



NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Search Help

Search

Registrar  
Northwestern



# Office of the Registrar

The Course And Teacher Evaluation Council (CTEC)

[CTEC Admin Home Page](#) > [View TA Results](#) > [View TA Results for W06](#)

**Department:** POLI\_SCI Political Science  
**Course:** 311-0-20 Methods of Political Research  
**Quarter:** Winter 2006

## CTEC Online TA Report For Patrick Bruce Johnston

### Teaching Assistant Questions

Wording of Statement	Number of responses	6 (high)	5	4	3	2	1 (low)	Average
22. The lab teacher was able to answer the students' questions adequately	26	5	9	9	1	1	1	4.50
23. The lab teacher was well prepared for each session	26	4	10	10	2	0	0	4.62
24. The lab teacher communicated ideas in a clear manner	26	5	10	6	3	1	1	4.46
25. The lab teacher showed strong interest in teaching the course	26	5	9	8	2	1	1	4.46

**Comments:** / Patrick was very accessible and did his best to answer the students' questions and to pacify any fears or complaints. He communicated the ideas really well in section. d / Patrick is a good TA, a smart guy, someone who wants to help. But he didn't show a lot of enthusiasm, probably because the students felt the same way. / I could not understand Patrick, as he speaks very clear English which is honestly something I value - it's frustrating to not be able to communicate with your TA. He was well-prepared for section. However, he didn't answer questions very clearly. Not only did he not directly answer questions in section, but when I went to his office hours to speak with him about grades, he could never give me a direct answer about why he graded the way he did, which was frustrating because it's hard to improve when you're unsure of what to work on. / He is mellow and approachable. / / Patrick is great, he brews a good cup of coffee! It's not his fault he TA's a class on methodology. Meth..od..ol.o..zzzz... poor guy. / decent TA, helped you out when you needed it. / Very knowledgeable and useful, as well as accessible. / The TA was well-prepared and well-versed in the subject. He was very accessible and amiable to answering students questions. / He was knowledgeable and always willing to answer students' questions. / / not really focused, lack of understanding of the material. / / Patrick was a good TA, not great. / Very organized for class, and willing to help. Sometimes a little off topic. / / He was good at communicating the ideas. Good at facilitating discussion. / He's very approachable and reasonable. / The TA was frequently available to answer or clarify any questions that may have arisen over the subject matter of the course that were not as clearly conveyed in lecture. / Patrick Johnston is definitely one of the best TAs I have had at Northwestern. By chance, I have had the unusual opportunity of having been in his discussion sections for two political science classes at Northwestern. He is very good at engaging the class and encouraging discussion, while at the same time keeping the discussions focused and relevant. His presentation of materials, such as summarizing arguments after class discussions, is very clear and proved to be very helpful in providing a framework for understanding the readings and lectures. Additionally, it was interesting to hear how the methodology approaches in the class applied to some of the research he had conducted. Outside of class during office hours he was very helpful in clarifying course questions and more general questions about political science graduate school. / Patrick know most of his stuff, but really didn't seem very comfortable

teaching us all. / Patrick was a great TA, very thorough in his explanations and always answered everyone's questions. A few thime though, it would have been helpful to know which articles were would be going over before discussion sections. / Patrick was a wonderful TA who was prepared for section, reiterated key concepts of the class, and answered students' questions best he could. He'll make a great professor some day. / / Sometimes patricks reponses dont actually answer the question

[ [View TA Results](#) ]

CAESAR | Registration and Courses | Course and Teacher Evaluation Council (CTEC) | Information for Students  
Information for Faculty and Staff | Calendars | The Undergraduate Catalog  
Information for Former Students | Statistics | Consumer Information  
Office of the Registrar | Northwestern Home

CTEC, Office of the Registrar • 633 Clark Street • Evanston, Illinois 60208-1118  
Phone: 847-467-4463 • Fax: 847-491-8458 • E-mail: nu-registrar@northwestern.edu  
Last Revision October 29, 2007  
World Wide Web Disclaimer and University Policy Statements © 2005 Northwestern University