very organized in the course content throughout the semester, particularly in the way certain readings and class discussions led to

application projects. The only thing I think I would change is to learn a little more about these projects before they are actually assigned.

13. There's a clear pattern to how he outlines the class, and once you get the hang of it, it's really helpful and fun to see how it all connects.

Opportunities to get help

1. He was always available and quick to respond to emails. I never felt like he was out of reach when I needed something.
2. I needed a lot of assistance throughout the semester and Prof. Croxall was ALWAYS available. He even encouraged s to visit him to get extra credit.
3. He reached out to me specifically, and responded to my communications quickly. I never had a problem with it, and he was helpful and supportive.
4. Very available for office hours, offered an October one-on-one meeting, and was very clear with explaining what he expected if I ever needed help with an assignment. Dr. Croxall understood that a lot of the things we were doing in class were new to us and he was always here to help.
5. I know that Professor Croxall's door is always open. I've used his office hours and he is super awesome. He always tries his best to understand where you're coming from and puts you in the right direction to succeed.
6. He was always willing to guide us through difficult projects and assignments.
7. Professor had a lot of available Office Hours. He even encouraged students to sign up for a time at least once to meet with him one on one. This was incredibly helpful! Any time we had problems or questions with projects he was great at taking the time to help us through the steps.
8. It was easy to meet with the professor in person outside of class, and he was also easy to contact through email or phone. For me, being easily reachable is the best way to help students who need assistance.
9. Dr. Croxall responded very quickly to emails, and made it clear that he would be available every day to help us. He worked with the TA to make sure everything was very clear. When I had technical difficulties on an assignment, he opened up time for me to drop by his office and helped me out.
10. Professor Croxall always tries to accommodate students while maintaining high expectations. I felt very comfortable with asking for help
11. Professor Croxall is always quick to lend a listening ear and take a hand-on approach to helping students understand the material and troubleshoot issues. During class, he made sure to routinely stop by all of the groups when we engaged in discussions about the readings. If any one of us had a question, he always did his best to answer it and invited us to seek the answer through peer discussion as well. Outside of class, he was readily available and always willing to help out with upcoming assignments or projects or answering any further questions. He really listens to students' concerns and does all he can to help out, even when this may inconvenience his own time and responsibilities.
12. Usually very willing to help out students when needed
13. Help was always offered during class and Professor Croxall was always able to meet with you during office hours or work out a time to help you.

Opportunities for student involvement

1. Every assignment provided opportunities for further learning and experimenting. He encouraged it so it was easy to learn beyond what was given to us.
2. Every lass, it was mainly discussion and even the more quiet people didn't feel left out. If ever there was an exclusion. it was not by Prof. Croxall.
3. Pretty much the entire class was conversation and discussion, so participation was key.
4. There was one day I skipped content-wise, but I don't think it counts against my grade, and every other day was filled with learning pretty much. Maybe the moretti novel day part 2 was a little odd since we didn't use it much again, but it was good.
5. Because of the way Dr. Croxall structures his class, each student gets the opportunity to contribute to the learning experience, especially during class discussion. I really liked the blogging assignment because it got us writing out our thoughts, publishing them, and then interacting with each other's blogs through the reading and comments.
6. Our class is largely discussion-based. It's not one of those classes where the teacher says it's discussion based and then it isn't. I can see that our insight is actually important to Professor Croxall and he likes to learn from us and that is something really awesome I haven't experienced before in a class setting.
7. We had lots of experiences to figure things out for ourselves. When they were hard, he provided advice and encouragement.
8. This class got me to think outside the box and approach humanities in a new way.
9. I think this is one of the strongest aspects of this class. The majority of the assignments encourage students to learn through practice and experimentation, not just rote memorization.
10. We got to have discussions basically every class period, and we had blog post assignments where we could engage with classmates about the content outside of class.
11. The class was discussion-based, so every day we talked about the readings or presented our findings on a project. Every day was intellectually enlarging.
12. Professor Croxall was fantastic at fostering participation in class. Everyone in our class has participated in discussions, and through the blogging assignments, those who did not still had a chance to speak.
13. Because the class is structured in such an open and discussion-friendly way, I found it easy to form opinions during the class as well as hearing other people's. As this class covers a lot of controversial subjects, this aspect of honest and open discussion with other peers was a necessary component to my learning in this class. Professor Croxall masterfully encourages this by leading discussion as a class as well as assigning random groups for projects which allowed for more variety in opinions as well as getting to know the other people. I felt very comfortable expressing myself in class and throughout the learning process in this class.

14. All projects are very hands-on where all students engage extensively with the materials. Even the readings are opportunities to actively participate in the learning process because we have to write blog posts and comment on other students' blogs and be able to discuss the readings in class.
15. Most of the class period is based on participation through whole class discussions and through mini group discussions.

Responded to students respectfully

1. There were sometimes when he would play the "devil's advocate" in a way that seemed a bit harsh, but we always knew that he was doing it out of respect and for the sake of our learning. There was always time for questions and comments in class.
2. Really good, everyone agreed to disagree at times.
3. He was fun. I didn't notice him disrespecting anyone, and on the contrary, we got to enjoy our classmates' specific blogposts and talents.
4. Dr. Croxall is great with words and great at expressing his opinions. Personally, I really liked his style of communication, but I think sometimes other students had a hard time knowing what to say in response when he rebuttalled with something logical. He is very understanding and receptive to all types of questions or concerns, which made class discussion very comfortable
5. This class is a lot of us, the students, talking. I have never felt like my opinions have been seen as dumb or unimportant. If anything he takes a lot of my unfinished thoughts and builds them into more concrete opinions which I super appreciate.
6. Even when he clearly disagreed with our opinions, he let us talk and respected our differences.
7. He didn't agree with every student or every opinion, but generally was receptive to alternate viewpoints. Sometimes we was a little antagonistic, but the tone was all in good fun.
8. I never felt upbraided or challenged for my opinions in our discussions, even when they were different. I would say that promptly responding to my emails was the most important thing that made me feel valued as a student.
9. I felt respected in his class, although he loves to tease :)
10. Professor Croxall always afforded each of his students proper respect and interest in all of the comments and concerns which we put to him during class. Even though the relationship was more open and casual than I have had with other professors, Professor Croxall still made all of us to feel valued and validated in our opinions. He also was always readily available after class and makes time for every one of his students.
11. Sometimes I felt that he brushed aside some students' comments. It wasn't very often or always with the same student, but it mostly seemed to happen when students had counter arguments or counter examples to what he was saying, then he would quickly say why that wasn't relevant or didn't work as evidence and then continue with his point.

What effect did this course and instructor have in helping you achieve the Aims of a BYU Education?

Spiritually strengthening

1. He would occasionally include a spiritual thought or connection to what we were learning in class that would incorporate doctrinal learning in the classroom. However, there were a few points of content that took away from spiritual matters.
 2. While some topics are considered taboo in our religion, we talked about them openly in class and it felt like it brought us even closer together.
 3. There were some gospel connections and the material wasn't too too gritty, though it could have been slightly less gritty sometimes.
 4. I liked being able to read other people's blogs, especially when they shared spiritual or motivating stories. Blogging also allowed for a lot of my own self reflection and helped me think more about my spirituality.
 5. I feel like he often tried to link the things we are learning to a Gospel perspective and as a recently returned RM I super appreciate that.
 6. Learning is always spiritually strengthening. We occasionally discussed gospel-related subjects, and some of the texts we discovered taught us empathy. There were also some very dark lessons, though.
 7. Generally, this subject is not the most spiritually engaging. We did deal with some serious themes, and I think there was one day that may have been more spiritually inclined.
 8. We didn't discuss spirituality all that often, but talking about life experiences and applying them to what we were studying was spiritually strengthening for me.
 9. He tied in our learning with the gospel which was interesting, and encouraged us to attend devotionals
 10. This class was very spiritually instructive because it taught me to see others (and the world) in a new light. After discussing some of the weightier topics in this class, I have realized just how thankful I am to believe in the gospel and trust in the Lord. Some aspects of the gospel also tied in remarkably well to some of these discussions, especially concerning the plan of Salvation and valuing our own worth. It was very refreshing to hear this perspective and extremely instructive to see how spiritual strength can help us as we face challenges in the world.
 11. It's difficult to apply this class' content to spiritual matters, but he would provide examples from church or we would talk about how something connected to the Word of Wisdom or something. So I understand how this is difficult and I think he did a good job, considering.
-

Intellectually enlarging

1. He always pushed past the typical "humanities" barriers through changing up our assignments and tests. We never really knew what was coming next, but it always had a way of connecting to what we had been learning while also pushing us to learn even more.
2. The quality of teaching was very high, and still achievable. I think Prof. Croxall helped me increase my intellect and challenge me to read hard books.
3. I definitely had my mind blown a few dozen times this semester.
4. I learned SO much in this class. I learned how to think differently and look at the world in a new way. I feel like I'm not only smarter academically after this class, but in the way I view the world and how it works.
5. My brain is exhausted almost every class because like I said we are discussing impossible issues that face the world today, but I learn so much!
6. This course helped me view the humanities and the digital world in new and interesting ways.
7. This class was a good intro to the digital humanities, and I think it gave both concrete tools and skills, as well as different perspectives to interpret the humanities.
8. I learned new skills, new ways of looking at things, and how to detect patterns through practice in Dr. Croxall's class.
9. I learned a lot in this class, specifically how to analyze text more effectively. I also enjoyed how our projects were non-traditional which allowed us to look at text from a new perspective
10. I learned a lot in this class. As in, more than any other class I have ever been in. This class hasn't just taught me a new subject matter, but a whole new way of thinking. The Digital Humanities opens a lot of doors to analyze not only the Humanities of the past, but the real-world culture happening right now. The patterns of civilization as it combined with digital technologies has allowed me to see a new way of understanding the world.
11. I learned a lot in this class. I read articles about issues that I had no idea existed, I read books by new authors (well, new to me), I used various digital technologies that I hadn't utilized before. I really did learn a great deal.

Character building

1. I feel like this class was more intellectually focused, but I did enjoy how he graded our papers not knowing who's paper it was. He also encouraged us to get to know every single student in the class and gave us opportunities to work with new people for every assignment.
2. The group projects were at time tough but in the end, it helped me have a stronger character to interact with people.
3. Lots of team building stuff, and trying to come out of my shell and learn people's names and whatnot.
4. This class has made me so much more aware of the world around me. Problems I have never even considered to exist are suddenly brought to the foreground and I think about them all the time. It makes me want to be better and to be an advocate for things I'm not involved in.
5. This course required a new kind of discipline, especially when keeping track of assignments that spanned the semester.
6. I think having class based discussions is always a good opportunity to learn how to communicate with others respectfully.
7. We often discussed different societal issues, and what we read expanded my previously (generally) narrow perspective. The group projects we did also enhanced my ability to work on a team, and the discussions helped me formulate my thoughts into articulated comments.
8. This class had a really good class environment just based on the people. We also had a lot of good discussions about different problems which affect everyday lives and what we can do to stop it. All this has made me very eager to change my character to become more like Jesus Christ in reaching out but also educating myself so that I am ready to face the opposition.
9. I don't usually like to talk in my classes, but in this class, the discussions were very engaging and interesting so that I felt that I wanted to contribute. And everyone (including Prof. Croxall) is very respectful and understanding, which is impressive considering some of the more difficult topics we deal with.

Leading to lifelong learning and service

1. This class wasn't very service oriented, but it was learning oriented. He always encouraged us to "think outside the box" and keep exploring options beyond what was given to us.
2. I am not sure if the DH is more to serve or to screw around selfishly.
3. It's given me new schema to look at other things, especially the video game paper and taking a humanities approach to the digital was just cool.
4. There are so many different types of people I can help that I didn't know I know needed my help before. It pushes me to continually check up and try to solve these issues.
5. I'm hoping to continue doing text analysis while at BYU and beyond, and I want to use some of the processes we learned about in class in future projects.
6. I really enjoyed the process of building, destroying, interpreting etc. I think the critical thinking skills we gain from this class will definitely help us in the future. I am not sure exactly how the technological skills will help career-wise, unless we all become DH Professors. But perhaps this thought is due to my lack of imagination, who knows.
7. I think this class offered some interesting new ways of approaching the humanities, and I will probably try some of them again after this class.
8. I will definitely use what I learned in Dr. Croxall's class going forward. I am excited to share a lot of the material with my family and peers.

-
- I want to continue to learn about some of the things which we discussed during class. Yet I can't help but wonder some of the real ways I can actually help instead of remaining aware of the fact that this is society now. I want to be able to continue to learn some of these things on my own.
 - Some of the things we've discussed and tools we've learned how to use will definitely continue with me beyond this class. I want to explore further into some topics and look more into some analytical processes more beyond this class (like the summed images).
-

Hours spent out of class

-
- It was time consuming, but worth it.
 - This varied from week to week of course, since some had large projects due while others were just reading and blog posts with the brunt of the work of the class being done in class discussions.
 - It took me 1.5-2 hrs for the reading (depending) and 2.5-3, sometimes 4 hours for the blog post. The blog posts were definitely the most time-consuming.
 - There are readings a blog posts to be done every week but usually, neither takes a ton of time. Sometimes there are longer papers but even those aren't the most time-consuming projects.
 - Average of 3 hours of reading, 1 hour of blogging/commenting, and 1 hour of other projects (more some weeks, less some weeks)
 - weeks with large assignments took more time
 - We had substantial amounts of reading to do for each class; I'm a slow reader, so it usually took me an hour and a half. The projects were usually not terribly time-consuming. I spent the most time on the papers because I write almost as slow as I read.
 - The time spent fluctuated during the semester, with the Mrs. Dalloway section being 5 hours or more per week.
 - Some weeks there were a few hours spent on the work, but generally it just a couple hours for reading and writing assignments.
 - For each class, I probably spent about 2 hours doing the readings, so 4 hours total spent reading per week. For the blog post due during the week, I spent at least 1-2 hours drafting and revising it, or else commenting on others' posts. If there was a project due during the week, I spent another 3 hours on that, equaling an approximate total of 9 hours per week.
 - Readings, blog posts, blog responses, more work around the end of units when projects are going
 - Most of the readings weren't that long, but blogging would always take me a long time.
-

Additional comments

-
- I loved this course and would take it again! This instructor is very interactive and really knows the value of an education. He helps us learn in new and exciting ways that don't seem out of reach
 - This course was very challenging but it made me feel like any effort was rewarded. It opened a new thought-provoking aspect in my life that I now enjoy.
 - This class has been really enjoyable. Nothing about it was particularly difficult and it was well structured while still remaining flexible to student needs. The class conversations were always loose but well guided so we didn't stray onto wild tangents like I've seen in some of my other open discussion classes. The professor was always prepared and was likable. The midterm wasn't too challenging as long as you studied for it and actually read the assigned readings, but that's the way that it is supposed to be.
 - I wish there was more coding, but the class is fun, and Professor Croxall is a reasonable, fun teacher.
 - Overall, this is one of the best classes I have ever taken at BYU. I learned so much and did a lot of different assignments, yet it never felt like strenuous work because it was all so interesting and innovative. I enjoyed coming to class and participating in class discussions. Dr. Croxall brings a fresh perspective to several world questions and humanities concepts. I honestly enjoyed every project, reading and assignment. I have nothing but good things to say!
 - This has been my favorite class I've taken at BYU. I was a bit skeptical to take it when my counselor pushed me to minor in digital humanities just because I wasn't exactly sure what that entailed. I have loved it though. I feel like this class represents what learning should be. It should be a collaborative effort and not just a professor lecturing the entire time. Professor Croxall did a really good job of giving us what we needed to get started and then just let us run and develop ideas for ourselves. I've learned so much in this class and it has been super interesting. It's a class I didn't go to just for the attendance but I honestly enjoyed it so much.
 - This was a very unique course in its structure and content. It was difficult and sometimes a little dull, but had some very fun and interesting projects that balanced it out.
 - Great bow ties.
 - I really enjoyed Dr. Croxall's class. It was equally informative and entertaining - and it was just the right amount of challenging. It exposed me to new points of view and new highly marketable skills that I will use in the future. One of the things that made the class so enjoyable was Dr. Croxall's humor and humility. I could tell that our opinions really mattered to him, and he always made it seem like we were all on the same level.
 - I thought Professor Croxall was a great professor for this course. He brings the academic and fun together which is exactly what Digital Humanities should be.
 - Dight 215 was a really enjoyable course! It pushed me to think about new things and grapple with hard topics. Croxall created a great space for wonderful discussions and learning to happen. It's unique and Croxall's passion for the digital humanities helped me get more excited about the projects we did, even it tedious or frustrating.
 - Thank you so much for everything Professor Croxall! I really appreciated your wit and enthusiasm as well as the many in-class discussions we shared. I am grateful that I was learning so much more than just the way technology and humanities work together. It is a process of continual learning.
-