



SOSC 24901 3, HMRT 10200 3 - Human Rights in World Civilizations II - Instructor(s): Savitri Kunze

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Winter 2024**

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **15**

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Thursday, March 28, 2024**

What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

| Comments |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – human rights applied in various contexts (Rwanda, disability rights, illegalization, immigrant crisis) – I learnt about these topics and their content but also learnt about how they fit in the bigger picture. |
| It is important to engage in daily human rights current event research |
| I learned that the world is a terrible place. I learned a lot of historical context that I didn't have before coming into class. We talked a lot about intersectionality and how government policy adversely affects minorities. |
| How to analyze texts, facilitate good class conversation. Generally gained the ability to examine human rights issues from lots of different perspectives and types of literature. |
| I've learned a lot about how to stay up-to-date with issues regarding human rights in various political and social contexts. This class has helped me learn more about the historical context of international and national legal documents and how they continue to affect contemporary societies. |
| Honestly, I have learned so much in this class about current events immigration topics, political dissidents, deterrence, human trafficking, and disability rights. Before this course I never knew the depths to these topics, let alone what "political dissents" even meant. |
| the fundamentals of human rights and specific applications through the lens of migration, genocide, indigenous rights, environmental justice, and disability rights |
| Various frameworks for thinking about human rights, especially through specific case studies. I've also learned more about how to talk about human rights, a potentially sensitive topic, in a more constructive way. |
| I learned about how groups of people formally advocate for human rights by attending conventions, such as the Bandung Conference. I also learned about how the illegalization of minorities makes it easier for people in power positions to dictate who must die. |
| I learned about how to understand and conceptualize human rights, how to view human rights in relation to other phenomena in society, and how to advocate for human rights effectively, equitably, and ethically. |
| How to apply scholarly works of human rights to real world issues, understanding the historical contexts of genocide and the migrant crisis |
| We learned about human rights practices in cases of immigration this quarter. One of the most important takeaways is how to read about coverage and exposure on human rights abuses critically. I also learned to backward outline essays, which helps a lot in reorganizing and revising papers. |
| How to define human rights and how to better construct and argument about heavier topics that are less debatable. |

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

| Comments |
|--|
| Hot Topics (mini discussion posts): Got me to engage with issues outside of the ones discussed during the course to encourage students to explore various world events for themselves. |
| In-Class Discussions: Aided in my understanding of the readings and human rights abuses that we discussed. Was also interesting to hear various perspectives on different topics. |
| Readings: I came in with little-to-no knowledge of many of the human rights abuses we have discussed in class, so the readings helped improve and enhance my understanding of world issues. |
| – Discussions were AMAZING because Savi was great |
| This class improved my research skills, my discussion skills, and my critical reading skills |
| The lectures helped. Sometimes Savi would give us brief lessons to go into the historical context of the day. She would also give us a lot of additional context and reading materials for those that wanted to learn more. |
| Savi was incredible at facilitating class discussion! She made everyone feel welcome to share, which resulted in really engaging classes. |
| While the class was mainly a discussion, the short lectures that Savi provided in the beginning for some classes really aided in providing essential background information. She was also great at facilitating discussions that would encompass a various range of views from classmates. |
| I appreciated how for topics Savi would offer background information and deeper context for our readings which really helped me put the readings into perspective. |
| Discussions went super well! Blending large group conversations with smaller group discussions allowed us to discuss the material thoroughly and gave everyone a chance to speak without feeling pressured to do so. |
| Discussions definitely helped with improving at thinking about and discussing human rights concepts in ways that are inclusive, constructive, etc. Assignments provided necessary background for the things we'd discuss in class. |
| Lectures gave me more of an understanding of the historical context of the readings. I found the power points helpful. Discussions allowed me to view concepts from a different perspectives after listening to my classmates. |
| I thought the in-class discussions, both as a class and in small groups, contributed to my learning greatly. |
| Readings helped with class discussions, hot topics encouraged us to engage with real world issues and apply it to our learning, small group and facilitated discussions allowed us to develop our understanding of the readings with our peers |
| Lectures (which were mostly contextualizing readings) from Savi were great! Hot Topics contributed a lot to my learning and pushed me to connect readings and theories discussed in class with real-world issues. |
| Discussions were really helpful for trying to understand readings we did for homework and to see how other people viewed them. |

Please respond to the following:

| | Mean | Median | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree |
|--|------|--------|-------------------|----------|---------|--------|----------------|
| This course challenged me intellectually. | 4.33 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 6.67% | 6.67% | 33.33% | 53.33% |
| I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it. | 4.53 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 46.67% | 53.33% |
| I understood the standards for success on assignments. | 4.73 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 26.67% | 73.33% |
| Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments. | 4.67 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 33.33% | 66.67% |
| I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work. | 4.47 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 6.67% | 0.00% | 33.33% | 60.00% |
| My work was evaluated fairly. | 4.67 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 33.33% | 66.67% |
| I felt respected in this class. | 4.87 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 13.33% | 86.67% |
| Overall, this was an excellent course. | 4.80 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 20.00% | 80.00% |

Additional comments about the course:

| Comments |
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| Savi is very nice. The course content itself is interesting but its pretty widespread. |
| I can't say enough good things about Savi as a professor. She cares deeply about the mental health of her students and is flexible with assignments, while also challenging everyone to learn and making class time super productive. Highly highly highly recommend!! |
| It's a very interesting, thought-provoking course, although it can be hard to stay motivated, especially with some of the heavier topics. As with many seminar courses, it's definitely possible to avoid doing the readings and still do fine. |
| Savi is always available for additional feedback and to help with understanding course content. In a class that discusses distributing and emotional burdening issues, Savi ensures that her students have the right support and a safe space for discussion. |
| TAKE CLASSES WITH SAVI |

I would recommend this course to:

| | No | Yes |
|---|-------|---------|
| Highly-motivated and well-prepared students | 6.67% | 93.33% |
| Anyone interested in the topic | 0.00% | 100.00% |

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

| Comments |
|--|
| Professor was always available to chat with, was flexible, tried to challenge us, and understand us better. |
| Prof Kunze facilitated both full group discussion and small group discussion to allow for greater participation. It also helped me better learn from my peers and understand topics. |
| She made a conscious effort to engage with what the class thought was pressing in human rights and was relatable |
| Her in-depth context of the course readings. And the way she would help direct the class when there were awkward silences. She also answers questions very thoroughly and is always open to having good conversation, even if it strays from the topic of the day. |
| Savi provided extensive historical context for all of our discussions. |
| Her ability to facilitate discussions and incorporate everyone's views really helped me grasp the multifaceted nature of the issues we discussed. |
| having background information and context for readings really helped my put the readings into perspective. Also, I liked how we did hot topics to tie in readings with the present day. |
| Savi did a fantastic job at moderating discussions! Our conversations were both engaging and dynamic, and Savi had her finger on the pulse in terms of when to let the conversation digress productively a bit and when to reign it back in, as well as know when we needed to break up into smaller groups. |
| Her ability to lead discussions in ways that felt productive but not overly controlling, and to provide relevant background information on things we were discussing but didn't necessarily know much about. |
| I think reflecting on discussion questions in small group contributed the most to my learning. |
| Probably Dr. Kunze's effort in producing class discussions that were intellectually stimulating |
| Flexibility in adjusting course content to fit with the natural flow of student interest, clear and consistent communication with students |
| Savi's super chill and understanding!! She truly only cares about what we can learn from the class and is always ready to help us in every way possible. |
| When we would sometimes have lectures at the beginning of classes before our seminar |

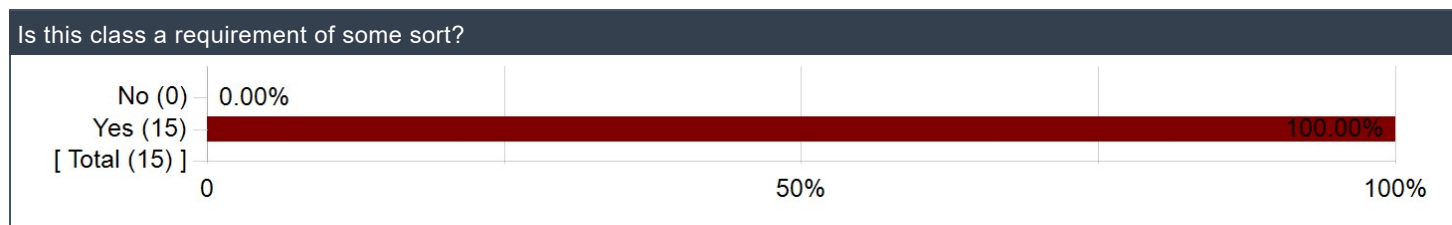
What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

| Comments |
|--|
| Fewer menial assignments. |
| Sometimes she would tell us after the fact that she didn't like a reading on the syllabus, and I think it would be better if she told us before and what to look out for. |
| She also laughs out of awkwardness when talking about disturbing things, which should probably be dialed back a bit. It's not a big deal, as I can tell why she does it, but it is something I noticed over the past two quarters. |
| Sometimes the units felt a little disconnected and it was unclear what the overarching theme of the quarter was beyond the general idea of human rights. |
| We evaluate ourselves, so much but it would be helpful to get feedback from Savi. For example, instead of grading the midterm self-evaluations, grade how much we have improved on the things we said we wanted to work on or even give feedback. I think it's pointless to evaluate ourselves Multiple times throughout the quarter. |
| It sometimes felt like we had a lot of assignment in terms of volume. The paper self-evaluation felt a bit tedious and not very constructive, and the participation self-evaluation was a bit challenging in terms of not want to be inaccurate but also not too harsh/forgiving, but all the other assignments—especially the short homeworks—contributed. Sometimes the readings were a bit much, and I'd recommend shortening them or suggesting which ones could be skimmed. |
| I think in my case, I'd have done more reading had there been less assigned; it did feel a bit overwhelming at times especially with the other classes I was taking and that led to me not always doing the pre-class readings and therefore not being able to contribute meaningfully to the discussions. |
| They could provide more historical framework in lectures to help us understand the relevance of the concept in a global context. |
| I think probably having a better grasp on maintaining the flow of conversation (i.e. knowing when to break into smaller groups or rejoin into bigger groups, or when to redirect the conversation of the group) |
| Balancing the readings to be more consistent in length from week to week. Some of the units had long readings and multiple documents, and it was hard to delve into the content given the limited spacing between classes. |
| Switch up learning styles and not have it be solely discussion based |

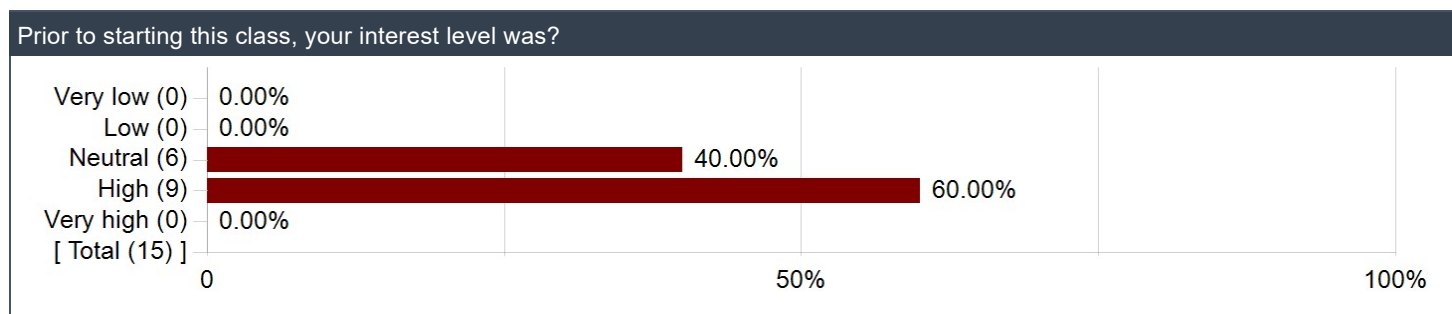
The Instructor . . .

| | Mean | Median | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree | N/A |
|--|------|--------|-------------------|----------|---------|--------|----------------|-------|
| Organized the course clearly. | 4.40 | 4.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 6.67% | 46.67% | 46.67% | 0.00% |
| Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding. | 4.79 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 20.00% | 73.33% | 6.67% |
| Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful. | 4.73 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 26.67% | 73.33% | 0.00% |
| Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course. | 4.60 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 6.67% | 26.67% | 66.67% | 0.00% |
| Challenged you to learn. | 4.60 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 6.67% | 26.67% | 66.67% | 0.00% |
| Helped you gain significant learning from the course content. | 4.67 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 6.67% | 20.00% | 73.33% | 0.00% |
| Was available and helpful outside of class. | 4.80 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 20.00% | 80.00% | 0.00% |
| Motivated you to think independently. | 4.73 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 26.67% | 73.33% | 0.00% |
| Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment. | 4.87 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 13.33% | 86.67% | 0.00% |
| Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning. | 4.73 | 5.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 26.67% | 73.33% | 0.00% |

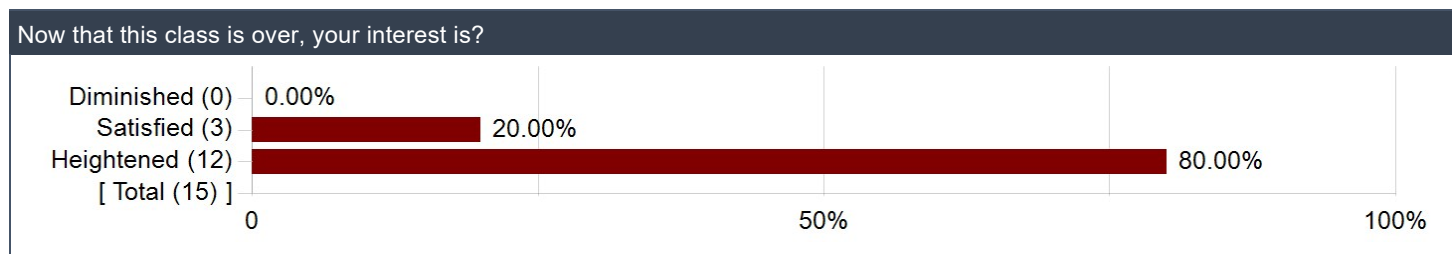
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



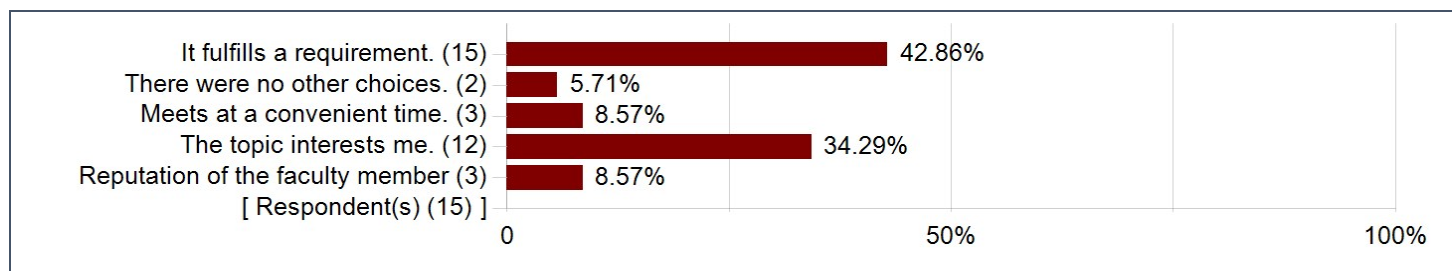
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



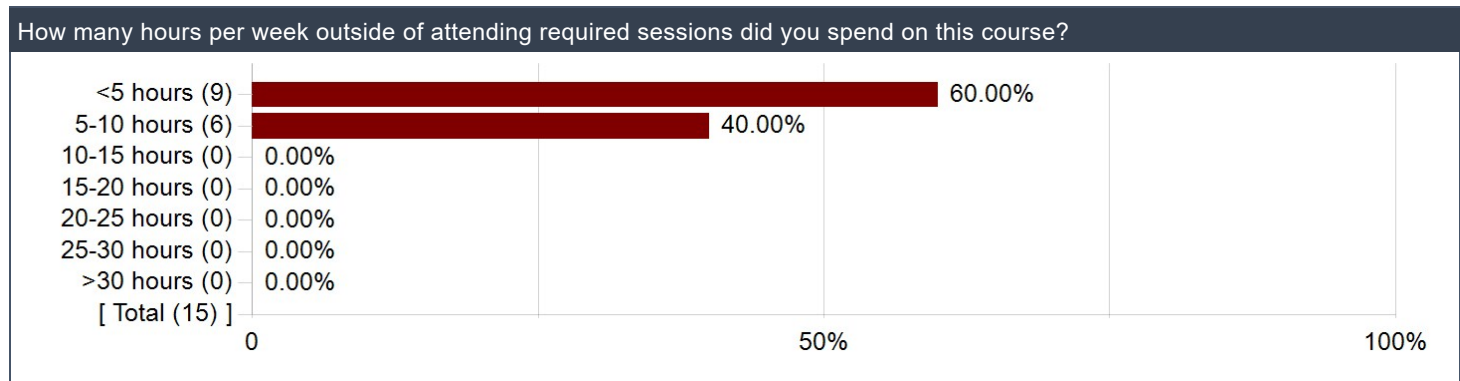
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



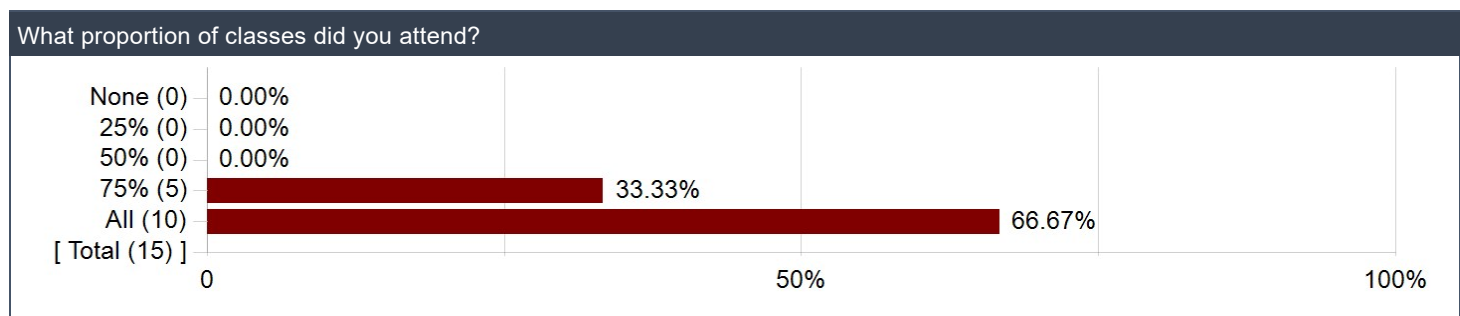
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

| Comments |
|---|
| Background knowledge about any human rights abuse or atrocity is useful in helping you to contribute to course discussion, but don't worry about being an expert in anything. Before this sequence, I knew of many abuses, but not in detail. The professor always provided context for every reading to aid student understanding and discussions about the topic, which helped a lot. |
| The course was not particularly difficult and did not require prior knowledge of human rights. |
| Not very difficult |
| Not hard. There are some significant papers so you should be prepared to write. |
| Class was very approachable for all levels. |
| I went into this course with knowledge from the previous quarter which, of course, was helpful and allowed me to build upon previous thoughts. However, I don't think you absolutely need knowledge of human rights before taking this class. You learn as you go. |
| the reading isn't difficult to understand, it's just time consuming |
| As a human rights major, I found the course very approachable and engaging, but not too challenging to be a barrier to someone new to the content. I highly recommend this Civ! |
| The course was pretty manageable, especially considering it is possible to get away with not doing all the readings. The writing assignments can definitely be a bit difficult. |
| I took Introduction to Health and Society which talked about human rights in healthcare. My experience was limited, but I learned a lot after taking this course. There is not a need to have much background in the topic to take this course. |
| The course is very approachable, as it should be for a sequence that fulfills a core requirement. You can come into this class with no prior knowledge or experience and do well. |
| Great course for all backgrounds and experience levels |
| Not too difficult as long as you stay on top of readings and pay attention in class |

