



# Office of the Registrar

The Course And Teacher Evaluation Council (CTEC)

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Department: POLI\_SCI Political Science  
Course: 320-0-20 The Presidency  
Quarter: Spring 2008

## CTEC Online TA Report For Ariel David Zellman

### 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	47	25	14	6	2	0	0	5.32
23. The lab teacher was well prepared for each session	47	24	19	3	0	1	0	5.38
24. The lab teacher communicated ideas in a clear manner	47	24	18	4	0	1	0	5.36
25. The lab teacher showed strong interest in teaching the course	46	24	14	7	0	0	1	5.28

Comments: Ariel was the best TA, always prepared, always enthusiastic // Ariel was awesome. He was a great discussion leader and allowed people to make points will keeping the discussion focused enough to be worth while. // // Ariel Zellman was the best TA I've had at Northwestern. He was funny, engaging, mediated the discussion appropriately, and managed to encourage discussion in each class. / Ariel = THE BEST TA I've ever had. He really fueled discussion and made me WANT to participate. // Ariel is a great TA. Good discussion facilitator and is well prepared. Easily Accessible. / Ariel tried to stimulate discussion but it was often not very interesting. / Ariel tried really hard to facilitate discussion but sometimes it would have been helpful if he had gone through the readings with us. He would ask questions and when people would respond it wasn't clear if they were right or wrong. He needed to sort of give a definitive answer, especially when we were going through the theories. / Ariel was good. He tried to facilitate discussion and was good at explaining and highlighting the most important subjects in the course. / Ariel was a great TA. He was knowledgeable and a good facilitator. He also was a fair grader. // Ariel is good at keeping the pace of the discussion. It was useful that he sent out discussion questions via email before class. // Ariel is very helpful and approachable in answering questions and addressing concerns about the class. He always sent out preparation questions for discussion several days in advance and was prepared for section. // // Ariel showed up to discussion well prepared and enthusiastic about discussing the material. I liked that he tried to broaden the discussion beyond going through a simple summary of the readings. // // Ariel was kind and understanding of students' interests and concerns. Providing discussion questions in advance demonstrated that he cared about the section. The advance questions allowed us to go into the section feeling moderately prepared. The discussion questions always promoted meaningful dialogue instead of recapitulation, which I really appreciated. Great job, Ariel. / Ariel is an amazing T.A. Very nice and friendly. // I really liked the ta. Very knowledgeable and liked to have fun. I enjoyed when we would go off on tangents. He made sure everyone was participating which I appreciated. // // // ariel is really nice and positive. he really cared if we were learning the material or not. very accessible. good ta. // Ariel was a great TA. The only thing that could have been better would be a more specific look at content over opinion. / Ariel did a good job organizing the discussion sections to help breakdown the lectures. // The TA is very enthusiastic and was able to integrate students into discussion a lot more than I've seen with

other TA's. His grading was fair and his grading policy was clear. Reciting what the student said afterwards seemed a little too formulaic however. I felt like students could say whatever they wanted without feeling like they were going to be questioned on their comments. Also, he let students talk for too long, in which I would often lose my interest at the time. Cutting down the time allowed would help the discussion flow a lot smoother. / Ariel did a good job of encouraging us to talk during discussion, but I felt that some kind of supplemental material would have helped. Besides just talking about the information we learned, it would have also been helpful to read more articles, texts, etc. that related to what we were talking about. / Ariel's a great teaching assistant. His ability to encourage substantive debate in section is really impressive. He's going to make a great professor someday. / He was a good facilitator of discussion and made the sections fun. No complaints. Also, Robot Chicken is funny. / Ariel was extremely nice and I felt I could easily and comfortably come talk to him about my work. He also did a great job leading section discussions. / Wanted us to succeed, but made us work (that is a good thing). / / engages the discussion classes well and keeps it focused / Ariel is great at leading discussions, although he grades pretty tough.

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