Louise-Hélène Filion: Teaching Evaluations

Notes: Below are summaries of the teaching evaluations I received at the University of Michigan in 2022, 2021, 2020, and 2019, and at Saarland University in 2018 and 2013. The full versions of the evaluations can be made available on request. Evaluations originally in German are in certified English translation from Toronto-based translator Linda Hilpold. Comments originally in French were retained as such. All student comments have been reproduced verbatim, except when translated from German. All University of Michigan evaluations work on a scale of 1 to 5: 1 = Strongly Disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Agree, and 5 = Strongly Agree. Comparative university-wide scores for Saarland University for 2018 are unavailable. For the comparative statistics for Saarland university 2013, the reference group was 48 seminars that were offered in the Romance Languages and Literatures Department in the summer semester 2013. The evaluation scale was from 1 ("completely" or "absolutely," highest possible score) to 5 ("not at all," lowest possible score); This was also the first university class I ever taught.

University of Michigan Fall 2022, Course: "Intensive French 2" Evaluation Response Rate: 77.77%		
Bullet Point Scores	**My Score**	**University Median**
"This course advanced my understanding of the subject matter."	4.8	4.5
"My interest in the subject has increased because of this course."	4.6	4.2
"I knew what was expected of me in this course."	4.8	4.6
Sample student comments		

"Louise-Hélène was a great instructor. I thought that she dealt with the class well as we discussed difficult yet important topics in a foreign language. She was patient with us and corrected us when need be."

"Louise Hélène is an incredible instructor and was always very helpful and kind. She helped me feel very comfortable and was a breath of fresh air in a course that brought me a lot of anxiety and stress. Not only did she help me improve immensely in my French, but she made class stress-free and enjoyable...The atmosphere in her class was very calming, which was vital to my success in the class, and she was a good facilitator for our discussion section on controversial topics. She would frequently check in with us to make sure she wasn't talking too fast or to see if we needed her to do anything differently...In one-on-one meetings with her, she was always very encouraging to me even though I struggled very much in this class, and assured me that I was doing okay, which I appreciated very much...I cannot say enough good things about her."

"Louise-Hélène was an absolutely brilliant teacher and I feel lucky to have had her. Her dedication to teaching was evident and she was equally encouraging and critical when necessary. She was very approachable and I always looked forward to her class. I have a lot of respect for her and hope to take another class with her one day."

University of Michigan Fall 2022, Course: "Elementary French" Evaluation Response Rate: 100%		
Bullet Point Scores	**My Score**	**University Median**
"This course advanced my understanding of the subject matter."	5.0	4.5
"Louise-Hélène Filion seemed well prepared for class meetings."	4.9	4.8
"Louise-Hélène Filion treated students with respect."	5.0	4.8
Sample student comments		

"This was a fantastic class. I came into the class knowing absolutely nothing about French, but I felt supported the entire semester and learned a ton! Louise-Helene was always available to help, she went out of her way to make sure I was getting the support I needed and help me improve my skill set. Her classes were always fun, she provided a variety of different activities and learning tools to help us learn and make an engaging environment. She cultivated a safe space where we were all invited and encouraged on a regular basis to step out of our comfort zone and participate in different ways."

"An excellent and speedy intro to French, the class kept at a steady pace and the acquisition of comprehension and usage skills seemed shockingly fast. The methods used are very effective! Thoroughly enjoyed it and look forward to more French."

"Madame Louise [sic] was very efficient in explaining course materials to us and making sure we understood given tasks. She was very patient with us all and made it clear she was always available if we had any questions. I found the one-on-one sessions most helpful because I was given an idea of where I was in class – what I needed to improve on, my strengths and aspects I needed more work on. With Madame Louise's helpful nature and various activities to help us remember concepts, it made this class very entertaining and enjoyable."

University of Michigan Fall 2021, Course: "Intensive French 2" Evaluation Response Rate: 66.66%		
Bullet Point Scores	**My Score**	**University Median**
"This course advanced my understanding of the subject matter."	4.9	4.5
"My interest in the subject has increased because of this course."	4.7	4.2
"Louise-Hélène Filion seemed well prepared for class meetings."	5.0	4.8
Sample student comments		

"Louise-Helene [sic] is an incredible teacher with clear excitement for the subject! This was a difficult class, but Louise-Helen [sic] understood that and was very forgiving and accepting of our mistakes. She was really good about making accommodations based on the needs of the students and asked many questions to make sure her instruction was helpful for us."

> "The structure of this course is very clever and I enjoyed the way the textbook was used. The readings were never too hard, but they did force me to think."

> "This course was excellent, Louise-Hélène treated us with respect and conducted discussions in a way that enhanced our understanding of topics in francophone countries. She was very good and I have thoroughly enjoyed the course. She speaks somewhat fast sometimes but is aware of this and will repeat herself if we do not understand."

University of Michigan, Winter 2021, Course: RCLANG 320 Readings in French – "Migrant Writing in Quebec," Evaluation Response Rate: 100 %		
Bullet Point Comments	**My Score**	**University Median**
"Overall, this was an excellent course."	4.5	4.4
"Overall, Louise-Hélène Filion was an excellent teacher."	4.8	4.7
"Louise-Hélène Filion seemed well prepared for class meetings."	5.0	4.8
Sample Student Comments		

> "Prof. Loise Helene [sic] is always prepared for class and is really supportive and understanding. She expects a good performance from her students but not unreasonably since she also works hard to improve her teaching style and approach using our feedback. She's clearly passionate about the topic and takes it and our opinions and comments seriously. She provides great feedback on our work, my speaking and writing as well as my analysis of French text greatly improved with her help."

> "Louise-Hélène is a great teacher. She is very prepared and the classes are always interesting and engaging. Her homework assignments were also interesting and suited our level of French. She also listened to student feedback which was great. She was also very supportive and understanding of time conflicts, and also accessible over email and office hours."

> "I think the topic of this course was not only super unique, but definitely something that is complicated to teach to people that don't fully understand the language. I think Louise-Helene did a really good job at finding the balance where she was pushing us and expanding our French while still having reasonable expectations and not pushing us too hard."

University of Michigan, Fall 2020, Course: RCLANG 290 "Intensive French 2," Evaluation Response Rate: 77.77%		
Bullet Point Comments	**My Score**	**University Median**
"This course advanced my understanding of the subject matter."	4.8	4.6
"Louise-Hélène Filion treated students with respect."	5.0	4.9
"Louise-Hélène Filion set high standards for students."	4.8	4.5
Sample student comments		

"Louise-Helene [sic] is the best instructor anyone could have for this course. She is patient and understanding and always comes to class with a smile. She is always prepared for class and her instructions are clear. I really appreciated how she had a detailed lesson plan for each day. The content of the class does not only focus on France like most French classes, but she tries to bring in other French-speaking regions as well. She clearly cares about her students and the quality of instruction, for she made sure to work on her habit of speaking quickly for the sake of our understanding and welcomed our feedback whenever we had any challenges in the class."

"While this class didn't work particularly well online, Louise-Helene was a fabulous instructor who always wanted to help students. She was easy to understand, constructive, and supportive of us. Whenever conversation stalled, she stepped in to continue dialogue. She is an excellent instructor and I think she did the best that was possible, given circumstance over zoom."

"For being an online discussion course in a foreign language, I don't think it could have been much better than this. Good instruction!"

"Louise-Hélène was an amazing professor, and I have definitely noticed that my French speaking and writing has improved with her help."

"Louise Elen [sic] was a great teacher, very nice and always informed on the subjects we were talking about. She was always prepared and happy."

University of Michigan, Winter 2020, Course: RCLANG 290 "Intensive French 2," Evaluation Response Rate: 84.62%		
Bullet Point Comments	*My Score*	*University Median*
"This course advanced my understanding of the subject matter."	4.6	4.5
"Louise-Helene Filion seemed well prepared for class meetings."	4.8	4.8
Sample student comments (responding to instructor-added question on how she adapted course to online format due to COVID-19 disruptions and how supportive she was in the process)		

"She absolutely did her best to prioritize our learning and remained positive and open to feedback. She was also very patient."

"LH clearly worked really hard to make our transition as seamless as possible and I really appreciate that. Frequently, she would take time during discussion or lunch French 'language tables' on Zoom to make sure that what she was doing was actually beneficial, and always seemed willing to receive feedback. I also appreciated that she was very transparent about the difficulties that professors had in adapting class because it removed some of the frustrations that we would have had, and in turn made the environment more understanding."

"Absolutely, it took less than two days for us to move almost seamlessly online and she did a really good job at giving us plenty of activities to do so that we didn't have lulls in the class, plus she was always actively engaged in our conversations."

"Absolutely. She did everything she could and was very patient and compassionate."

"Yes, I think she adapted the course to the best of her ability and was very supportive to students. She was understanding and flexible. She was willing to admit when something didn't work and try something new."

"Yes, Louise Helene did an amazing job converting our class online."

University of Michigan, Fall 2019, Course: RCLANG 190, "Intensive French 1," Evaluation Response Rate: 100%		
Bullet Point Comments	**My Score**	**University Median**
"My interest in the subject has increased because of this course."	4.6	4.2
"Overall, this was an excellent course."	4.6	4.2
"Louise-Hélène Filion set high standards for students."	4.7	4.4
Sample student comments		

"Louise Helen [sic] was a great instructor for my Discussion. Being that French is her first language she could explain topics from the perspective of a native speaker. She always gave good feedback on my writing. We always had fun discussions in class and now I feel there are things about French culture I can better understand…This class was a vital part of my French comprehension and Louise Helen did such a good job leading it."

"Louise-Helene was a great discussion instructor, especially considering that this was her first time teaching in America. She always worked with the specific needs of each student and reached out to us when she noticed a hurdle in our understanding. She provided us with adequate materials, fun lesson plans and activities and was overall just a great contribution to my learning experience."

"Louise-Hélène was always very invested in insuring our understanding of the material, and she redeveloped her teaching methods when needed."

"Louise Helene is a passionate and inspiring teacher and my overall takeaway from class is always positive."

"Louise-Hélène is an amazing instructor who seems passionate about what she is teaching. I thoroughly enjoyed her class."

"She is genuinely kind, supportive, and constructive person and instructor. She deserves a raise and I appreciated her class immensely."

Saarland University, Spring/Summer 2018, Course: Oral Communication (French): Immersion and Mock Exams, Evaluation Response Rate: 100%		
Bullet Point Scores	**Percentage of students answering "completely" or "absolutely"**	**Percentage of students answering "rather"**
"My expectations regarding the course were met:"	83.33	16.67
"I would recommend the course to others"	83.33	16.67
Sample student comments		
"Ms. Filion was always very keen and ready to help. Moreover, she created a pleasant working environment in her course, so that you felt very comfortable as a student."		
"Très bien organisé. Les lessons étaient très complétes, justement un peu plus de discussion."		
""Bonne structure, bonne ambiance."		
Ms. Filion was a competent teacher who always made us better and gave us tips. = offering a mock exam to find out if you're 'good enough' for the exam."		

Saarland University Spring/Summer 2013, Course: "L'écriture migrante au Québec" Evaluation Response Rate: 71.43%		
Bullet Point Scores	**Percentage of students answering "completely" or "absolutely"**	**Percentage of students answering "rather"**
"I was motivated to think during the seminar."	80.00	20.00
"I would recommend the course to others."	80.00	20.00
Note: My seminar obtained global grades of 1.43 and 1.4 (where 1 is the highest and 5 the lowest scores awardable) compared to the departmental mean average of 2.0 and 1.85 respectively.		
Sample student comments		
"Praise: A wonderful selection of literature."		
"The preparation was interesting and, since the group was small, the discussions were good."		
"Energetic and interesting professor. Thank you!"		