

I, Dyuti Saunik, have taught or served as a teaching assistant for introductory and upper-level political science courses in comparative politics, international relations, and American politics. The table below summarizes my teaching experience.

Table 1: Teaching Experience		
Course	Role	Institution, Term, and Instructor
Instructor of Record		
<i>POL 147: Democratic Participation, State-Society Relations, Welfare Institutions</i>	Instructor of Record	ISM University of Management and Economics, Spring 2024 Instructor: Dyuti Saunik
Graduate Teaching Assistant		
<i>PLIR 2020: Foreign Policy of the Powers</i>	Teaching Assistant	University of Virginia, Spring 2026 Instructor: John Owen
<i>PLAP 3350: American Congress</i>	Teaching Assistant	University of Virginia, Fall 2025 Instructor: Justin Kirkland
<i>PLCP 2420: Politics of Modernity</i>	Teaching Assistant	University of Virginia, Spring 2023 Instructor: John Echeverri-Gent
<i>PLIR 1010: Introduction to International Relations</i>	Teaching Assistant	University of Virginia, Fall 2022 Instructor: Peter Furia
<i>PLCP 3110: Politics of Western Europe</i>	Teaching Assistant	University of Virginia, Spring 2022 Instructor: Gerard Alexander
<i>PLCP 3012: Politics of Developing Areas</i>	Teaching Assistant	University of Virginia, Fall 2021 Instructor: Robert Fatton

In what follows, I present the student course evaluations for each course I have taught since 2021 as a Teaching Assistant or Instructor of Record.

Student evaluations were not provided for PLCP 2420: Politics of Modernity as this course did not have separate discussion sections or labs.

ISM University was unable to share student course evaluations with me. However, the program director of the political science program shared my evaluation score of 4.83 out of five.

The full student course evaluation metrics from UVA at request.

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PLCP 3012: Politics of Developing Areas
University of Virginia, Fall 2021
Instructor Course Evaluation

Question	Average - All Courses (ds3gg Dyutiman Saunik)		Department (POLT)		School (CGAS)	
	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean
The instructor clearly communicated the course schedule and expectations for participation (e.g., readings, discussions).	55	4.73	1570	4.55	36572	4.45
The instructor clearly communicated the course learning objectives.	55	4.71	1566	4.50	36495	4.40
The instructor implemented learning activities and assignments that allowed me to demonstrate understanding of the course material.	55	4.71	1569	4.33	36599	4.28
The instructor provided me prompt and useful feedback on my learning.	55	4.73	1572	4.23	36674	4.06
The instructor provided opportunities for my active participation.	55	4.76	1573	4.38	36634	4.27
The instructor was available to help support my learning.	55	4.73	1566	4.47	36525	4.35
The instructor fostered an environment where I felt valued as an individual and that I belonged in the class.	55	4.64	1570	4.45	36573	4.30
Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	55	4.76	1573	4.48	36540	4.32
The instructor created an environment that respected difference and welcomed diverse perspectives.	55	4.64	1575	4.42	36651	4.26

Anonymous student comments on the instructor:

- “Dyuti was an incredibly honest and helpful TA, who cared deeply for his students without sacrificing devotion to the course material in anyway. He was direct and honest, things students greatly appreciate, but without ever becoming unprofessional or overly accommodationist, which some TAs can sacrifice to ingratiate themselves with their students. Dyuti had no need to sacrifice this however, as he instead sought to empower us all by helping us with greater understanding, filling in the gaps or unclear aspect left by lecture, as well as giving advice about how to approach the readings and tests. A 10/10 TA.”
- “I very much enjoyed Dyuti and his way of teaching. It made me want to come to class on a Friday morning. Discussions were fun and engaging. I enjoyed working in small groups because I was then more confident about talking with the larger group, and it helped me make a couple of friends who I could text if I needed anything. Dyuti is my favorite TA I have had so far, and I am excited to take Politics of Western Europe with him next semester.”
- lecture, and discussions really helped reinforce my learning in what is a very difficult class to wrap your head around as far as some of the course material goes. He was a fantastic TA and was very responsive to our feedback, always letting us know we could reach out through anonymous feedback on collab or directly through email. He was also very encouraging on participation, and made a point to leave encouraging feedback on our midterms.”

Anonymous student comments on how the instructor created an environment that welcomed diverse perspectives:

- Dyuti did not comment extensively nor pushed his own perspectives to students during controversial topics in class. He heard everyone out, from the right to the left spectrum of politics and broke down each topic for us to learn objectively and why it's important.
- Dyuti ensured that this was a great learning environment for everyone and allowed for a variety of perspectives to be shared while also making the course content the center of our discussions and learning. I looked forward to every discussion and would recommend this class to everyone.
- TA Dyuti created an environment of respected differences and welcome diverse perspectives by letting everyone speak freely without interrupting. He really listened carefully and tried to tie our understandings to the course and the readings. He made sure that every student could vote on what they needed more information about and strived to provide that every meeting.

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PLCP 3110: Politics of Western Europe
University of Virginia, Spring 2022
Instructor Course Evaluation

Question	Average - All Courses (ds3gg Dyutiman Saunik)		Department (POLT)		School (CGAS)	
	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean
The instructor clearly communicated the course schedule and expectations for participation (e.g., readings, discussions).	50	4.74	1691	4.38	33816	4.41
The instructor clearly communicated the course learning objectives.	51	4.75	1687	4.35	33832	4.38
The instructor implemented learning activities and assignments that allowed me to demonstrate understanding of the course material.	51	4.78	1693	4.20	33876	4.26
The instructor provided me prompt and useful feedback on my learning.	50	4.74	1695	4.00	33913	4.04
The instructor provided opportunities for my active participation.	50	4.82	1694	4.33	33882	4.28
The instructor was available to help support my learning.	49	4.73	1688	4.34	33781	4.32
The instructor fostered an environment where I felt valued as an individual and that I belonged in the class.	51	4.75	1697	4.33	33882	4.28
Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	51	4.86	1697	4.37	33863	4.28
The instructor created an environment that respected difference and welcomed diverse perspectives.	51	4.69	1698	4.33	33936	4.24

Anonymous student comments on the instructor:

- “Dyuti Saunik knows how to run a discussion. It was my favorite hour of the week! His energy and enthusiasm for politics would have made a math major interested in the topic. Dyuti was straightforward, to the point, and wasted zero time during discussion. He prepared slides and explanations catered to our needs. Also, Dyuti always brought prompts for a political simulation, which allowed us to see the content of the course in a different light. Some weeks I was FDR in post-war Berlin, and others I was a corrupt Italian politician. Dyuti also made himself available and helpful outside of class, promoting my success in this class. All TA's should take a course called “how to run a discussion” taught by Dyuti. In short, it was an incredible discussion. Thanks Dyuti.”
- “Dyuti has been one of the best TAs I've had. As a teacher, he's incredibly understanding, supportive, and personable, but also clearly knowledgeable and easy to follow. His sections consistently helped me understand the class lectures and readings. I always enjoyed his sections and found it easy to stay engaged, despite the late start time. He also seemed to care about his students and whatever we were struggling with, and made it easy for us to offer feedback, suggestions, or talk with him during office hours.”
- “Dyuti is probably the best TA I've had at UVA. He is so, so committed to making sure that students are learning and feel comfortable in group discussion. He never pressured people to participate by cold calling or anything like that, and after a few weeks in the semester, it felt more natural to participate in the many opportunities he offered. It was so obvious throughout the semester that really cared about each and every one of us: our progress, our learning, and us as people. He also taught the material in an engaging way: part of that was the way he explained things, his sense of humor, and his experience living in Europe that he wove into conversations, and another part of that was the design of the discussions, specifically the simulations he has us do. These simulations involved small groups role playing as different entities in a political context, and by the end of them, the main lessons were always clear. I can't emphasize enough how excellent of an educator and TA Dyuti is.”

Anonymous student comments on how the instructor created an environment that welcomed diverse perspectives:

- “Dyuti always encouraged us all to speak up and share our different thoughts. He seemed very enthusiastic to hear what we had to say. He was especially mindful of the fact that some students were more introverted, which creating a more welcoming environment that allowed more students to share their views.”
- “Dyuti remained neutral when discussing politics and the frameworks in which to think about the political situations, allowing us to speak our minds and come to our own conclusions. Through humor, Dyuti created a safe environment for us to learn and explore the materials and our own views on the topics.”
- “I think Dyuti did a great job of encouraging people to speak their minds and not be afraid of the thoughts or judgments of others so that we could openly discuss opinions and ideas to better understand the content and the assumptions they could bring. Dyuti included the ideas and interests of many different individuals in the class and was always open to hearing from people about their own perspective.”

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PLCP 3110: Politics of Western Europe
University of Virginia, Fall 2022
Instructor Course Evaluation

Question	Average - All Courses (ds3gg Dyutiman Saunik)		Department (POLT)		School (CGAS)	
	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean
The instructor clearly communicated the course schedule and expectations for participation (e.g., readings, discussions).	45	4.76	1840	4.56	35046	4.46
The instructor clearly communicated the course learning objectives.	45	4.78	1842	4.49	35021	4.41
The instructor implemented learning activities and assignments that allowed me to demonstrate understanding of the course material.	45	4.82	1840	4.36	35011	4.31
The instructor provided me prompt and useful feedback on my learning.	45	4.76	1845	4.22	35011	4.12
The instructor provided opportunities for my active participation.	45	4.82	1841	4.39	34996	4.32
The instructor was available to help support my learning.	45	4.84	1838	4.47	34982	4.39
The instructor fostered an environment where I felt valued as an individual and that I belonged in the class.	45	4.80	1841	4.44	34989	4.35
Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	45	4.84	1844	4.44	35007	4.34
The instructor created an environment that respected difference and welcomed diverse perspectives.	45	4.82	1839	4.42	34995	4.30

Anonymous student comments on the instructor:

- “Dyuti is without a doubt the best TA I've had at UVA, and there's not enough praise I could give him for really making this course enjoyable while also engaging. In lectures, the powerpoints were filled with words, definitions, and concepts, but in discussion with Dyuti, they were brought to life with real-time examples and stories! Each week, Dyuti somehow had an analogy, a simulation, or a story that represented the content discussed in lecture that helped us understand the material so much more. Outside of the classroom walls, Dyuti was extremely responsive in his emails, his feedback on our assignments, and our one on one time in office hours. Introductory courses are my least favorite due to their broad nature, and a lot of this material was already information I had learned previously, but after having Dyuti as my TA, I can say that this has been my favorite 1010 course I've taken at UVA. The idea of international relations is so much more intriguing when I think about it in the way Dyuti has presented it to us, and I'm so excited to hopefully take more discussions with him in the future and just hear what he has to say on these topics. Rather than just giving us additional readings and answering discussion posts, Dyuti enlightened us with details and stories of his own life that — again — really added spark and life into the otherwise mundane material we got through readings and lectures. Dyuti was personable, engaging, exciting, understanding, and extremely intelligent on all things international relations. 10/10 !!”
- “I don't think any other teachers in my whole life, maybe besides a few, explained concepts as well as Dyuti. He was relatable, funny, made the discussion super enjoyable, and so extremely thoughtful — you could tell he truly cares. He sent me the longest email regarding my anxiety of speaking during discussion (which ended up not being a problem because of the positive atmosphere he created in class) and how I could get through it. He then sent a long follow up at the end of the semester telling me how much I'd improved. I actually looked forward to going to class every week because of how relatable Dyuti was. He would tell us these stories that related to IR that would have me completely enthralled and on the edge of my seat. I learned more and got more out of discussion than lecture because of his fascinating way of explaining things.”

Anonymous student comments on how the instructor created an environment that welcomed diverse perspectives:

- “Dyuti created an environment that respected diverse purpose in many ways. He often prefaced any statement by making further discussion open ended, for example “... but this is not the only way to think about it... or there is no right answer here.” Moreover, he allowed everyone to express their viewpoints in a multitude of ways without any form of judgement. The class environment was very friendly and not “stuffy.”
- “There was a diverse range of student perspectives in the class, from liberal to conservative and capitalist to socialist viewpoints about international relations. Every discussion class, Dyuti Saunik would allow us to have full class discussions to answer course related questions, and we were all able to voice our opinions or debate amongst each other without any disapproval from him. Also, Dyuti Saunik remained impartial or vague about his own opinions and viewpoints — an important way of making us have our own critical thinking and develop our own diverse opinions.”

PLAP 3350: American Congress
University of Virginia, Fall 2025
Instructor Course Evaluation

Question	Average - All Courses (ds3gg Dyuti Saunik)		Department (POLT)		School (CGAS)	
	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean	Response Count	Mean
The instructor clearly communicated the course schedule and expectations for participation (e.g., readings, discussions).	27	4.93	1299	4.54	41978	4.44
The instructor clearly communicated the course learning objectives.	27	4.89	1296	4.49	41931	4.38
The instructor implemented learning activities and assignments that allowed me to demonstrate understanding of the course material.	27	4.93	1299	4.38	41915	4.30
The instructor provided me prompt and useful feedback on my learning.	27	4.81	1299	4.19	41911	4.07
The instructor provided opportunities for my active participation.	27	4.89	1301	4.45	41902	4.32
The instructor was available to help support my learning.	27	4.96	1296	4.45	41889	4.35
The instructor fostered an environment where I felt valued as an individual and that I belonged in the class.	27	4.93	1297	4.43	41907	4.33
Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	26	4.96	1298	4.45	41925	4.31
The instructor created an environment that respected difference and welcomed diverse perspectives.	26	4.88	1297	4.41	41891	4.30

Anonymous student comments on the instructor:

- “Dyuti is extremely engaged, cares about us as students, and wants us to learn the course material and get something meaningful out of the course. I found our professor to be discouraging at times, whereas Dyuti was the opposite and was looking out for us as students. Each class, we had an in-class activity where we applied what we learned either from readings or lectures. These activities were extremely engaging and creatively allowed us to learn the material. In every discussion, I found myself wanting to stay longer, despite the 7:00 pm class time, because it was so interesting. Overall, I think every single TA at the University can learn a lot from Dyuti and how he structures his discussions.”
- “Dyuti shows genuine care about both the material and the students, and the passion he has for the success of his students is unmatched. Dyuti took time outside of what he was required to provide assistance for both the final and the midterm, where most TAs I've had shy away during that week. Dyuti spent each week exploring the course content beyond the surface-level understanding required for the course, encouraging critical thinking and connections across the entire course. You could tell Dyuti actually cared about the material and didn't want us just memorizing concepts but actually connecting lectures with the readings and creating a full understanding of the concepts. I cannot express how much Dyuti improved my experience in this course, creating a more connected, exciting, and enlightening experience”.
- “Dyuti was probably the best TA I have ever had during a course here at UVA. He was incredibly welcoming to each student's perspectives and encouraged active participation from everyone, believing that each person had something valuable to contribute. At the very beginning of the course, he reiterated this encouragement to participate and continued it throughout the entire course. He was very helpful to anyone who had questions or concerns and never disrespected anyone's opinions or inputs. He urged everyone to contribute to class discussion and offered valuable insights to not only the course content, but to life as well.”

Anonymous student comments on how the instructor created an environment that welcomed diverse perspectives:

- “Dyuti encouraged the ambitious ideas. He specifically asked for people to argue other sides and bring in diverse perspectives. He made it very clear there were no wrong opinions, and he did a fantastic job of not showing any of his own biases, which is rare in a political course.”
- “Dyuti allowed us all to explore the content and information and develop our own opinions on it all well as debate ideas as a group. He made a point to encourage us to develop our ideas without inserting his own opinions. He welcomed all perspectives and often encouraged us to share more ‘out there’ ideas, emphasizing that there were no wrong answers and promoted creativity.”
- “Dyuti always encouraged each of his students to participate, recognized that some of us would be less inclined to participate and then provided strategies for us to be involved. I appreciated his encouragement to be active in discussion and he always took what everyone said equally.”

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PLIR 2020: Foreign Policy of the Powers
University of Virginia, Spring 2026
Instructor Course Evaluation

Table 1: Aggregated Instructor Evaluation: PLIR 2020, Foreign Policy of the Powers, Spring 2026

Question	This Course		All Courses		Department		School	
	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean
The instructor clearly communicated the course schedule and expectations for participation, e.g., readings, discussions.	37	4.78	37	4.78	1223	4.54	35496	4.44
The instructor clearly communicated the course learning objectives.	37	4.70	37	4.70	1223	4.49	35457	4.39
The instructor implemented learning activities and assignments that allowed me to demonstrate understanding of the course material.	36	4.75	36	4.75	1221	4.37	35435	4.34
The instructor provided me prompt and useful feedback on my learning.	37	4.76	37	4.76	1219	4.24	35441	4.15
The instructor provided opportunities for my active participation.	37	4.89	37	4.89	1220	4.43	35422	4.36
The instructor was available to help support my learning.	37	4.81	37	4.81	1219	4.46	35404	4.38
The instructor fostered an environment where I felt valued as an individual and that I belonged in the class.	37	4.87	37	4.86	1221	4.45	35412	4.36
Overall, the instructor was an effective teacher.	37	4.95	37	4.95	1220	4.47	35430	4.33
The instructor created an environment that respected difference and welcomed diverse perspectives.	37	4.95	37	4.95	1221	4.45	35420	4.33

Note: This table is an instructor-created aggregate based on three official University of Virginia section-level evaluation reports for PLIR 2020: Foreign Policy of the Powers, Spring 2026. Response counts are summed across the three discussion sections. Means for "This Course" are weighted by section response count. Department and school comparison figures are reproduced from the official section-level reports.

Anonymous student comments on the instructor:

- "Dyuti was an incredible TA. I wish more TAs and professors taught as he did. Every activity, every slide, and everything done in discussion had clear applications to the course, course exams, the real world, and my future career in the federal government."
- "Very engaging and insightful experience. Critical questions raised and the use of current political examples and news further interested me in the topic and helped my learning in terms of real world applicability."
- "This was the most engaging and helpful discussion I have had at UVA. Dyuti was a fantastic TA and his in-class activities really helped me to understand the material better; plus, they kept me engaged in class."
- "As someone who was originally apprehensive about taking an IR course, I found that Dyuti excellently explained complicated topics in a very engaging way."

Anonymous student comments on how the instructor created an environment that welcomed diverse perspectives:

- "In politics classes, it can be hard to remain unbiased. However, Dyuti encouraged all perspectives in a way that eliminated course biases. I could not even tell you what his opinions are, which says a lot about how much he remains unbiased in class."
- "He never imposed his opinion on the course material. He opened up discussion to the whole class and encouraged us to take 'wild' positions and play devil's advocate. He pushed us to strengthen our analysis and constructively poke holes in each others' arguments."
- "Dyuti was very understanding of more introverted students, offering them advice on how to be more comfortable with in-class participation and focusing on growth throughout the semester."
- "He actively put us into groups to discuss different perspectives and come up with reasoning for them, then explain the perspectives to the rest of the class. We often debated political, economic, and security matters from different perspectives in order to understand each of them."

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POL 147: Democracy, Institutions, and Citizenship
ISM University of Management and Economics
Instructor Course Evaluation



Vincents Vobolevičius
Student feedback for Spring 2024
To: Dyuti Saunik

August 24, 2024 at 6:30 AM

Dear Dyuti,

I hope that you had a good summer and are ready for the Fall semester!

I'm writing with a brief update about students' feedback, concerning your Democracy, Institutions, and Citizenship course. (And apologies for not writing sooner – I was on vacation when the feedback arrived).

In short, students are very satisfied with both the content of the subject and with your teaching. Your overall evaluation score is an impressive 4,83 out of 5. Thank you very much for that!

Underscoring students' satisfaction, there were NO negative comments in the "open-ended" section of the survey. Here's just one of the typical comments:

- I really enjoyed the simulations—they were highly effective at conveying a particular point. It's one thing to understand something in theory, but it's quite another to "experience" a specific situation or mindset, even if it's simulated. The lecturer was great — enthusiastic about the subject and enjoyable to listen to. The class was engaging and interactive. Felt more like a discussion than a class, which is great :)

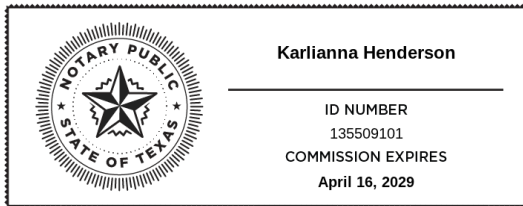
Thank you very much once again, and I really hope that I'll see you at ISM again sometime in a medium future.

Wishing you a nice end of summer and a good semester ahead,

Vincents

Dyutiman Saunik

06/09/2026



State of Texas

County of Amarillo

Karlianna Henderson

On this date 06/09/2026, I certify that this is a true and correct copy of a document
in the possession of Dyutiman Saunik dated 6/9/26.

Electronically signed and notarized online using the Proof platform.

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