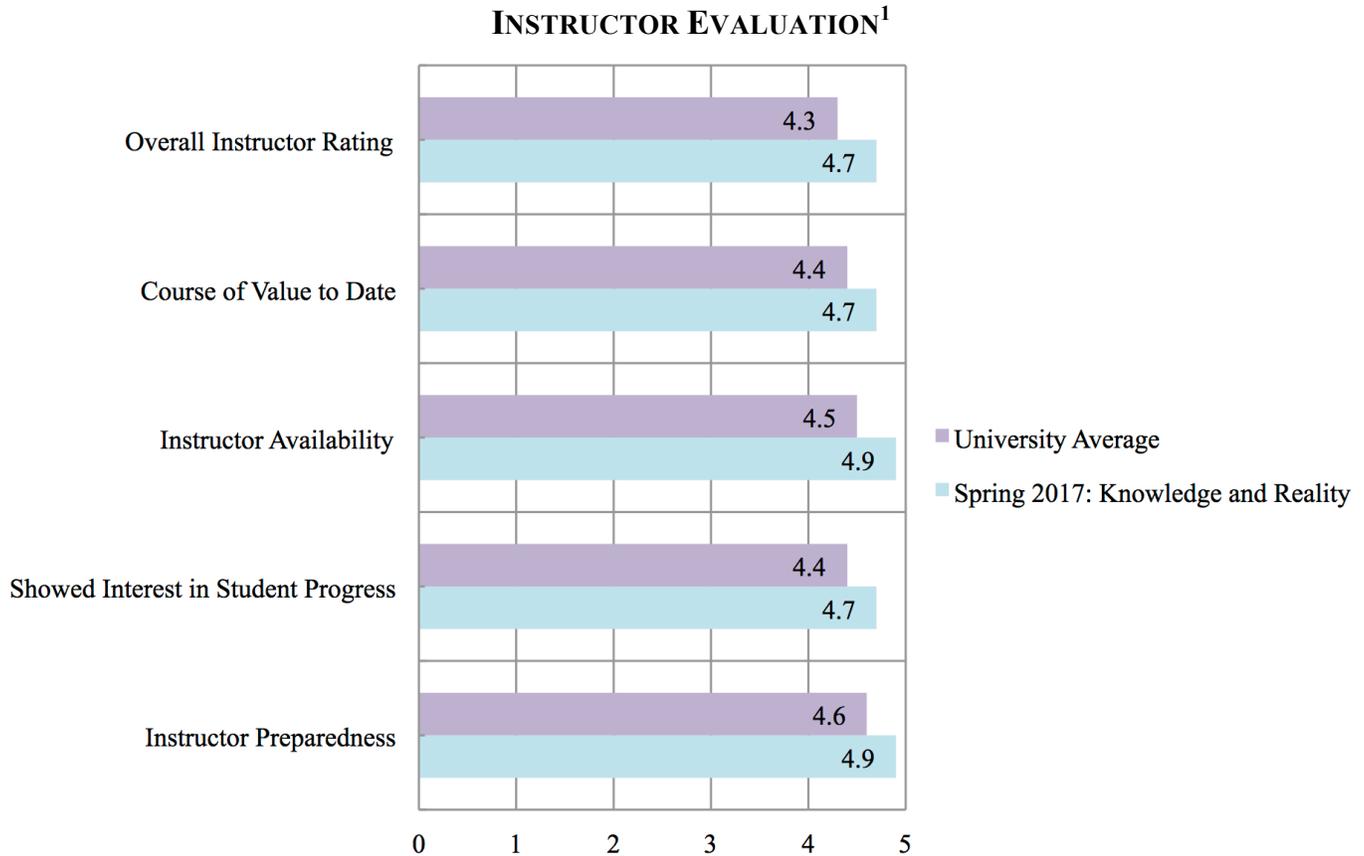


# TEACHING EVALUATIONS

BRIANA TOOLE

At the University of Texas instructors and TAs solicit feedback at the end of each course. Surveys include questions with a selection of answers and space to include written comments. Below I summarize the results I earned both as a teaching assistant and as an assistant instructor. I also include some sample student comments from each semester.



<sup>1</sup> I have been the instructor of record for one course at the University of Texas at Austin. In addition, I taught Philosophy and Ethics at Huston-Tillotson University, a historically black college/university in east Austin Texas, and Philosophy of Time at the Duke Talent and Identification Program. Teaching evaluations were not given at Huston-Tillotson or Duke TIP. The data compiled here reflects the evaluation I received for Knowledge and Reality, taught at UT.

## **SAMPLE STUDENT COMMENTS**

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### **Knowledge and Reality – Spring 2017**

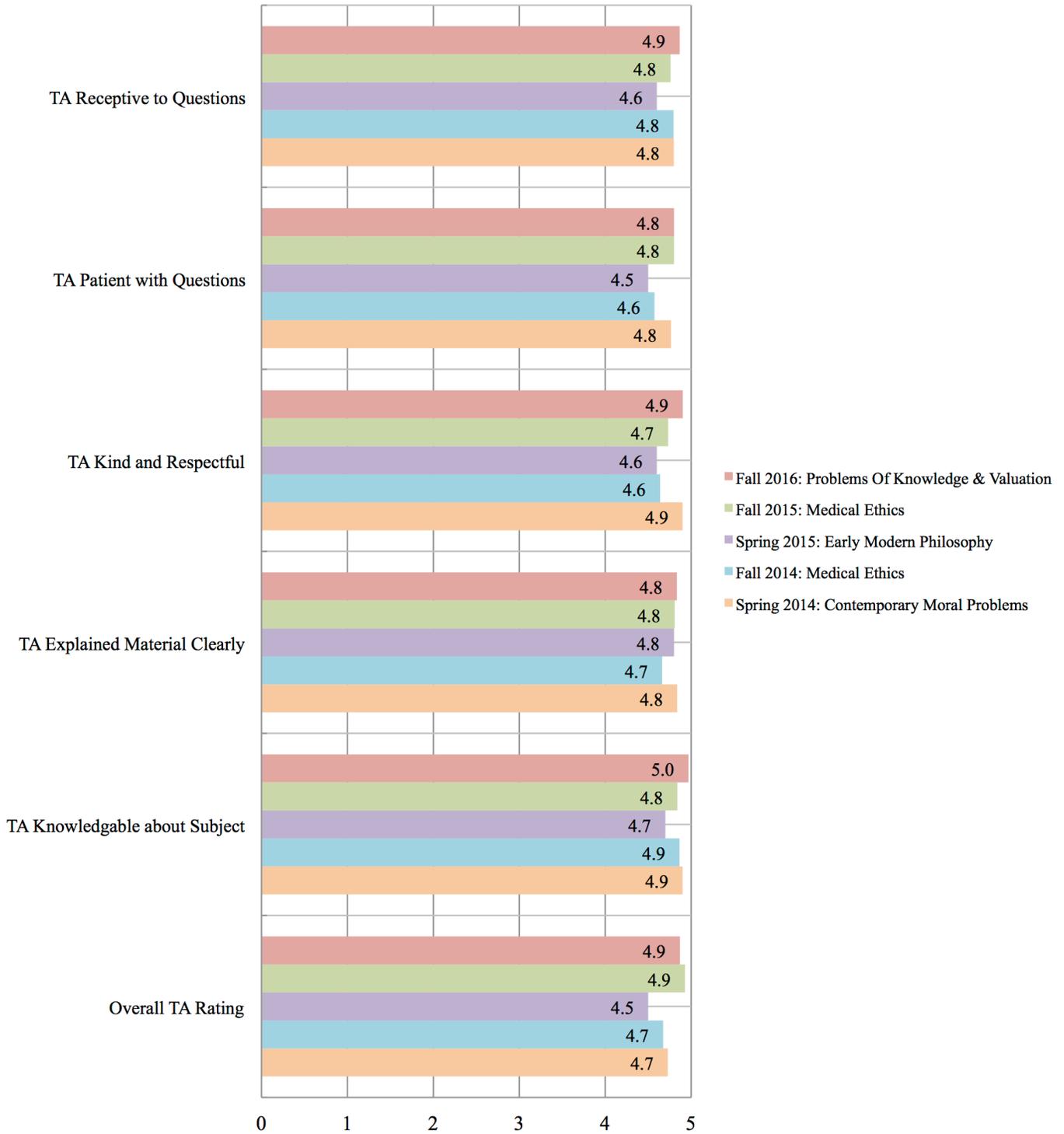
“It was just incredible how open and communicative she was at all times.”

“A fabulous teacher. Made dense readings understandable with clarity and gusto. I learned a great deal and I’m sure that wouldn’t be possible in another professor’s class. Best philosophy professor ever!”

“I really enjoyed the class, she always explained further until everyone understood the material. I actually liked the quizzes; they helped me understand what main points I should look at. Also very engaging and great personality. I enjoyed coming to class!”

“Instructor made herself accessible to students, allowed students to freely express their thoughts and opinions while keeping discussion relative to the topic. Very thorough, well organized, and fair grading. A truly superb professor that students will learn a lot from.”

## TA EVALUATIONS



## **SAMPLE STUDENT COMMENTS**

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### **Problems of Knowledge and Valuation – Fall 2016**

“I wish there was a bubble for more than excellent! Briana is hands down the BEST TA I have had at UT. Her enthusiasm for the subject matter sparks your interest and makes you want to learn and do well in the class. She always went out of her way to help me improve! She did a good job judging where we were confused and addressing that in class. I will miss Briana so much!”

“Thanks for being so dedicated and passionate! You’re one of the main reasons I enjoyed this class!”

“Briana is honestly one of the best TAs I have had, if not the best. She explains difficult concepts so well that they seem simple through different outlines and worksheets. We did many activities to help us through the material and she made the whole discussion fun. She’s very friendly, kind, helpful and amazing. I would take another class from her in a heartbeat!”

### **Medical Ethics – Fall 2015**

“Loved this class. Found it extremely interesting and is the first class that I feel like would stick to me for the rest of my life. I am glad I took this UGS despite it being harder than the rest. Thanks Brianna for being so helpful and passionate! Couldn't ask for a better TA.”

“Briana was amazing! She really got us to think outside the box and to expand on our beliefs. I began the class with closed minded ideas about various medical ethics topics and left the class more informed and with more well rounded opinions. I wish I could have her as my TA for every class.”

“Briana exemplified a higher standard in TAs. She fully explained her expectations at the onset of the class and fulfilled her promises to the students. She was available and attentive when needed. She offered constructive criticism to aid us in becoming better instead of insulting our current abilities. What more can a student want?”

### **Early Modern Philosophy – Spring 2015**

“Briana is great. She is very knowledgeable, creative, and hardworking in every class. I enjoy her 50 minute section and learn far more than I do in a 2 hour class. She is willing to help and constantly striving to help her students become better. Giver her her own class because she deserves it and I’d take it every semester.”

“Briana was an excellent TA that had the talent of keeping the class involved throughout discussions. By far the most hardworking TA I have had this year.”  
“Briana treated discussion sections as just that – discussions. We learned through

discussing and talking about the theories and concepts mentioned in class. Class was humorous and non-judgmental, meaning that we could ask whatever questions we wanted and explore any idea relating to the subject being discussed.”

### **Medical Ethics – Fall 2014**

“Briana made me feel confident with my opinions, whatever they were, and helped me to provide concrete evidence to support them. She made me think differently about my views and opposing views. If I had been assigned a different TA I am confident that I would have not enjoyed the subject matter. Because of Briana I am going to pursue more philosophy classes in the future.”

“She was my absolute favorite TA! She was very knowledgeable and knew exactly what she was talking about. She made discussion fun and something I looked forward to going to every week. She was very fair and consistent with grading and gave great feedback. She was approachable and easy to talk to. I'm definitely going to miss her discussion!!”

“Briana Toole was my favorite part of my first semester at the University. She made the class so interesting and I could tell she really loved what she was doing. When I went to her discussions I could never tell what to expect because she was constantly switching things up trying to help us learn in new and interesting ways. I honestly do not believe I would have enjoyed my Medical Ethics class near as much had I not had Briana as my TA. She was always helpful and willing to answer any questions because she truly wanted each student in the class to learn and succeed in the class.”

### **Contemporary Moral Problems – Spring 2014**

“One of the best TAs I have had at UT. Very good at explaining the topics and ensuring that all the information that is important is noted. I like how every section there is an agenda on the board because it enables me to get focused for class. Nothing but good things to say about Briana. At first I was very skeptical about a philosophy course but now I am looking forward to taking another one soon.”

“Coming to this discussion class was the highlight of my week. Briana allowed for plenty of interaction and friendly debate which made the class enjoyable and interesting. I like that her teaching style evolved with what she found we were most responsive to. Although the majority of my personal opinions on the material differed from Briana's, I never felt discouraged from speaking my mind.”

“Briana is easily the best TA I have had at UT. She clearly loves what she is teaching and cares about the students. Most TA sections are awkward and have no structure, but Briana's sections are well structured, flow smoothly and allow students to get involved.”