RUTGERS

Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating

Summer 2026

Shapiro, Kathryn - KS1806

01:790:362:R1 - International Law
01:790:362:R1
Survey Form: *Standard SIRS

Enrollment: 23

University-wide Instructor Questions

Weight of responses: 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
The instructor Kathryn Shapiro was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner.	0	0	0	4	1	5	**4.20**	4.20	4.39	4.43
The instructor Kathryn Shapiro responded effectively to student comments and questions.	0	0	1	3	1	5	**4.00**	4.00	4.27	4.31
The instructor Kathryn Shapiro generated interest in the course material.	0	0	0	3	2	5	**4.40**	4.40	4.44	4.45
The instructor Kathryn Shapiro had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material.	0	0	0	2	3	5	**4.60**	4.60	4.49	4.45
The instructor Kathryn Shapiro assigned grades fairly.	0	0	0	1	4	5	**4.80**	4.80	4.52	4.47
The instructional methods of Kathryn Shapiro encouraged student learning.	0	0	0	3	2	5	**4.40**	4.40	4.39	4.36

Teaching Effectiveness

Weight of responses: 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	P	F	A	G	E	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor Kathryn Shapiro as:	0	0	0	2	4	6	**4.67**	4.67	4.45	4.41

University-wide Course Questions

Weight of responses: 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
I learned a great deal in this course.	0	0	0	3	2	5	**4.40**	4.40	4.34	4.30
I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course.	0	0	1	2	2	5	**4.20**	4.20	4.10	3.94

Course Quality

Weight of responses: 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	P	F	A	G	E	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
I rate the overall quality of the course as:	0	0	0	1	6	7	**4.86**	4.86	4.44	4.41

What do you like best about this course?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comments
It presented the major concepts of IL in a condensed and understandable way.

If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comments
Nothing, I think the instructor did a good job with the course.

In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor Kathryn Shapiro encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?

These comments are unique to the instructor Kathryn Shapiro.

Comments
Weekly lectures that discussed the readings were helpful in understanding concepts.

Rutgers University Student Instructional Rating

Fall 2025

Shapiro, Kathryn - KS1806

Nature Of Politics - 01:790:101:02, 03, 04
Survey Form: *Standard SIRS

Enrollment: 100

University-wide Instructor Questions

Weight of responses: 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
The instructor Kathryn Shapiro was prepared for class and presented the material in an organized manner.	0	0	1	4	19	24	**4.75**	4.71	4.65	4.47
The instructor Kathryn Shapiro responded effectively to student comments and questions.	0	0	0	4	20	24	**4.83**	4.67	4.57	4.48
The instructor Kathryn Shapiro generated interest in the course material.	0	0	1	4	18	23	**4.74**	4.68	4.56	4.48
The instructor Kathryn Shapiro had a positive attitude toward assisting all students in understanding course material.	0	0	0	2	22	24	**4.92**	4.73	4.63	4.54
The instructor Kathryn Shapiro assigned grades fairly.	0	0	1	2	21	24	**4.83**	4.67	4.54	4.47
The instructional methods of Kathryn Shapiro encouraged student learning.	0	0	0	6	18	24	**4.75**	4.64	4.52	4.41

Teaching Effectiveness

Weight of responses: 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	P	F	A	G	E	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
I rate the teaching effectiveness of the instructor Kathryn Shapiro as:	0	0	0	9	22	31	**4.71**	4.59	4.55	4.43

University-wide Course Questions

Weight of responses: 1=SD (Strongly Disagree), 2=D (Disagree), 3=N (Neutral), 4=A (Agree), 5=SA (Strongly Agree), Resp=Number of Student Responses
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	SD	D	N	A	SA	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
I learned a great deal in this course.	0	0	0	8	17	25	**4.68**	4.61	4.51	4.39
I had a strong prior interest in the subject matter and wanted to take this course.	1	3	4	11	6	25	**3.72**	3.90	4.10	4.06

Course Quality

Weight of responses: 1=P (Poor), 2=F (Fair), 3=A (Average), 4=G (Good), 5=E (Excellent), Resp=Number of Student Responses
Weighted Means: Section, Course, Level, Department

	P	F	A	G	E	Resp	Section	Course	Level	Dept
I rate the overall quality of the course as:	0	0	1	8	22	31	**4.68**	4.54	4.52	4.37

What do you like best about this course?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comment
Enough time to study for exams
I liked that the slides were not posted which was an incentive to come to class, along with Professors great amount of knowledge on what she is teaching and interest she creates.
Major
topics
The lectures were very well thought out and she wasn't simply reading from the slides.
I liked how the tests were formatted to better help our grade yet they still carried alot of heavy material and specifics
interesting recitations
I liked the lectures the best.
The topics
The lectures were very good

If you were teaching this course, what would you do differently?

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comment
n/a
I would probably allow if the student has a valid reason of missing lecture, like being sick, etc. to be able to submit an asynchronous lecture to them, with the valid reasoning.
None
n/a
I wouldnt change anything
less slideshows and just notes during lectures.
N/A
Nothing

In what ways, if any, has this course or the instructor Kathryn Shapiro encouraged your intellectual growth and progress?

These comments are unique to the instructor Kathryn Shapiro.

Comment
na
The TA was helpful and gave other helpful ways to look and learn about the subjects.
◦
She really cared about us
She was so extremely nice and understanding, she made sure we left the recitation class understanding each concept and main idea of each piece we read in class
Clear knowledge on the course
She especially helped review the topics before exams.
Great recitations, with focus on enforcing already taught material

Other comments or suggestions:

These comments are intended for all instructors.

Comment
n/a
Overall two great instructors, that taught a lot of information but made it make sense.
None
none.
No screens policy was great, even if I did not like it at first.

Term: Fall 2021
Course: INR2001 - Introduction to Internatio
Class Number: 15019
Instructor: Shapiro, Kathryn Anne (81621051
Response Rate: 62.50% (responded: 15, enrolled

Question Number	University Core Questions	Percentages (1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	Omitted	Response* Mean	Median	Mode	St Dev	Course** Mean	Median	Mode
	Instructor Section													
Q4	The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	0	0	0	20	80	0	4.8	4.88	5	0.41	4.18	4.51	5
Q5	The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	0	0	0	13.33	86.67	0	4.87	4.92	5	0.35	4.55	4.73	5
Q6	The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	0	0	0	20	80	0	4.8	4.88	5	0.41	4.4	4.66	5
Q7	The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	0	0	0	20	80	0	4.8	4.88	5	0.41	4.18	4.53	5
Q8	The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	0	0	0	20	80	0	4.8	4.88	5	0.41	4.13	4.51	5
Q9	Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	0	0	20	26.67	53.33	0	4.33	4.56	5	0.82	3.98	4.09	4
	Averages for Instructor Section							4.73	4.85	5	0.51	4.24	4.53	5
	Course Section													
Q10	The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	0	13.33	13.33	26.67	46.67	0	4.07	4.38	5	1.1	3.64	3.81	4
Q11	Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	0	6.67	6.67	40	46.67	0	4.27	4.42	5	0.88	3.9	4.09	4
Q12	Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	0	6.67	20	26.67	46.67	0	4.13	4.38	5	0.99	4.05	4.19	4
	Averages for Course Section							4.16	4.39	5	0.98	3.86	4.03	4
	Supplemental Questions													
Q3	The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	0	0	0	13.33	86.67	0	4.87	4.92	5	0.35	4.7	4.84	5
	Averages for Supplemental Questions							4.87	4.92	5	0.35	4.66	4.81	5

* Response refers to the calculations corresponding to the course section/class number and individual instructor referenced in this table.

** Course refers to the calculations corresponding to all courses with the same course number regardless of the number of instructors. Special Topics courses with the same course number are included in this calculation.

^ Department refers to the calculations corresponding to all courses within the department.

^^ College refers to the calculations corresponding to all courses within the college.

Calculations are respective of undergraduate (1000 – 4000) v. graduate (5000 – 9000) level courses.

Q1: Why did you take this course?

Response Combinations	Count
Interest in topic	6
Interest in topic | Fit my schedule	1
Requirement/prerequisite	3
Requirement/prerequisite | Fit my schedule	2
Requirement/prerequisite | Interest in topic	3

Q2: How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?

Response Combinations	Count
Very High	2
High	9
Moderate	3
Low	1

Q13: Health Sciences Instructor Selection BlockPlease deselect the Instructor(s) you did NOT have for this course.

Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes

Q14: Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Excellent presentations that clarified lecture concepts and provided helpful additional information/examples. I really enjoyed the format of the discussion section as facilitating student engagement & peer learning, and providing additional resources, subsequently applied to the discussion post. The review days were also formatted particularly well/help
lecture, and student engagement.

Friendly, easy to contact, flexible, engaged and overall led interactive and thoughtful discussions.

Kathryn Shapiro did a really good job reviewing all the concepts from the weeks lectures in a way that enhanced my understanding. The discussion sections were very helpful with my performance in this course.

Kathryn was a great TA and always wanted us to do the best possible on exams. She was very understanding and accessible and gave really good reviews for every exam. Examples offered in discussions always helped me on exam days. She is such a helpful and great TA!

Ms. Shapiro always provided meaningful discussions on the topics taught in lecture.

Shapiro definitely made up for the professor's shortcomings. I felt like I was learning the course from her and she

She was very engaging, asked lots of questions. The videos chosen for us to watch during certain discussions were always relevant.

The instructor was explaining clearly some points that Mr Badredine Arfi was talking about during the readings if they were not understand by everyone. She is very helpful and made sure that I was understanding the class and submitting the assignements on time.

Understanding and engaging. Helped clear up topics that were brushed on in class. Great explanations.

Q15: What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

I liked Katy's teaching style there isn't anything I would change

I liked how she reviewed what was discussed in the lectures but maybe expand on those topics.

I would try to make sure online students can hear every in class student response, either by repeating or giving them a mic, because we can typically only hear you and not anything else said in class.

N/A

n/a

none

Q16: What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

- Include summary outlines for the readings to help guide understanding, especially as the readings were not essential to success in the course and not usually touched on during lecture. As the readings introduced much more in-depth discussion of concepts, I would have appreciated structure to help make sure I was understanding things properly/
- Draw examples from the readings during the lectures
- Unlock the recommended readings for each module. I really enjoyed the greater depth of understanding gained from the provided readings, and was exposed to many new concepts/perspectives not covered in class. I would have appreciated even more suggested readings, especially as someone considering a second major in IR. Although of cours
don't know what we don't know (!), and greater familiarity with IR concepts/sub fields would have been very instructive in helping me to discern possible academic paths for myself.

Course material was fine.

For discussion posts, send out a reminder on Sundays or find a way for them to go in the "to-do" section of Canvas.

It would be nice to have more instructions and help on how to write and essay and what are the expectations for it because for as an exchange the expectations are not the same here than back home. Beside that the course is very well organized and easy to follow and understand

Less required readings, especially considering we don't necessarily need them for the exam.

N/A

The required readings were sometimes hard to understand and I don't think they added much to my understanding and performance in this course.

n/a

Term: Fall 2021
Course: INR2001 - Introduction to Internat
Class Number: 15023
Instructor: Shapiro, Kathryn Anne (8162105
Response Rate: 72.00% (responded: 18, enrolle

Question Number	University Core Questions	Percentages (1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	Omitted	Response* Mean	Median	Mode	St Dev	Course** Mean	Median	Mode
	Instructor Section													
Q4	The instructor explained material clearly and in a way that enhanced my understanding.	0	0	5.56	22.22	72.22	0	4.67	4.81	5	0.59	4.18	4.51	5
Q5	The instructor maintained clear standards for response and availability (e.g. turnaround time for email, office hours, etc.)	0	0	5.56	16.67	77.78	0	4.72	4.86	5	0.57	4.55	4.73	5
Q6	The instructor fostered a positive learning environment that engaged students.	0	5.56	0	27.78	66.67	0	4.56	4.75	5	0.78	4.4	4.66	5
Q7	The instructor provided prompt and meaningful feedback on my work and performance in the course.	0	5.56	0	22.22	72.22	0	4.61	4.81	5	0.78	4.18	4.53	5
Q8	The instructor was instrumental to my learning in the course.	0	0	11.11	22.22	66.67	0	4.56	4.75	5	0.7	4.13	4.51	5
Q9	Course content (e.g., readings, activities, assignments) was relevant & useful.	0	11.11	11.11	50	27.78	0	3.94	4.06	4	0.94	3.98	4.09	4
	Averages for Instructor Section							4.51	4.72	5	0.77	4.24	4.53	5
	Course Section													
Q10	The course fostered regular interaction between student and instructor.	5.56	11.11	11.11	55.56	16.67	0	3.67	3.9	4	1.08	3.64	3.81	4
Q11	Course activities and assignments improved my ability to analyze, solve problems, and/or think critically.	5.56	5.56	27.78	33.33	27.78	0	3.72	3.83	4	1.13	3.9	4.09	4
Q12	Overall, this course was a valuable educational experience.	0	16.67	16.67	27.78	38.89	0	3.89	4.1	5	1.13	4.05	4.19	4
	Averages for Course Section							3.76	3.93	4	1.1	3.86	4.03	4
	Supplemental Questions													
Q3	The instructor was enthusiastic about the course.	0	0	0	27.78	72.22	0	4.72	4.81	5	0.46	4.7	4.84	5
	Averages for Supplemental Questions							4.72	4.81	5	0.46	4.66	4.81	5

* Response refers to the calculations corresponding to the course section/class number and individual instructor referenced in this table.

** Course refers to the calculations corresponding to all courses with the same course number regardless of the number of instructors. Special Topics courses with the same course number are included in this calculation.

^ Department refers to the calculations corresponding to all courses within the department.

^^ College refers to the calculations corresponding to all courses within the college.

Calculations are respective of undergraduate (1000 – 4000) v. graduate (5000 – 9000) level courses.

Q1: Why did you take this course?

Response Combinations	Count
Interest in topic	3
Interest in topic | Instructor	1
Requirement/prerequisite	11
Requirement/prerequisite | Interest in topic	3

Q2: How would you rate your own participation (completed readings, assignments, etc.) in this course?

Response Combinations	Count
Very High	3
High	8
Moderate	6
Low	1

Q13: Health Sciences Instructor Selection BlockPlease deselect the Instructor(s) you did NOT have for this course.

Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes
Yes

Q14: Please identify the instructor's strengths that contributed to your learning in the course.

Explained material well, added creative discussion questions to help with overall understand of the course, and created detailed power points.

Good communication and at explaining complex concepts

Kathryn Shapiro is a wonderful instructor that supplemented Professor Arfi's lectures wonderfully. Her addition of extra real-world examples of the theories presented during lecture especially helped while taking exams, which I felt she graded and annotated in a very helpful way. Discussion sections with her were genuinely a pleasure, as she made a reemphasis on the week's content.

Kathryn did a good job at reiterating what Professor Arfi taught us during the lectures. She was able to condense the material into a discussion, and also allow us to talk on what we had learned. Good job.

Kathryn does a great job of going into detail with whatever topic that we are discussing. She is always clear on expectations and due dates. Gave feedback on all essays.

Knowledge on the topic, relatability to students, empathy

My TA was really good at explaining the concepts. At some points, I felt she explained them better than the professor did and she also gave very good examples that helped me understand the concepts better.

She did a good job of including all of the students in our class in the discussion of each topic that we went over, and she made sure we all understood the material.

She was genuinely such a great TA! She provided good examples, and made the information we were learning a lot more attainable for students, even those ho are not history buffs. She responded to emails in a timely manner and was overall a great instructor.

She was readily available via email and when she explained things she did so thoroughly with examples.

amazing TA. was very helpful and covered class content which helped me understand what was going on the class.

nice

understanding

Q15: What additional constructive feedback can you offer the instructor that might help improve the course?

I really liked how you lead your class I think just posting the slides on Canvas would have been helpful

I think that the only feedback I could offer would be to possibly change up the wording from Professor Arfi's slides. Sometimes the slides in discussion had the same definitions which doesn't help when the definitions are confusing.

Improve audio for zoom audience.

N/A

No additional feedback.

None

Perhaps discuss with Prof Arfi more about the criteria for the exams, because the grading contradicted what Prof Arfi said that he wanted in his lectures.

n/a

n/a

Q16: What constructive suggestion(s) do you have for improving the course materials, organization, and assignments?

Arfi needs to stay on subject

I really have no suggestions as to make this course better, besides making the course more consistent between TA's.

I would suggest potentially mixing in multiple choice exams instead of all of the exams being written, essay based exams. That being said, having multiple essays to write does help improve writing skills.

Make pop quizzes longer so that we can truly understand overall material before the exam.

N/A. I felt that this course was managed wonderfully. The pace and organization was manageable to follow and made clear on the Canvas page.

No additional feedback.

None

Nothing

Really just organization issues with the lectures and making sure that the professor and TA's are on the same page when it comes to grading assignments.

The course materials and organization of the class were good. I felt there were too many articles to read for each theme to prepare for with the test.

n/a

the exams being 5pm to 5pm was kinda difficult, so maybe making the exams a bit longer may help students