

# YALE UNIVERSITY - STUDENT EVALUATIONS

## "MINDS AND BRAINS IN AMERICA" (PSYC 135/CGSC 135/HIST 118/HSHM 216) Professor Henry Cowles

A survey of the science and medicine of mind and brain since 1800. Topics include madness and the asylum; phrenology and psychoanalysis; psychology in politics, law, and advertising; the rise of the "neuro" disciplines; and mental health in public life. Sources from fields such as neurology, physiology, psychology, psychiatry, and philosophy. Readings from works by Darwin, James, Freud, Foucault, Chomsky, and Pinker.

Role: Teaching Assistant  
Sections Taught: 2  
Students: 29

[eval summary](#) [view by respondent](#)

**VIEW BY QUESTION**

### EVALUATION SUMMARY:

ENROLLED: **352**  
RESPONSES: **316**  
DECLINED: **20**  
NO RESPONSE: **16**

**Anne Marie Champagne,  
2015-Fall**

Teaching Fellow  
PSYC 135 01/CGSC 135 01/HIST 118 01/HSHM 216 01  
Minds and Brains in America

#### Q:

Was the relationship between the section (if any) and the course effective, and how could it be improved? What are the strengths and weaknesses of your teaching assistant (discussion section leader, lab section leader, grader or other assistant) as an instructor, and how might his/her teaching be improved? *(Your anonymous response to this question may be viewed only by your instructor(s) and your teaching assistant, and by administrators responsible for evaluating their teaching.)*

## Online Course Evaluations

### 2015-Fall

Teaching Fellow  
PSYC 135 01/CGSC 135 01/HIST 118 01/HSHM 216 01  
Minds and Brains in America

### Q:

Was the relationship between the section (if any) and the course effective, and how could it be improved? What are the strengths and weaknesses of your teaching assistant (discussion section leader, lab section leader, grader or other assistant) as an instructor, and how might his/her teaching be improved? (*Your anonymous response to this question may be viewed only by your instructor(s) and your teaching assistant, and by administrators responsible for evaluating their teaching.*)

### Responses:

#### Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne

Anne Champagne's intellect and devotion were made apparent in our first section meeting. From Facebook groups to interactive class debates, she took advantage of every opportunity to make Minds & Brains a more closely knit and engaging class. Ms. Champagne's organization and energy definitely contributed to our section's understanding of the material. Her friendliness and openness made her fun to work with.

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#### Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne

Wonderful teaching! Anne Marie was super organized, wrote all over the boards with questions, section outlines, and charts to take notes on during discussion. She posed thoughtful questions that facilitated discussion well. Section felt very much so like a real seminar course.

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#### Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne

Anne provided so much support for her students. She went above and beyond creating a Facebook page and bringing in snacks. You could tell that she genuinely cared about people doing well in the class and understanding the material.

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#### Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne

Anne Marie was a spectacular TA! She was great at facilitating conversation and made sure that we understood both the lectures and the readings for each week.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Anne Marie was great. She was very helpful and I really liked how our section functioned. Nothing bad to say at all; one of the best TAs I've ever had (and I'm an old senior!)

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Declined to Answer

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Anne Marie went above and beyond her TF duties. She created a Facebook page for our section in which she posted pictures of the whiteboard notes she took during section. She was very available via email and although I never met with her in person, she was very responsive to requests for that as well. She led section well, and was very positive and complimentary whenever a student made a good comment in class.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Declined to Answer

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Section was useful in understanding key ideas in lecture and in the readings, but it always felt pretty rushed. I wish there was additional time to discuss the (many pages of) reading that we had each week. Regardless, Anne was a great TA who wanted to help all her students learn. I would rate her very highly.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Declined to Answer

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Anne Marie was very knowledgeable and organized. Sometimes the discussions veered into very advanced concepts that as a freshman, non-psych-major, it was difficult to follow. Also a very difficult grader.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Anne Marie was a great TA! Our sections were really great, and she reviewed a lot of material in fun, interesting, and effective activities. My only complaint would be that her office hours were somewhat inconveniently located and timed. I liked that she created a Facebook group for our section, although I wish it had been used more.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Made a Facebook group for our section. I know that she wished our class had been a bit more willing to engage in outside of class discussion via Facebook, but I enjoyed section and the activities helped me to better grasp the material.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Anne Marie was a great TF who was really organized in section to try to cover as much ground as we could. She listened to all of comments to best synthesize the readings each week and was always open to our different perspectives. I always felt comfortable presenting an idea to the group. I appreciated the time she took to prepare before each section.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

I thought section was great. I think having pretty structured activities and topics really facilitated discussion and thought about the readings. I also think that though readings didn't come up too much in lecture, my TA and the activities for section really managed to tie the readings to themes in lecture.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Declined to Answer

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Anne Marie was a fantastic TF! She was accomodating when I was sick and had to miss section, and she always led engaging sections.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Anne Marie was great at leading section. I truly enjoyed our discussions and the various activities (especially debates and small groups) used to work through the material. I appreciate that the notes that were made about the discussions on the board were photographed and distributed to the class, so that we could concentrate on discussion rather than note taking during section. I also am grateful for the thorough feedback we received on our blog posts and midterm exams. I wouldn't change a thing about section: our discussions both ensured that we covered content and had a chance to delve into various opinions and interpretations of the material, which enriched understanding of the issues relevant in both historical and present day contexts.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

In section we largely discussed the week's readings, but also touched on the week' lecture topics. I thought the discussion of readings was largely effective and helpful, and the organized activities usually helped to facilitate discussion. Anne Marie was very engaged and helped facilitate meaningful discussion through questions and activities.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Anne Marie was a very good teaching fellow. Although the class was disorganized, she tried to provide her students with as much information as possible. She was happy to meet with students outside of class and talk about the material.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Declined to Answer

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Anne Marie was a very good section leader. I think the best thing she did was help create a comfortable environment in which everyone felt like he/she could speak. I did not feel like section did a great job of connecting material from the class, and I definitely would have like to see Thursday lecture material appear in section, though I do not believe that this was Anne Marie's fault, since I am pretty sure that she was following section plans given to her by Professor Cowles, since I know other TAs did the exact same activities.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

An excellent TF! She is approachable and interested in the course content herself- it feels like you are working with a fellow (more knowledgeable and experienced) student: she helps you make effective study guide notes in class and is always relating lecture themes to larger themes in the world and vice versa. The kind of TF where office hours turn into a genuinely interesting conversation that can cover way more than the scope of the class if you're such inclined. Cannot recommend taking her section enough.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Declined to Answer

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

Section was good! My section especially was very participatory even though it was very early in the morning. My TA also was very organized and helped us organize the material easily.

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**Instructor: Anne Marie Champagne**

very serious, too serious, deviates from lecture

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