

## **Matt King – Course Instructor Surveys, Student Comments**

### *RHE 306 – Fall 2006*

- It is impossible to read anything whether a note from a friend to an article in Wikipedia without considering the rhetoric the writer is trying to get across, & I think this is a strong impact for a course to have. Professor King's class & a government class I have taken achieved this. King really cared for his students & I am sure his focus on organization will improve as he continues teaching. He implemented different techniques to get his material across & in this way was an effective teacher.
- Thanks Mr. King. I really enjoyed your class. I was so glad you were lenient on assignment lateness as this allowed me to give the assignments the attention they deserved. I am glad your classes were open discussions, that allowed for a much more attention getting experience. Best of luck and enjoy the holidays.
- The course was well-organized. The instructor made the students feel free to talk after class. The instructor was also very responsible and always tried to make the classroom more alive. Overall, Mr. King was a good prof. and cared about his students.
- Mr. King is a great instructor!! Recommendations: - What you start to do research summaries, maybe show an example of a good coherent research summary. For the first one, I was confused on how to do one correctly and lost point on coherence. – Good organized class. – I did not have any complaints, just a lot of writing!
- It took Mr. King a long time to return papers which limited us on how much time we had to correct them before the due date. My suggestion is -- don't underestimate how much time it will take you to correct the work because it hurts the students.
- King is very intelligent and overall a great teacher. He is definitely my best professor this semester. The workload was very high but it goes with the course.
- I've never felt more comfortable to talk and share ideas. That made this class enjoyable and very useful in other academic outlets. I felt like my writing drastically improved.
- I liked the fact that we had a lot of visual presentations. It helped me understand a lot of the material in depth. I would have liked to have had this in the beginning because it probably would have helped my grade.
- I felt that I was helped a lot. Took into consideration of my questions and responded quickly to my emails.
- I enjoyed the course and you being my teacher. ☺ Thanks!
- Overall, the semester was great. The selection of reading material, ie. "Free Culture" could be better.
- I liked the organization of the course and the particular choice of literature, "Free Culture." I also appreciate the order of assignments, which forces you to take essays one step at a time and become more informed about subject matter.

### *RHE 306 – Spring 2007*

- I really appreciated all of the effort you put into the class. It was really great to have a professor that actually cares about each individual. At times it was difficult to make a point or instructions clear, but you always had patience. I know that some days were more difficult than others to get us talking, but you didn't give up.

- Thanks for being so encouraging, it really makes a difference to know that the instructor doesn't always expect us to understand what to do right away. You really showed more interest in our progress than anything else which helped alot!
- My favorite class so far. I never imagined I would enjoy a class to much and have so much fun. The professor is an awesome guy and if I had the opportunity would like to take another course from Matt.
- Very helpful outside of the classroom. Sometimes it felt like instructions on writing assignments were vague, but that might be because of the nature of the course. Good teacher—definitely made me a better writer. Thanks for the doughnut.
- There was alot of work at the very beginning and not the best explanations for it. But towards the end the work load greatly lessened and the instructions seemed to become more clear. Most of the time I was never really sure exactly what was needed in my papers!
- I think the instructor was very interested in seeing students progress. He was very good about making sure everyone was clear about assignments and expectations.
- Thanks for the donuts. Office hrs. & the Writing Center helped the most.
- Thought at times this class seemed difficult, it quickly got easier to understand the material and what was expected of me. The instructor was also very approachable, friendly, and laid back.
- He was very effective at always being ready to help and being available. I learned a lot about writing techniques that he made easier to understand.
- I think that I couldn't have asked for more in regards to him being very approachable and making us feel comfortable to ask for help. Although the assignments seemed vague at first and perhaps we would have wanted more clear guidelines, I understand it was not something he could fix or something that it was his fault. He definitely made it worth coming to class, wanting to be here although I wish I would have had it later in the morning to always be 100% tuned in. I think his relationship with the students was great and no one ever felt intimidated by him. Always tried to help us as much as possible. Very nice professor overall.
- I like how in class we went over current issues of matter to us, like how we discussed the Virginia Tech tragedy along with other issues, while we were exploring our individual issues, so we got to see and be more informed about current news than how I am at least in other classes. I think you were a little strict in grading papers but that's just more incentive to do well and write well.
- Matt was very willing to help the student's improve their writing. His quick response to e-mails and availability for extra office hours was crucial to my improvement. He also did a great job of keeping the class interesting by incorporating modern videos, music, etc into the classroom. The main improvement would be to more clearly explain each assignment. There were times when I could not start writing my paper because I was unsure of what I was suppose to do.
- The instructor was really nice and funny. It seemed that he enjoyed discussing, which made me get into the discussion as well. The examples he showed in class were great and he always took time aside to help me. Therefore it showed an interest the progress of students. This is the only class I enjoyed and I will defenitally take this course again with the same instructor.

- I really enjoyed this course and learned a lot as far as how to make an effective argument, analyze a rhetorical piece, and how to improve my own writing styles. The instructor made everyone feel welcomed every morning as we entered the room and I also enjoyed the way the instructor engaged himself during conversations. He made lectures more meaningful and interesting to the students.
- Instructor needs to explain better what he want students to do. He needs to motivate students to get involved in class discussions.
- The writing process and what you wanted was not clear, the grading scale was not defined although it did help to know grades were based on improvement not just a number.
- I really enjoyed this class even though it was at 9am. I've definitely grown as a writer and considering majoring in rhetoric – especially if the future class topics include Danger Mouse.
- I really enjoyed this class because Matt told us what to expect from day one. I truly benefited from this class and it made me learn new things about my writing techniques and helped me strengthen my weaknesses and polish my strengths. Matt is very passionate about rhetoric and he made us feel that way in the end. Overall, a very good course.
- Altogether I really enjoyed the class. I think it would have nicer to be warned that Free Culture was actually available for free. Just kidding. There's really not much I can say. I mean, maybe grades could have been more definite than just a letter grade. And sometimes feed back came a bit too late. Other than that, Matt is a pretty good instructor.
- Although sometimes I was confused what I was writing about you always responded to my emails even sometimes late at night. Some of the activities we did in class were effective but I think that we should have used Lessig book more because we didn't as much but in all the course was good.

#### *RHE 306 – Summer 2007*

- Most of what Matt did was quite good. The different use of media and art really helped in understanding rhetoric.
- Overall the instructor was very helpful and open to the class.
- Enjoyed this class, enjoyed the atmosphere and music everyday. Fresh way to start class. I learned a lot. Thank you!!!
- I learned quite a bit. It was very organized and taught well.
- Very good just needs to work on clarification.
- The course was good. I enjoyed writing the papers, but not so many :)
- Cool.
- Overall, Mr. King was an excellent instructor, he wanted the best for the students and when someone had a question he made sure that, the understood what was going on.
- He's a funny guy, but even he can't make this class better. And sometimes it was really hard to understand why I got a certain grade on a paper.
- Everything was good, maybe examples of assignments would help?
- Very organized.

*RHE 306 – Fall 2008*

- Matt was definitely one of the better teachers I've had to date. I appreciate all of his positive attributes (i.e. he's extremely encouraging, very helpful, and easy to talk to and work with). I'd strongly suggest him as a teacher if ever asked.
- Things that have gone well: my overall capability of analyzing rhetorical strategies, identifying audiences, and developing my argument. Not well: in class activities were often pretty boring. Change: more interactive in-class activities--get more people/everyone involved in discussion. Thank you for your flexibility and understanding with assignments.
- I liked how all the feedback was very positive and it helped a lot. I didn't like doing peer review with people outside our cluster. I felt they had less knowledge on my topic.
- The instructor was very organized and easy to approach. The only thing I felt he could do differently is to include the grade when he sent out feedback for the papers.
- I liked handouts/working in class more than lecture. I did not like coming to class because I had time sitting through long lectures, even though I liked M. King and did my work outside class.
- Great class.
- This class was great! Class discussions were very helpful as was the feedback given on assignments. Rhetorical Peaks was interesting and fun. Something like that should be used again. Overall this class was of great value to me and I got to know some great people. I enjoyed the rhetorical parties, but it was just too bad we couldn't have a real one. :)
- I liked communicating thru email for help on the papers. It's easier for me because it's faster. I really didn't care for the group projects (excluding research clusters). It would've been easier for people that are shy or who just aren't comfortable with some people, to pick your own group. Other than that things were great.
- Matt's class has helped me a lot and now, I believe, I am a better writer. He organized the class well and made everything really clear for us. He made us feel free and comfortable to ask questions, even though we never did really.
- What I liked about this class was that Matt was always trying to make sure every student comprehended the assignments and showed great care for our progress. The only negative part of this class was that it was from 3:30 to 5:00 pm and I was always tired. If I could change anything about this class it would be more work on the computers.
- Matt is a great teacher w/ his head in the right place. He does a very good job of making sure that the course follows a strict but fluid schedule. One thing that could use improvement however is class involvement, but I don't think this is the fault of Mr. King. It is more due to the lack of motivation from students in the class. I would encourage Matt to be a little more forceful with his students, calling them out more and bringing the overall involvement level up. He's off to a great start!
- Matt did the most we could possibly ask for as an instructor (besides giving automatic A's to everyone). Although I didn't do too well, it is really my own fault. Matt was excellent.

- Very well organized. You give good & helpful feedback. Maybe give more time for students to talk to each other. And maybe do little more than papers b/c The Blind Side wasn't really used that much.

*RHE 306 – Summer 2011*

- I feel you did very well this semester. You also had a good sense of leadership as well.
- Very good at returning emails and helpful feedback & comments outside of class. Everything was scheduled fine considering short semester. The book wasn't utilized very much.
- I enjoyed the course even though writing is somewhat frustrating to me. I felt this was a good experience.

*RHE 309K – “I Believe in Miracles”: Rhetoric and Postmodernity – Fall 2007*

- I definitely enjoyed coming to this class. Learning rhetoric was made fun. I'd suggest not going over & critiquing papers quite as much as we did – it got a little boring and was kinda repetitive sometimes. Despite what everyone said about COL49, I enjoyed it. I thought it was great to start off w/ something of that caliber that way the rest of the course, it was easier to identify rhetorical stuff. Overall, awesome job!
- This is probably the most interesting course I have ever taken, although half the time, I did not know what was going on and fumbled through many smaller assignments. Loved the fact that music was incorporated. Hated the fact that it was not supposed to be a lecture class & it turned out to be. Loved the informal setting. Hated being confused all the time. All in all, lots of fun.
- I really enjoyed this course & just about everything it entailed. I do, however, feel like I will never get away from Pynchon's postmodernity ideas. I really like how you organized the class where we got very helpful comments after every writing assignment. Thanks for a great semester!
- The course itself helped me change the way I read (though I thought the class itself didn't emphasize enough on how to write), because in the discussion in the last unit had many good ideas and points of analysis but how do we translate this to writing? Beyond that, what conclusions do we reach about these discussions? Namely, this question, “So what do we think of this?” or “We're kind of in the right direction.” Explanation isn't clear enough on the last assignment (given that we were confused about how to go about it). This was overall a very helpful class—just a few kinks in explaining some things.
- Matt's a nice guy. He definitely cared about teaching this class and you can tell he invested a lot of time and energy in it. His communication is a bit rough. Sometimes it felt like he talked himself in circles. I think class led discussion were more interesting. Matt was smart to allow us to give feedback and the class improved over the semester.
- The written comments on our papers were very helpful. Also, Matt's ability to relate every single text we studied to practically everything I've ever known in my life was quite awe-inspiring.

- The class was great & I enjoyed it but was confused on the readings or movie or music until discuss (I think that was the point). I didn't like the self assessment. The online website worked very well.
- Crying of Lot 49 is pretty lame. Better the last few weeks when the student where in charge was really fun and got the most out of it. Pizza party was the best.
- I really enjoyed this class because of: class discussions; material; feedback; laid back feeling – yet structured enough.
- I liked the pizza party. Lot 49 was not my favorite book. I wish we would have written a final paper tying in the 3 main texts into the subject. I also wish we would have had a round table – I feel it would have been more appropriate. And thanks for being so understanding w/ soccer :)
- Thanks for the pizza, and the semester. You're a good guy.

*RHE 309K – “I Believe in Miracles”: Rhetoric and Postmodernity – Spring 2008*

- The course and instructor were the best I've had. This is the second time I've had Matt (1<sup>st</sup> time was RHE 306) and he continues to show a great interest in the students, text and an overall energy that makes him a great teacher.
- Dr. King is an AMAZING professor who offers an entirely new way of perceiving literature and understand what each piece is trying to say when applied to the status quo. What he has to teach is extremely useful, helpful, and necessary for the classroom and outside the classroom.
- It was a hard road set out for you Matt. I took this course because I was required to, and wasn't particularly interested in any of the texts we were dealing with. Despite that, I was exposed to some material I'm not used to, and feel like that's a positive thing. I overall enjoyed the class. Take care.
- Matt, I feel that this course has been of strong value to me. The grading was fair. The texts were incredibly interesting. The strategies learned/reinforced will be ultimately helpful to me in other regards. Good job and best of luck in your future endeavors. 4.5/5 stars
- I enjoyed the improvement in my writing skills but the texts were often very confusing. It was hard to try and figure out what the authors were trying to accomplish and then write a paper on it. Class discussions helped with specific areas of the texts but I would often write about other areas.
- Very nice, approachable professor. Very interested in students doing well and understanding/flexible :). Interesting class, although A LOT of writing assignments even for a writing component.
- I thoroughly enjoyed this class. I really appreciated your willingness to continually work through assignments & meet with us. That was extremely helpful. And I loved the texts.
- Overall, I enjoyed the class & feel I have improved in my writing. The subject material was difficult at times, but you did an excellent job of explaining it.

*RHE 309S: Critical Reading and Persuasive Writing, Fall 2010*

- I think this was a fantastic class. The only thing I would change is the beginning of class. We spend almost 30 min everyday listening to information we are just going to re-read anyways. I feel that this time could be better spent discussing current events, discussing readings, possibly a warm-up post on the wiki. The beginning of class seems slow and was largely useless. I thought that the Papers 1 and 2 were very fun and enjoyable. I really enjoyed the topics and the freedom.
- I wasn't a big fan of the Learning Record approach initially. I still don't know if I'm completely sold on it, but it wasn't so bad. Two observations per week felt excessive, but I understand why they're necessary for the LR approach (again, I'm not the biggest fan). All in all, the course has had some effect on the way I think and view the world, so I would say it was a valuable experience. And Matt may be the most sincere professor I had during my time at Texas.
- This course material has helped me evolve as a writer, in many aspects. My writing capabilities have improved greatly. The varied usage of technologies has given me new experiences and a new found confidence in myself. Mr. King is an excellent teacher and is very thorough with his explanations and is always willing to take time out of his schedule to help.
- Although this course was helpful to me overall (in terms of learning new writing techniques), I felt that the 'Learning Record' concept was vague and somewhat unuseful. I don't think that the LR final is a completely accurate depiction of a student's ultimate progress.
- The LR grading criteria is a very good idea and should continue to be used in evaluating students' work. Matt King did a great job this semester in leading the class. The only thing is that I felt that a few activities/requirements for class were irrelevant, such as the Twitter observations and some of the in-class activities (Rhetorical Peaks game).
- I enjoyed the use of technology and writing in this course. It made rhetoric more applicable to everyday life.
- Didn't enjoy the wiki/technological basis of class – felt that it was too concentrated on this aspect and I can't say that I feel my writing has improved. Topics for writing were redundant and repetitive since High School. Overall I don't feel as though I improved yet placed so much energy and effort in the class.
- This course material has helped me evolve as a writer, in many aspects. My writing capabilities have improved greatly. The varied usage of technologies has given me new experiences and a newfound confidence in myself. Mr. King is an excellent teacher and is very thorough with his explanations and is always willing to take time out of his schedule to help.
- For the most part, this course accomplishes it's goal of making the students that take the course and turn them into better writers. However, at times the work required to do so at times wasn't fully applicable in helping accomplish this goal which in turn made the work load feel higher than it truly may have been.
- My favorite part of this course was applying rhetorical analysis to a clip we produced. This captivated my attention by fueling my creative side while also helping me understand how rhetoric applied to the copy writing and video production process. The in class activities such as peer reviewing we did within groups/one on one with other

classmates was also incredibly helpful to me in my writing process. These review sessions left me with many options on how to change my writing in order to improve my overall message. In the beginning of the course the vagueness of grading & the assignment expectations left me a bit concerned for my overall grade but as the semester progressed & I got a sense for the course & how Matt graded I felt more & more comfortable with the course.

- Matt tried very hard to make this class a meaningful learning experience. However, I feel that the class ended up being a lot of brief assignments that didn't accomplish the ultimate goal. I do not feel that my writing skills have improved as a result, and I really disliked the learning record grading system & reflection activities. Ultimately, I did not feel like this class was a valuable learning experience. I give Matt credit for trying, I just did not enjoy the style of learning he encouraged in the class.
- At times it was a little unclear as to what direction we needed to go in for a paper or project. We would be told it was 'experimental' but then given feedback saying to focus our attention on a specific aspect. Unit 2/Paper 2 was definitely the most interesting & useful part of the semester. I liked the freedom we had to choose & interpret our cultural artifacts. The observations weren't all that helpful. I felt as though I was having to make up content or look way too deeply to find something to write.
- Matt, Nice job this semester. I enjoyed your organization, feedback, and the idea of the Learning Record – these were all helpful in developing my writing skills. If you were to teach the class again, I would suggest that less time be spent on Unit One, and that more time be allocated to Unit Two and Three. Also, I felt at times that some of the assignments and activities were disconnected. Perhaps linking them in or discussing them before and after would help with this (the video game assignment was an example, in my opinion). Lastly, I would reconstruct showcasing. Although helpful at times, the sessions were often boring and non-intuitive. Unfortunately, this is hard to address, but perhaps just peer-reviewing each assignment would be a better alternative. Besides these suggestions, you have done an overall great job. Stay invested in your students and work like you are now and you will do great. Best of luck in the future.
- This class started off slowly and was a little boring but it picked up and was a lot more interesting. I thought the improvements started when we began to have more discussion on outside reading such as Wallace's speech. Good amount of groupwork & individual work. I really enjoyed the cultural artifact project. Sometimes you draw out explanations which slows down class and is a little boring, but I'm someone who needs little explanation and can barely last through an hour lecture. You are very approachable and want to help.
- The best course context I experienced was the group projects, out of all three projects, because it included group work, new technologies, an interesting topic, and assistance that we've had from Matt all semester. To improve, I would say to spend less time in class speaking, and more time doing, although, I will admit, some of the questions asked were necessary, it was just boring on occasions. Matt does a great job teaching, is entirely approachable, and obviously cares about his students, which is the most important, in my opinion.
- I suggest a few more types of writing could help learning in the class.



- I felt that every assignment we did was applicable to what we were doing. Every in class activity also tied into the course material. The only thing I might change is showcasing activities. They were helpful, but I feel that they could be way more
- Overall, the writing assignments were beneficial to my writing. However the excessive amount plus the consideration of extra sample works to receive an A is too overwhelming.
- I did not enjoy all of the busy work assignments towards the end of the semester and I wish that the Units were spaced appropriately so we weren't so rushed on Units 2 and 3. Overall, this course was extremely valuable to me and I think I improved my writing a lot. I love the peer review activities!
- Overall, this class consisted of a lot of interacting and it was a lot of fun. Matt was always kind and helpful at all times. I feel that some of the short assignments were irrelevant to what we were doing. The observations were a very good idea, it allowed us to keep track of how we improved. Thanks for making Rhe fun, Matt!

*RHE 309S: Critical Reading and Persuasive Writing, Fall 2011*

- I've never had an instructor take so much interest in his students, not only in our work but in our general health. He was a fantastic professor and I hope he continues his current teaching habits.
- Thank you so much for everything! This class has pushed my writing abilities greatly. I've never had a teacher been as interested in my progress as him. He was great as a person, understanding and caring, and also as a professor, caring and helpful. I wish all my professors were more like Matt. As I've grown as a writer, I've known that credit goes to Matt, his teaching ability, and how hard he pushed me. I will miss this class and Matt's fantastic teaching abilities! Thanks again!
- Matt was really good about adjusting the course in order to make it useful to everyone and genuinely cared about every student's progress.
- Matt was one of the most dedicated and caring teachers I've ever had. He was very prompt with returning our papers and provided plenty of helpful feedback. He was always available for office hours and was very understanding of our personal improvement.
- Requiring Inform7 to be fully functional is a bit overkill, because you can understand the procedurality from typing your idea without being a coding aficionado. I enjoyed the feedback and brainstorming very much. They were helpful in pointing out weak areas of my writing. Also I would think Blackboard is appropriate considering averaging a 'B/B+' and 'A' is unclear.
- Mr. King is a great professor. The feedback he provided on my writing is easily the most useful part of this class. He really takes the time to be sure everyone understands the particular concepts and ideas and I'm glad to have had the opportunity to participate.
- Thank you for taking the time to provide thorough (sp?) feedback on all the assignments – It was extremely helpful. It was very obvious you cared about your students' progress.
- This class has been very enjoyable to me. If there are any criticisms, I encourage to continue using reflections as major grades. I've never been encouraged so much in my

writing, with so much feedback but still not as stressed. I love Matt's flexibility, and am proud to say, am part of the Matt King fanclub.

- Matt was an excellent instructor. I've never had an instructor so genuinely interested in the development of my writing skills, which is important as an English major. He provided relevant comments on my assignments that gave me clear goals for improvement. This class was extremely helpful and valuable to my overall academic skills. I thoroughly enjoyed it and learning from Matt.
- This class helped me develop my writing a lot, especially since I am able to effectively write outside of class. I think if the professor focused more on our grades that would be a lot. Thanks.
- You were great! Seriously! Created a great environment for your classroom and felt that I thoroughly improved on my writing + rhetorical arguments.
- This is my first college rhetoric class, and I have to say that I really enjoyed it. I can honestly say that I have learned so much from Matt King that I have never learned in any sort of writing class. He has allowed me to grow as a writer and as an individual. He was always willing to work with me whenever I was confused about the work assigned, which made my writing processes much easier than it would have been without his help. I would not have taken this class with anyone else!
- This is a great class for all levels of writers. Firstly, Matt's informal + casual style was very helpful. He really cared about the students + that was appreciated by the class. He promotes a positive writing environment. Everyone feels comfortable. Overall, Matt's classroom demeanor was refreshing. The promptness of grading was amazing. The feedback was very helpful + guided me toward improving my writing. My only suggestion is occasionally provide more concrete criticism, sometimes firmness is necessary.
- This my first RHE class so I didn't know what to expect, but this was a really enjoyable class. The multiple drafts of the papers helped me to revisit my writing. Also the peer reviews were a great help to provide feedback to help guide my revisions. You have a good combination of reading & writing assignments, never felt too overwhelmed with work. You're a great teacher.
- Matt is awesome. Seriously. If there were a 'super agree' for #15, I would have bubbled it in. His feedback on papers is amazing. And he is super speedy! I am really happy with his teaching. Also, Matt really cares about the student. I went through a really hard time at the end of the semester, and Matt was very understanding + offered to change the assignment topic for me so that it would be easier for me to write, as my personal story was directly related to my current topic. In short: Matt King Rocks. With a capital R.
- Matt King is amazing! I have never had a rhetoric instructor give so much feedback. The class was welcoming and wonderful!
- This course was very well organized, and I felt that I can really say that I have taken a lot out of this class. Thank you so much for all the time and effort you spent to write the detailed feedback + then meeting up with us during office hours to make sure we understand your feedback. We also had a lot of students in our class, which makes it even more amazing that you were able to help us each out with our own problems. Thank you for your help! I do think, however, that I would benefit more if the grades were posted online, so that we know where we stand as the semester goes on.

- Matt King is one of the best teachers I have ever had, handsdown!
- Matt King was extremely interested in our progress and responded quickly to all assignments. He was clear in his goals for us and obviously took interest in our efforts. I liked his grading system and he was flexible both in assignment critique and reflective exercises. Matt King is an excellent professor and improved my writing overall this semester.

*RHE 309S: Critical Reading and Persuasive Writing, Spring 2012*

- You were really helpful and approachable whenever I had any questions. You gave really good advice about my writing, and I think I have become a stronger writer because of that. I also learned a lot about rhetoric and that it isn't just arguing. I really like that we got to choose our own community to write about. It made the assignments much more fun and interesting. It was also really helpful how you always showed us examples from previous years. Thanks so much!
- Overall, I loved this class and its freedom in choosing our community as well as within the writing assignments. I feel like at the beginning I thought I may get tired of my community, but each paper/assignment required such a new outlook that I never became bored. Even though Inform7 was a pain at first, it was a good learning experience and for feeling a great sense of accomplishment when it finally worked. My only critique of this course is grade uncertainty. Not that the grading was unfair, but I like to know my overall progress as I go along.
- I really enjoyed this class & learned a lot – the prof. was great.
- I loved him! Professor King was excellent! He made the course fun and exciting. I would definitely recommend him to any other student!
- Professor King was excellent at providing helpful feedback on writing and fostering a good class environment for helpful discussion and learning. This has been the best and most helpful writing class I have ever taken, and the way Matt organized the semester and provided feedback all along the way had everything to do with that.
- I'm still a little iffy with regards to the book, but I do think that the concepts it conveyed were worthwhile.
- Awesome!
- Overall, this course proved to be one of my favorite this year. The organization was looser and allowed for a more relaxed setting. I feel as though I benefited from taking this class.
- Matt was a great professor and treated me well. Every time I had a question he would answer and add advice. His lectures were great, he would make sure we understood him and would involve the whole class in discussion. He was generous and lenient in grading and assigning due dates. However everyone always turned in their work on time. I loved that he cared about our opinion of the class, and the way he taught it. All in all Matt King is a good professor that cares for his students.
- He allowed us to make revisions on long papers even after they were due. This really relieved me of my stress level as far as the "due date" went. Plus it allowed us to keep making corrections to our flaws. Simply one of the best instructor ever. Very understanding of the students.

- Matt King was an excellent teacher. I enjoyed topics that he presented in class to us and how they related to the writing assignments. Professor King always opened the floor for questions and concerns. I personally feel more comfortable with my writing due to the help Mr. King provided. I would love to take another class with him.
- I really enjoyed Matt's form of teaching. It was laid back but not informal. He wanted us to succeed and was lenient with due dates, as long as we knew it could be detrimental to us. He was always positive in giving feedback & never made me feel something was out of reach. I really appreciate the ability to continue revising throughout the semester. He is going to be a great professor!

*RHE 312: Writing in Digital Environments, Spring 2010*

- Great class. Challenging – but in a good way. I would probably take this class again if I had the choice! Learning Record is so refreshing compared to the standard 'turn in a big paper & get a set grade' then & there. Thanks Matt!
- Matt King and the Learning Record system were probably the best duo to seek constant progress.
- At times it is hard to see the relevance behind some of our assignments. This could be communicated more effectively to help the students understand and better complete them.
- I would suggest introducing Second Life earlier in the semester and doing more w/ it like creating a monument memorializing Lisa. Also, I think that the Learning Record needs more of an explanation at the beginning of the semester. I didn't fully understand it until about the last two weeks of school. Other than that, this has been one of my favorite courses at UT.
- I really don't like writing. I wasn't looking forward to this class, but it ended up being one of my most favorite that I've taken @ UT!
- Overall, I like the class, I just feel like the observations were tedious and much rather something similar to the observation due every three weeks or none at all.
- Matt is an effective and positive teacher who was able to communicate the goals of the course and impart valuable knowledge to his students.
- I really liked this class and you as a professor. To be better specific deadlines Not really having them made me put work off and wait til the last minute. Overall a great semester!
- I enjoyed most of the course. I am still not sold on the learning record or Second Life. I don't think SL is a useful tool in the way we employed it. The video project was also probably not a good idea in the current form. This is the only class where I've completed all my work and gotten good feedback but been worried about my actual grade due to the subjectiveness of the Learning record. Also, needed more games!
- Matt did a fantastic job teaching this class. All of the material that was covered was interesting. I would focus more on playing in Second Life and try to find a way to make it more engaging. Otherwise, good job!
- I think the class was well organized, and, personally, I wouldn't change much of anything. At the beginning of the semester I was afraid of the grading because of the unusual format of the class. Now, however, I definitely see the value in the class. It

definitely forces you to work, keep up, and not be lazy. The constant assignments and reflection really helps to actually absorb and learn the material. Great class!

- The assignments I enjoyed most in the class were those where we were given a good amount of creative freedom, like the Multimedia Identity Project and building a memorial in Second Life. I also liked the fact that we got to choose what topic our argument blog was going to be over. As for observations, it was a little unclear exactly what they were supposed to cover, but I did think the switch from private Learning Record posts to public tweets was good. Of course playing the video games was fun but I feel like, if possible, it would be cool to take a look at normal video games as opposed to just unconventional ones.
- I thought this was a great course. I learned about writing and how to improve it. I also learned some new technology skills. I sometimes wish the class focused more on writing. Also sometimes explanations in class were very detailed. Learning Record is an amazing idea.
- This course was pretty awesome. Though all the new technology was fun, due to their likelihood of temporary failure, plans b and c should always be taken into consideration. Overall, it was all gravy!

*E 314J: Literature and Film, Fall 2008*

- Really enjoyed this course. Great instructor. Obvious that he had a good understanding of the material. Always encouraged classroom discussion & was always available for discussion outside of the classroom. Was obviously very interested in the course material & very competent at teaching it.
- Professor King is very helpful inside as well as outside the class. He is very approachable and does not mind students emailing questions to him – he even responds very promptly. The class was extremely well organized, I believe all of the texts were helpful and worthwhile; which is why I wanted to watch the last movie that was on the syllabus but that we didn't have time for. The class was good overall during discussion – a few people would begin to ramble occasionally, however, Professor King did a great job getting the class' focus back to the appropriate text. I have never given a perfect score in a course evaluation, until now.
- Overall, I enjoyed this course very much. The class discussions were very helpful in figuring out what the texts meant. The only thing I would change would be the grading on the papers. They seem to rely a lot on specific details, but it seems that we can never get it specific enough. Other than that, great job!
- Very interesting course. It was fun to sit down and discuss these very complex books and movies. However, the course requires a very large amount of writing and could certainly be described as an open-ended course which may be good for some people and aggravating to others.
- Focus on specificity a bit restrictive. Allow papers to be a little more open ended, allowing to explore different themes.
- This was a good class overall. During class, things can feel a bit awkward when it gets quiet, but I think it's good to help students have the chance to learn how they handle such situations. Maybe letting students leave class with a specific idea assigned to look

for would be beneficial to helping your discussion. My grade isn't as big a concern to me as the value I get from the course, but I can see how some students might find the grading to be a bit tough at the beginning—potentially unfair. Overall, good job! :)

- It would be helpful to indicate how things will be graded for future classes.
- I liked the course material for this class, and I thought the class activities and discussions went well. The Short Responses were also very useful. I liked the frequent feedback and communication through email as well. Some aspects of the papers did not go as well, especially towards the beginning of the semester. Your expectations were not always clear and I felt that you expected too much of us, especially given the quick pace of the course. It would help to show sample A papers, B papers, etc and weigh the first papers even less compared to the later papers. Otherwise I enjoyed the class!
- Overall, I thought this was a great class and that Matt has been a wonderful instructor. He is very interested in the progress of his students and extremely helpful when it comes to aiding us in revisions and understanding of the material. Any advice I have deals with the workload and nature of the work itself. I felt like the short responses were too involved and critically graded for something that is somewhat of a brainstorm, while the papers perhaps did not allow for extensive examination in their short length. I would have liked more room in the papers, like a 2-4 page limit.
- Generally, I liked the way this course was set up, and I learned how to connect literature to film and culture (which was fun for me since I'm a film major). However, I felt that paper objectives were a little unclear up until the point we started writing two pages. Then it became less confusing.
- The good: The materials helped aid discussions. They always seemed to be thought provoking. The design of the course being somewhat open-ended gave people a chance to think and led to more meaningful conversations. The bad: Set out a plan for the course and structure for the papers and stick to it. The structure for papers changed too many times throughout the course of the semester. The ugly (change): Make it mandatory for everyone to meet individually with the professor outside of class. The individual conversations were too good to only sometimes be mandatory. I know it takes up a lot of time, but these meetings are very beneficial. Have a good winter break/rest of the year.
- I really enjoyed the books we read and the films we watched, but I think it would have been helpful to focus on each text for a little longer than we did. I think we all have a general idea of the themes in each text, but spending more time on each one could increase our understanding even more. I liked the revision process: it took a lot of pressure off of writing the paper.
- I have enjoyed this class and found it to be very beneficial to me. The pieces of literature and films have been very interesting and worthwhile. I wish that students seemed to have more incentive to speak up in class so that there would be more of an entire class discussion. A possibility might be to require that each student come prepared with something to say each class and speak at least once every class for a part of a participation grade. This was the only flaw I found in the class was that sometimes people just didn't speak up [myself included].
- The revision policy on papers was very helpful because we got to see how to improve our writing and were actually able to put it to use. I like the flexibility of the course. It

made it more enjoyable and allowed me to do better work than I would have if I was rushed by strict deadlines. Instructor encouraged discussions and created an environment where everyone felt confident about discussing their views or ideas.

- Well: I liked the format of read a book watch a film, read a book, watch a film – I also liked that we didn't watch adaptations of the books. Definitely keep Mulholland Dr. and Sunset Blvd. Although the first is a bit difficult to watch, it is a great film. Change: I did not care for Play It As It Lays. The time focused on each text was so rapid – maybe cut a text or 2. Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed the class and discussions – not at all what I was expecting. Thanks!