

We are pleased to be able to nominate David Lees based on our experience of his teaching both in our first year, during the optional module Modern and Contemporary France and in second year in Representations of the Holocaust, the Right in France and in the French Language module.

While receiving tuition from David we have found his guidance to be invaluable: given that he was also a student at Warwick, he often shares useful advice and displays a sense of understanding for our concerns and questions, but equally our interests. Whether it be his approach to reviewing our work-load, suggesting new ways and resources to use to aid in our work in the French Language module or offering help beyond the contact hours, it is always clear that David has our best interests at heart and strives to ensure we reach our potential as under graduates. There is also a great sense of mutual respect when talking to David - while he is a tutor and therefore is often the one giving his students information, he is attentive to our queries and encourages us to explore ideas and form our own opinions, providing us with the means to further our study of French culture, politics and language. In this way, he helps us to draw links between all areas of our studies, which is vital for language students who focus on such a wide range of topics and varying skill-sets. David's willingness to go above and beyond the module limits, relating discussion to present day issues, is always appreciated and motivates us to broaden our knowledge too.

David has a truly holistic approach towards teaching. His dedication, integrity, humility and intellect all contribute towards his ability to deliver exceptional lectures and seminars. Every lecture is recorded and up loaded onto the module page, allowing for easy access to all students which is invaluable for revision. He presents students with a handout before every lecture. These handouts are clear and concise with key dates, names and figures clearly indicated. Furthermore, he uses powerpoint to aid his presentations with the inclusion of a range of different learning resources, such as videos, film reels, images, photographs, written accounts and the works of colleagues and other academics in the field. These resources actively enable students to challenge and debate the topics being studied, and these debates are expanded and developed in David's seminars. However, these debates and discussions do not lie solely within the confines of the module and David will discuss issues and agendas in current affairs, projects he has been involved with and often makes reference to, and praises the works and accomplishments of, his colleagues in the French Department.

The requirement of David for all individuals to take part leads to an environment of exciting intellectual discussion and debate, as you are made to feel as though every contribution is valuable through David's enthusiasm (commonly seen through his lively tone or exuberant body language). The style in which he teaches, means that as an individual you are not only encouraged to share ideas with the class, you genuinely feel that your contributions are valued and taken on board by David, which creates an environment of positive discussion and in depth debate in which students can perform to their highest potential.

Above all, David works with students to develop new approaches to teaching and learning and continually strives for excellence and perfection. He consistently asks students for feedback and adapts according to our observations. For example, on learning that a few students wanted further clarification on a few aspects of the Right in France course, he voluntarily, out of his own research time, set up an extra session to run over queries, clarify all aspects of the course and suggest materials to further our own research.

David is also extremely engaging in terms of personal development external to the course, for example in offering research work to students on upcoming projects. What's more, he uses alternative teaching methods to make learning more interactive and engaging. Recently, he set up an extra session which made use of the MRC and allowed us to engage directly with the archives to get a real sense of what working with original materials is like.

In terms of feedback, David is prompt and thorough. He ensures that all feedback is extremely clear and will take the time to go through all queries in the seminars, which he opens up to wider

discussion. In terms of revision classes and essay preparation, David goes out of his way to ensure that he is available to discuss ideas and provide constructive, helpful guidelines for revision.

One of the most engaging traits which David possesses is his friendly, open, approachable personality. Despite his constantly busy schedule he ensures that he provides exceptional pastoral care. From answering any and all year abroad queries to helping us prioritise on our workloads to just being happy to have a chat and make sure you're doing ok - David really cares about his students, looks out for us and instils a passion for French that we will take forward with us in which ever direction we go.