





Yale University OCE Dashboard

Term	Course	Primary Dept	Primary Division	Enrolled:	14
Fall 2015	DRST 005 06 - DirectedStud:History&Politics	DRST	Humanities	Responded:	14

Instructors

Cammack, Daniela (P)

Average and Standard Deviation							
#	Question	Instructor	Course	Dept.	Division	School	
1	Looking back on DRST 005 06, what is your overall assessment of the course? What are its strengths and weaknesses, and in what ways might it be improved?	Cammack, Daniela				Narrative	
2	Please evaluate each instructor of DRST 005 06 . What are the instructor's strengths and weaknesses, and in what ways might his or her teaching be improved?	Cammack, Daniela				Narrative	
3	How would you summarize DRST 005 06 for a fellow student? Would you recommend DRST 005 06 to another student? Why or why not?	Cammack, Daniela				Narrative	
4	Overall, how would you rate the workload of this course in comparison to other Yale courses you have taken? <i>1-Much Less, 2-Less, 3-Same, 4-Greater, 5-Much Greater</i>	Cammack, Daniela	3.9±0.8	3.8±0.6	3.2±0.9	3.1±1.0	
5	What is your overall assessment of this course? <i>1-Poor, 2-Below Average, 3-Good, 4-Very Good, 5-Excellent</i>	Cammack, Daniela	4.9±0.4	4.3±0.8	4.1±0.9	3.8±1.0	
6	Do you expect to use this class for credit toward your major, or toward a pre-professional program? <i>1-Yes, 2-No</i>	Cammack, Daniela	1.4±0.5	1.5±0.5	1.6±0.5	1.4±0.5	
7	Do you expect to use this class for credit toward the Yale College distributional requirements? <i>1-Yes, 2-No</i>	Cammack, Daniela	1.0±0.0	1.1±0.2	1.6±0.5	1.6±0.5	

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Instructors

Cammack, Daniela

Looking back on DRST 005 06, what is your overall assessment of the course? What are its strengths and weaknesses, and in what ways might it be improved?

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 3

Respondent	Answer
947220	DS History and Politics is a great course. Discussions were really rewarding and I always looked forward to going to class. I liked how we started each section with a quick background and then dived into the text.
950598	Overall I found this directed studies course fantastic. The material we covered, while dense, was carefully selected in a way that allowed for optimal engagement and cumulative learning. Beyond this, the structure of the course, like the other DS classes, was a good balance. I found that through the combination of lectures and discussion sections I came to have a good understanding of the material and developed speaking and writing skills. On the other hand, I found one of the course's weaknesses to be the pace and volume. Sometimes only one discussion section was spent on an entire book. In reading so many different authors, depth of engagement with some texts had to be sacrificed.
952711	Intense, fast-paced, well-structured and well-timed, but this section in particular required more work than usual because of mandatory paragraph responses...additional homework (apart from essays) should be more standardized across sections
969619	It was my absolute favorite class in DS. The content is obviously amazing (Tacitus was the greatest!), and the class atmosphere was by far the best among the three sections I have had. I do not enjoy the fast pace of the course which I think limits the depth of my understanding for the material. However I think that is just the curse of DS.
969971	I would only ask for more time to read the very sophisticated texts on the syllabus.
970293	This course was excellent. I thought that the chosen texts and organization of the semester was great overall, except I think we should have spent one less week on Plato in order to spend more time on Polybius.
970594	The Fall History and Political Thought course was an altogether strong and satisfying experience for me, both as a student and individual. While I felt like in some cases the texts were not as strong or gripping as the texts in the other two DS courses, the H&P texts that were powerful were the most influential in my thinking overall for the semester. I attribute this mainly to the quality of Prof. Cammack's teaching, and especially her approach to the texts. In terms of pacing of the readings and papers, I think H&P was also perhaps the most successful DS class. Overall, H&P was the most important class I've taken at Yale so far, in terms of my growth as a student; in many ways, the class grounded and connected the other two DS classes for me by opening an avenue of political/sociopolitical/power-dynamics-based interpretation. Again, I think this was more a virtue of Prof. Cammack's approach, and less an inherent quality of the course, though.
970690	H&P was my favorite DS Class. Maybe it was because I went into DS as a major fan of both history and politics or perhaps because I had the privilege of being in Professor Cammack's sections. Either way, I thoroughly enjoyed the texts, which were fantastic. The theological texts were a little harder for me to accept, and perhaps there is a way of adding some background in order to make it easier for students to better understand the catholic texts. H&P is the DS class that needs the least amount of improvements in my opinion.

Respondent	Answer
970880	<p>The course is excellent. Its strengths include the breadth and the sections, which were wonderful for providing historical perspective and helping form connections between works. The weaknesses include a lack of context when we explored political theory--it would have been helpful to know a bit more about general Italian views on Roman virtues while reading Machiavelli, for example. While most of the works we read indirectly show us the psychology of the people at the times, a number of them are controversial, and although it does help greatly to know that some authors were exiled, it would be beneficial if we could explore exactly where the controversy stemmed.</p>
971089	<p>I think that Professor Cammack was a great teacher and I appreciated her approach to teaching the class. I thought that forums before class were a good idea. She is very knowledgeable about what she teaches.</p>
972043	<p>H&P was my favorite section out of all 3 DS sections. I really enjoyed the class, and I always walked out of our section feeling that I really learned something more about the readings. Everyone had good comments and thoughts to contribute that they had already developed prior to the section because of the required reading response, and because of that our discussions were always lively and intellectually stimulating. Our sections were overall very effective and extremely helpful. I also remember in my very first office hour meeting with Professor Cammack I posed her the question what the DS H&P class sought to accomplish and what it was meant to do for students, because I felt very confused about what the class exactly was. The class is officially called Historical and Political Thought, but I wondered how much of the class was meant to focus on teaching the history of the Western civilization, as well as how much of the class was devoted to the study of historiography versus study of politics and political thought. Such were my doubts and my confusion about the class in the beginning of the semester. After having completed the semester and done all the readings, I feel that I now have a better understanding of what the class was meant to be for us, and I think Professor Cammack was crucial in providing me with the essential knowledge of Western historical and political thought and in helping me become a more effective writer on history and politics.</p>

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Instructors

Cammack, Daniela

Please evaluate each instructor of DRST 005 06 . What are the instructor's strengths and weaknesses, and in what ways might his or her teaching be improved?

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 1

Respondent	Answer
942452	<p>The Directed Studies website and representatives will tell you that this program affords students the opportunity to work with the best teachers at Yale. Professor Cammack isn't actually a faculty member (Yale's loss!), but she certainly exemplifies this claim. She supplements her astounding depth of knowledge with personability, a quick wit, and attention to making every student feel engaged. I have rarely enjoyed a class so much.</p>
947220	<p>Professor Cammack is easily the best instructor I have ever had. She was very dedicated to the course and she probably enjoyed teaching it just as much as we did participating in it. She really encouraged class discussions by having us formulate our thoughts beforehand in an online forum and then referring to those during the class. I also appreciated the detailed background she provided for each author and the times the author lived in so that we could try to understand the text even better in its context. Something else I liked is that she was always insightful in her interventions in the discussion but she made sure to allow everyone who had something to say a fair amount of participation, even if that meant allowing us to interrupt her thoughts. You could really tell she cared about being a great instructor because she asked us to evaluate her in the middle of the semester so that she could alter her teaching style if necessary. She was always happy to receive us in her office hours whether they were for help with assignments and things about the course or about college life in general. It was also nice that she encouraged us to make connections between ancient thinkers and more modern history. I am sad that Professor Cammack is only visiting Yale for a year from Harvard and Yale should definitely do everything they can to keep her teaching on campus!</p>
950598	<p>Professor Cammack must be one of the best DS professors that taught this semester. She shared her wealth of knowledge on ancient historical and political thought with the class in a way that was both welcoming and thought provoking. She provided excellent feedback on papers and was always available to discuss ideas for essays. As a result, I felt as though I was able to grow in confidence throughout the semester, both in discussion sections and in writing papers.</p>
952711	<p>Amazing professor, always clear friendly and patient, gave important well-appreciated historical context for works, wrote very helpful feedback for essays, but should let different people speak more often, should summarize what was covered in each class (material gets overwhelming sometimes, so much to ponder)</p>
957478	<p>Professor Cammack is incredible! She cares so much about her students and really engages with the material. Her energy is contagious.</p>
969619	<p>Professor Cammack is the most helpful, kindest professor I had this term. She is also very knowledgeable and held her students up to a high standard. I definitely feel like I improved by the end of the term.</p>
969971	<p>I thought she was terrific -- willing to furnish historical context, a fair grader, great at asking questions, etc.</p>

Respondent	Answer
970293	<p>Professor Cammack is absolutely brilliant. She leads class discussions with enthusiasm and grace. She usually is very knowledgeable about any question we ask, but if she doesn't know something, she would always do research on the topics and come back to the next section with all the answers. Cammack also organized her class very well. Her time management was excellent, so we would always discuss books thoroughly. She also brought out the best in every student in the class, encouraging everyone to speak and not being wholly dismissive of most ideas. Her lecture was brilliant as well. Professor Cammack should keep doing what she is doing. My only complaint is that she isn't a full-time professor at Yale yet!</p>
970594	<p>Prof. Cammack was my best DS teacher and one of the best teachers I've had in my educational career; it is therefore not surprising that she has a certain celebrity status among the DS cohort at large, with even many of my peers who are not in her section coming to her office hours for help. Prof. Cammack instituted an extremely utile forum-based system on classesv2 early on in the year, where before every class each student wrote a thorough reading response asking questions and proposing ideas. Since these responses were visible to all members of the class, it worked both to guide section and facilitate ease of conversation. Prof. Cammack used these responses in tandem with her own exposition and outlining of a large part of the cultural, historical, linguistic, and intellectual background and influence surrounding each text to run each section. Especially with Greek and Roman texts, her command of the material, the language, and the history was impressive and vital to a proper understanding of what was being read. The discussion of The Republic in my philosophy section, while strong, felt insubstantial in comparison to H&P; by pointing to three different greek words that were all translated as "justice" in the english, Prof. Cammack uncovered a Platonic innovation in thought (a connection between two alien notions to the greeks that appeared as the same word in english) that otherwise was completely lost to the class. This was the difference, for me, in terms of really getting what Plato was trying to do in giving a positive defense for justice in the book at large. In more general terms, Prof. Cammack was simultaneously professional and intellectually intimidating while being extraordinarily approachable and helpful with her feedback. Her kindness, her legitimate and authentic care for her students, and her commitment to teaching were unique among my first semester teachers at Yale, and this was a fact unanimously recognized by members of her section outside of class. Prof. Cammack's class has influenced my decision as to which major I plan on pursuing, and is really what made DS worth taking.</p>
970690	<p>I consider myself extremely lucky to have had Professor Cammack for H&P this semester. Her strong grasp of Greek democracy was fabulously helpful in many instances, and the way she participated/organized sections was efficient and effective. Cammack's lecture on Aristotle was THE BEST lecture of the semester: she is famous amongst DS students because of it. There is very little that could be criticized about her class. One thing could be the reading responses, perhaps, which sometimes became the sole topic of discussion in sections, but were otherwise very helpful in starting and guiding discussion. I will always remember my class with Professor Cammack as my best for freshman fall.</p>
970880	<p>Professor Cammack is absolutely delightful! She's clearly passionate about her subject and teaching us. We could see her enthusiasm from the first day, when she was smiling as she wrote down our impressions of Herodotus. Her essay evaluations helped me to consider my topics from a more holistic viewpoint. Professor Cammack is amazing!</p>
972043	<p>Professor Cammack was an amazing section professor. She came to section always prepared with a clear idea of what we should discuss, and I love that she always devoted a portion of our time to give us some historical context for the texts that we read. She was very dedicated and determined to help us understand the readings better, and she did a very good job of guiding our discussions so that they continued to be stimulating and so that we touched on almost all important topics from the readings. In particular, I love the times we did close reading together as a class; I think close reading was a very effective way of analyzing important bits in the texts. The readings responses also worked very effectively, and in fact they were my favorite part of our section because everyone came to class prepared with some passage or idea that they wanted to discuss, and there was always something someone else had noticed that I had not caught in my reading. I found my one on one meetings with the professor during office hours very helpful as well, because I came to see her with a pretty well constructed outline of my ideas for my paper and she gave constructive feedback that helped me further concretize my ideas.</p>
990232	<p>I am so glad to have had Professor Cammack for this semester of Directed Studies: History & Politics! She is an excellent professor and I'd recommend her classes to anyone! She was very understanding and helpful, willing to work with students and meet to discuss essays. I especially liked how Professor Cammack required students to submit (informal) reading responses, which she then incorporated into classes, often using our questions to form an agenda for discussions. This gave students opportunity to discuss what we found interesting or were passionate about as well as teaching us to think critically about texts outside of the classroom.</p>

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Instructors

Cammack, Daniela

How would you summarize DRST 005 06 for a fellow student? Would you recommend DRST 005 06 to another student? Why or why not?

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 6

Respondent	Answer
947220	Professor Cammack is easily the best instructor I have ever had. She was very dedicated to the course and she probably enjoyed teaching it just as much as we did participating in it. She really encouraged class discussions by having us formulate our thoughts beforehand in an online forum and then referring to those during the class. I also appreciated the detailed background she provided for each author and the times the author lived in so that we could try to understand the text even better in its context. Something else I liked is that she was always insightful in her interventions in the discussion but she made sure to allow everyone who had something to say a fair amount of participation, even if that meant allowing us to interrupt her thoughts. You could really tell she cared about being a great instructor because she asked us to evaluate her in the middle of the semester so that she could alter her teaching style if necessary. She was always happy to receive us in her office hours whether they were for help with assignments and things about the course or about college life in general. It was also nice that she encouraged us to make connections between ancient thinkers and more modern history. I definitely recommend taking any of her classes!
950598	DS is something that is not for everybody; some people certainly enjoy it more than others. However, for anyone that has a love of reading and is interested in learning a lot and growing a lot, I would certainly recommend DS. The course is challenging at times, but overall very enjoyable.
952711	You will learn SO MUCH in this fast-paced, energetic environment. I would recommend this section for sure, because the professor is incredible. Sometimes, things can get a bit overwhelming...Don't be afraid to ask questions.
969619	Great course for those who enjoy the content area, and professor Cammack is absolutely amazing to have for the course.
969971	It's a perfect course for anyone interested in politics, a great survey of some of the most important early thinkers.
970293	This course is an intensive survey of great works of historical and political thought. It is similar to a political philosophy class, but there is more history involved. We read about 200-400 pages a week. In this section, we had paragraph responses due before each class. I would fully recommend this course to another student because I think it forms an excellent foundation for future study in the humanities.
970594	Fall H&P is a survey of Western classical antiquity's understanding of historical and political dynamics; it is the best-paced DS class in terms of the reading and the papers, probably the most important fall DS concentration, and you definitely want to take it with Prof. Cammack.
971089	I would highly recommend it.

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Instructors

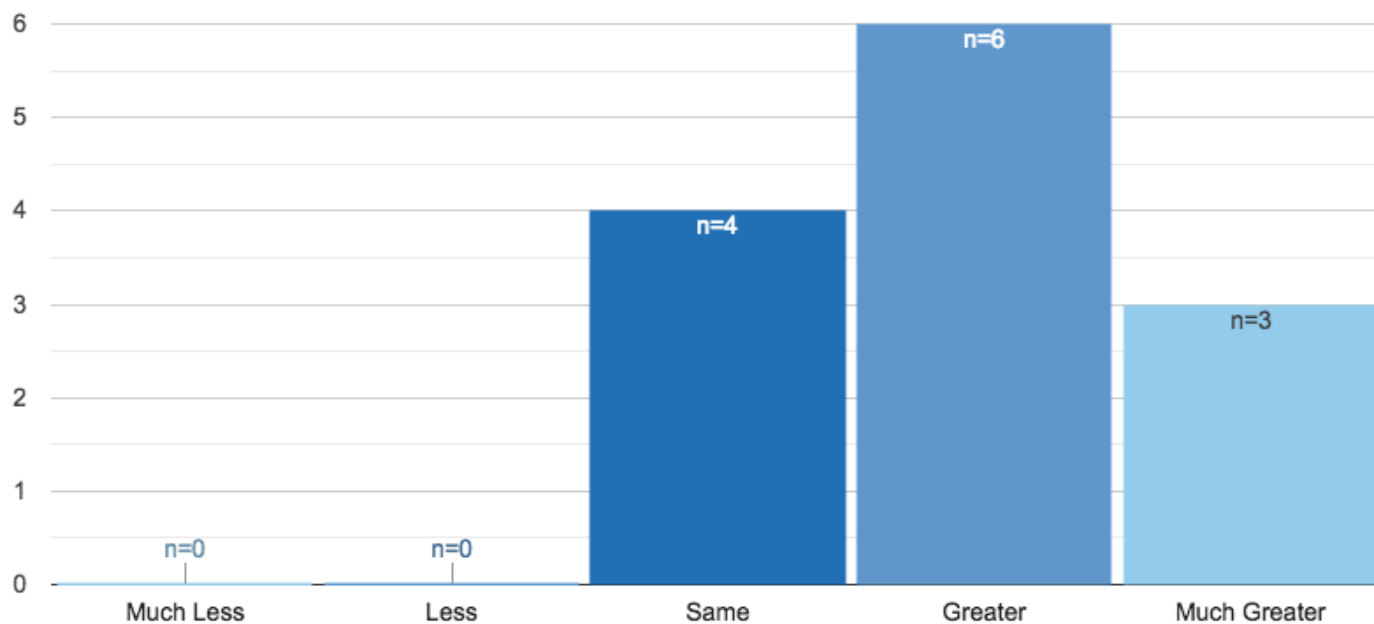
Cammack, Daniela

Overall, how would you rate the workload of this course in comparison to other Yale courses you have taken?

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 1

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
3.9 ±0.8	3.8 ±0.6	3.2 ±0.9	3.1 ±1.0



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Instructors

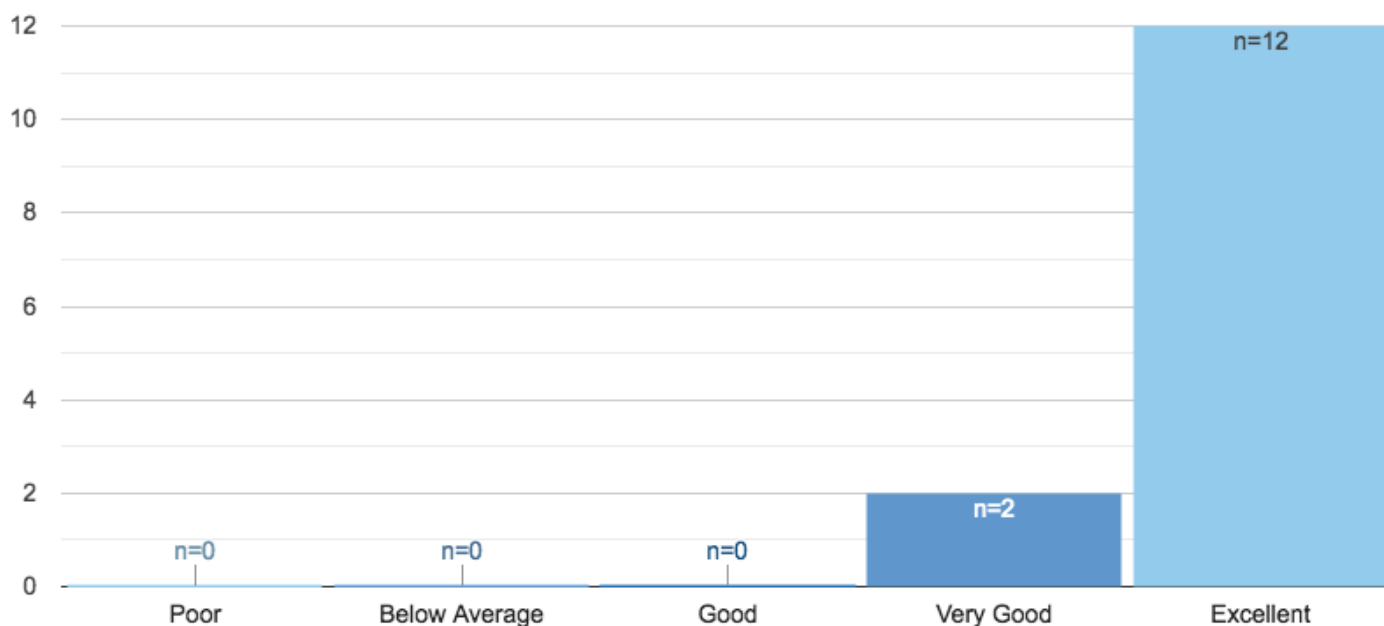
Cammack, Daniela

What is your overall assessment of this course?

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 0

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
4.9 ±0.4	4.3 ±0.8	4.1 ±0.9	3.8 ±1.0



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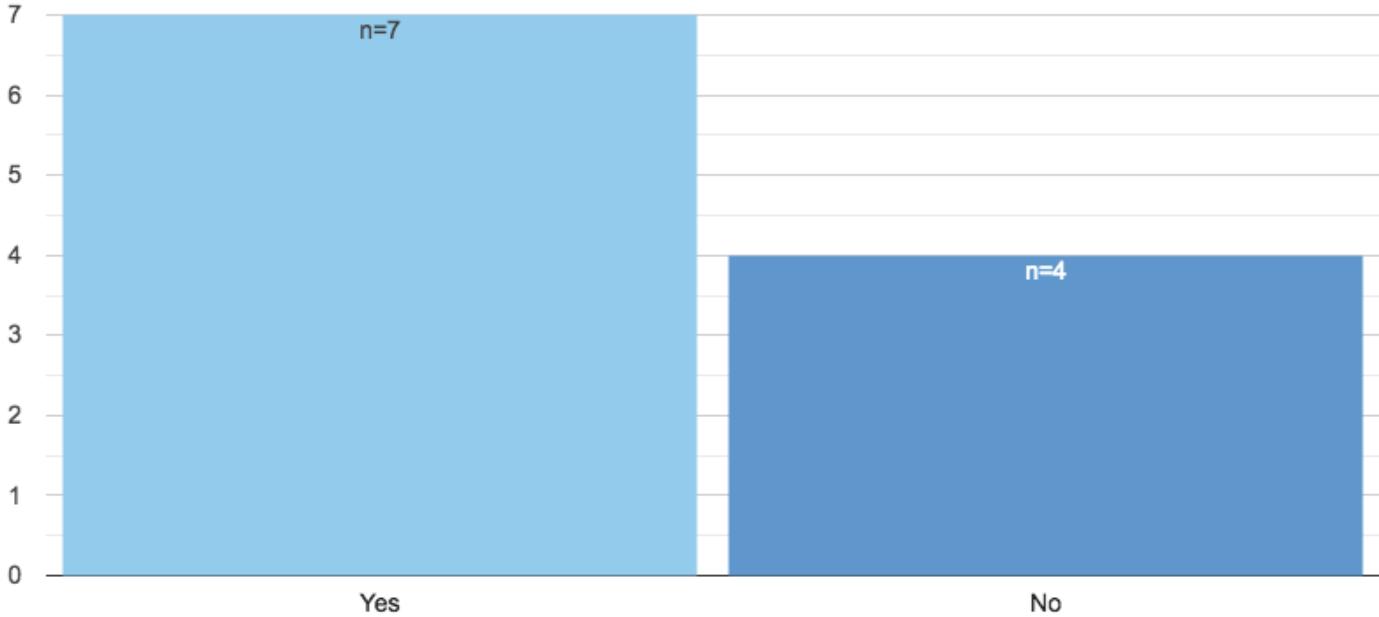
Instructors
Cammack, Daniela

Do you expect to use this class for credit toward your major, or toward a pre-professional program?

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 3

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
1.4 ±0.5	1.5 ±0.5	1.6 ±0.5	1.4 ±0.5



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Instructors
Cammack, Daniela

Do you expect to use this class for credit toward the Yale College distributional requirements?

Instructor: Cammack, Daniela

Declined to Answer Question: 1

Question Average	Dept	Div	School
1.0 ±0.0	1.1 ±0.2	1.6 ±0.5	1.6 ±0.5

