EVALUATING RANDOM PRESENTATIONS AS A FORM OF UNDERGRADUATE TUTORIAL EVALUATION

NOVEMBER 2012

OVERVIEW

- Description of the system
- Attendance and participation statistics
- Student survey results

THE SYSTEM USED

- For each reading, students are expected to prepare brief notes answering three questions:
- 1. What was the main argument made in the reading?
- 2. What logic or evidence was used to support the argument?
- 3. What questions does the reading raise for the group discussion?
- The approximate quantity of notes expected is one
 3" x 5" index card per question per reading.

THE SYSTEM USED

 For each reading, a random student will be called upon to give a brief oral presentation during the tutorial, not to exceed five minutes in length. The presentation should be based upon the written notes and cover the questions listed above. The purpose of the presentation system is to encourage all students to be familiar with all readings, which will in turn allow for an informed and useful conversation. The presentations will provide an introduction to the group discussion and give students experience with providing oral summaries of scholarly work.

THE SYSTEM USED

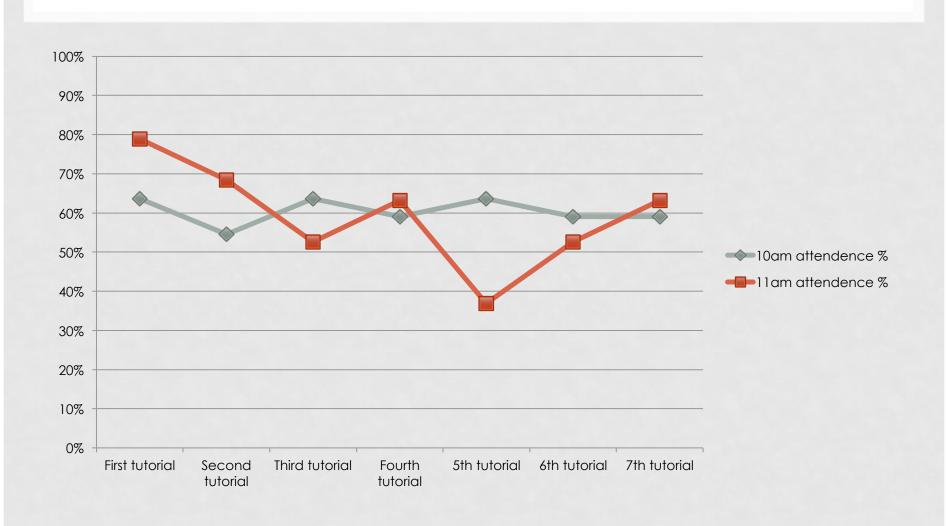
- In each case, the student who will provide the presentation will be selected randomly. Those who have already presented may still be called upon to present.
- If a student who is called upon to present is uncomfortable with making a short oral presentation, they may submit their notes on the day of the tutorial instead. Most notes will not be collected - only those of students are called upon but who feel uncomfortable with presenting them orally.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION STATISTICS

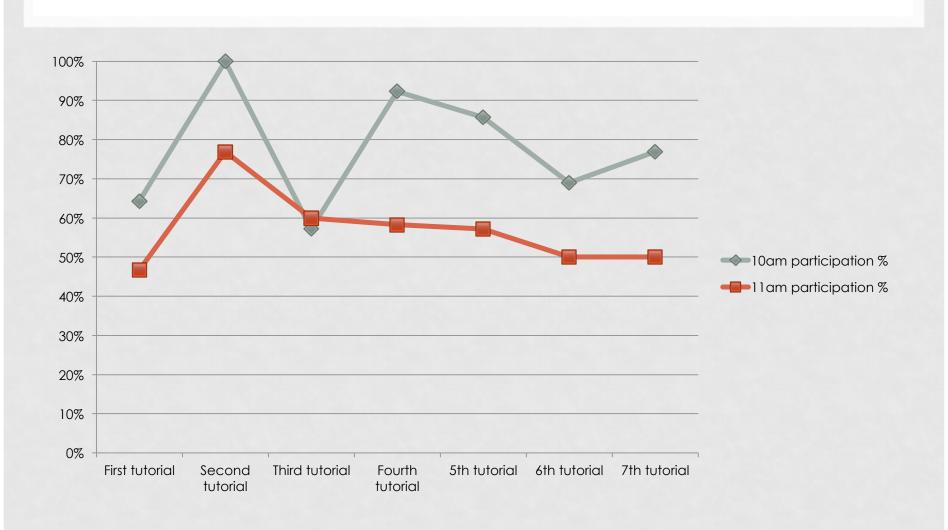
Based on records kept at each tutorial

- Note: the presentations given have nearly all been detailed and useful, showing clear evidence that the student called upon did the reading
- No students have asked to submit notes in place of giving an oral presentation

ATTENDANCE



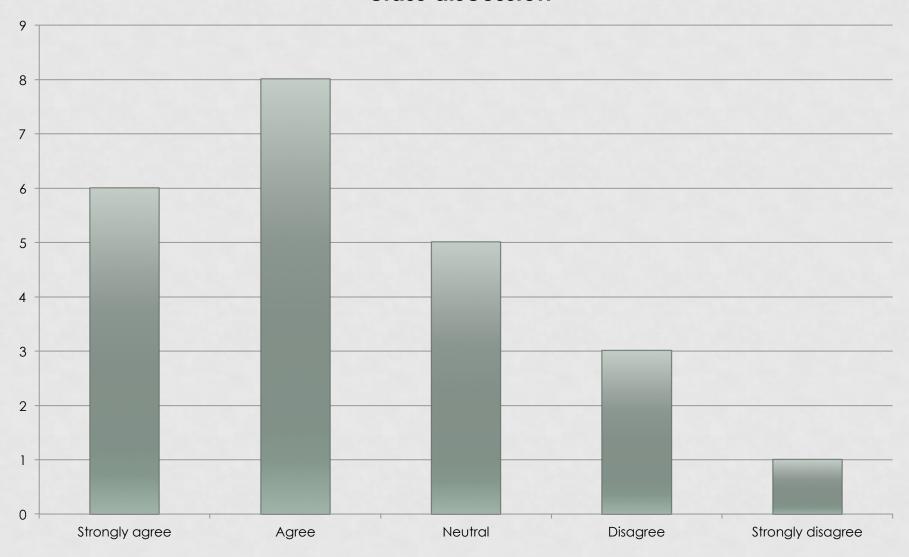
PARTICIPATION



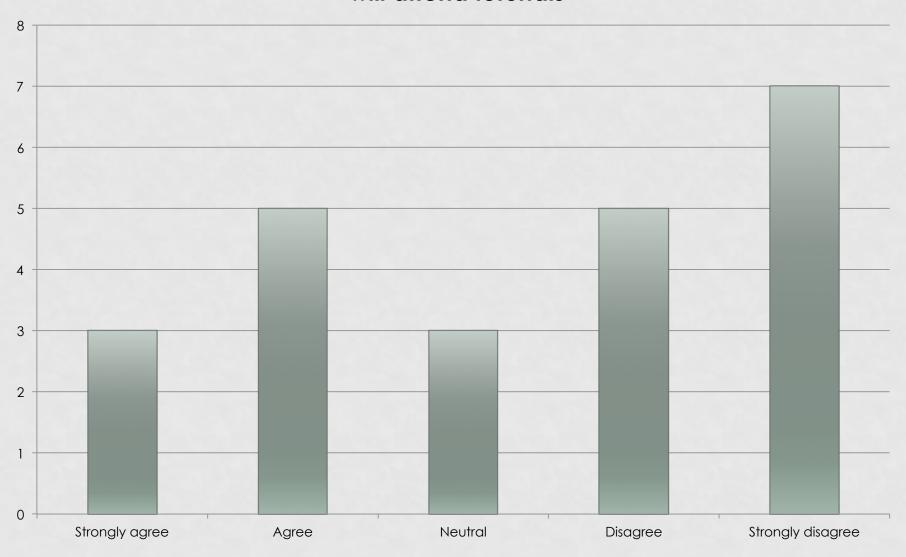
STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

- Based on an anonymous four-question survey distributed to students during the 7th tutorial
- n=23

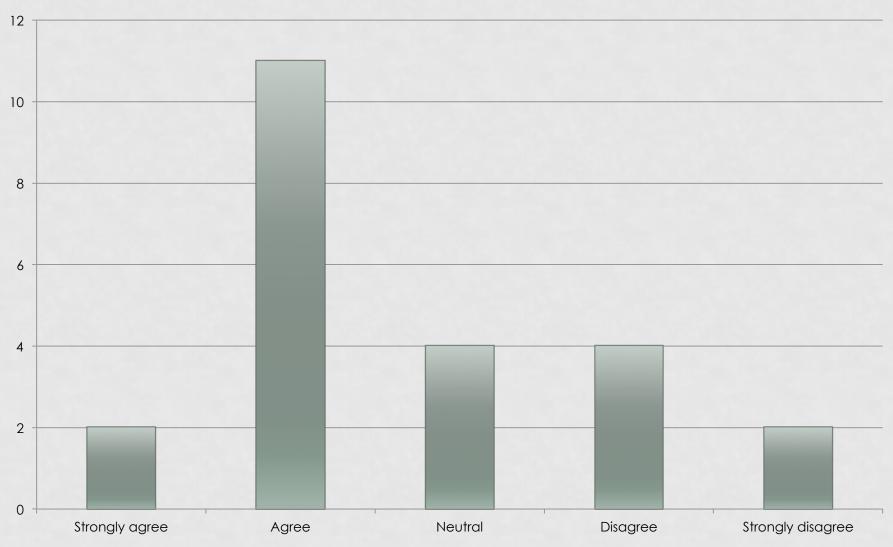
The random presentation system improves the quality of inclass discussion



The random presentation system reduces the chances that I will attend tutorials



The random presentation system reduces the chances that my classmates will attend tutorials



The random presentation system should be discontinued and replaced with another form of evaluation for next term

