



# SOSC 15300 8 - Classics of Social and Political Thought III - Instructor(s) - Jordan Jochim

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

Number Enrolled: **17**

Number of Responses: **13**

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## Report Comments

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

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Creation Date: **Thursday, July 11, 2024**

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

Comments
Nietzsche!
How to read texts analytically and draw connections between individual sections and the overall argument of the work.
I learned how to reconstruct modern arguments and make connections between texts from antiquity to modernity. I acquired a variety of arguments from different authors while still being able to enjoy the course materials—something that is quite rare for such a text-heavy class.
Some of the most important things I learned this quarter to was to apply more modern critiques of society to our current reality, and I definitely learned to question and unearth the value of values and the origins of various social relationships.
Understanding diagnoses of contemporary socio-economic problems—the dangers of democracy, the progression of capitalism, and inequality. We also spent significant time reconstructing arguments, drawing connections between diagnoses, and relating them to contemporary politics.
I learned important philosophical texts in the modern era. It also strengthened my writing and critical thinking skills.
the importance of democracy in our society. the nuances of discrimination against women and black people. the importance of topic sentence
I learned a lot. I think the most important things i learned in this course are the foundations of society, how societies have come to be and all the possible ways in which they could be govenrned. I learned about the freedom and what it can be.
I learned about the relationship between democracy and oppression, and how American democracy has been used to both help and harm oppressed groups. I also learned more about close reading.
Read through works of the authors from the modern period.
I learned about the different problems of the 19th and 20th centuries as explained by modern authors, as well as how these stemmed from and argued against previous authors that we had read and analyzed.
In this quarter of CSPT I have learned a lot about the different problems of modernity. I found reading Marx's Capital and Beauvoir's the second sex to be really engaging and illuminating about the nature and problems of the systems of capitalism and the position of women. And I have further my skills of being able to draw connections across the texts that we read and understanding how their ideas relate to each other.
I believe my engagement with the text and writing has significantly improved through this course.

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

Comments
Lectures are a bit low-energy sometimes but useful.
In-class discussions were very helpful in pursuing ideas and clarifying questions, the close reading assignments were reasonable and pertained more toward the heart of the course in connecting all these different texts together. The discussion post structure were fair and helped facilitate discussions.
Discussions were always enlightening; I was able to absorb the thoughts and ideas of both the professor and my peers.
One aspect of the course that I enjoyed most was the discussions because I loved hearing how other students interpreted a section of text which helped me connect and expand my own understanding.
Discussions were great for guiding me through the text, as some of the readings were very dense and would require multiple read-throughs otherwise. Additionally, when writing papers or completing close-reading assignments, I always had points in the text that I wanted to write about as a response to something discussed during class.
The lectures gave strong sense of structure and facilitated discussions. Discussions tended to be a little more opened ended which explored each person's own intrigue. I found the lectures more helpful in the learning the book and discussion more helpful in finding a greater meaning. The essay feedback was also very thorough and helpful for revision.
there are readings and then class to discuss readings. once a week there is a reading reflection. twice in the quarter there is a close reading assignment. and two papers. amount of writing is very fair.
Discussions have been very helpful in the implementation of the lectures. I was able to use what i read in order to explain a point and I was also able to see the bigger pictures in regards to the reading through discussions.
The discussions were very engaging and really helped my understanding of the material. Prof. Jochim's lectures at the beginning of each class helped settle everyone into the text and get us all on the same page, so they were very helpful.
The office hour is very helpful to get a good sense of the texts.
Discussions were extremely helpful and the professor was very supportive in aiding these. All the readings were very effective for the class, and connected with our overall discussions. Talking points, in which we wrote once a week prior to class, were also very useful, and facilitated the conversation, as well as aided in guiding the main confusions of the text, which the professor then clarified or discussed with the class.
I would say the discussions in class were always very fruitful. My classmates and professor both helped reveal a greater understanding of the text to me, and in sharing my own interpretation I got to deepen and challenge my understanding of the text.
Class discussions and office hours contributed the most to my learning, allowing me to recognize more complex issues the author is dealing with and hear the professor's feedback on my papers, respectively.

## Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.69	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.77%	69.23%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.46	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	53.85%	46.15%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.46	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	38.46%	53.85%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.23	4.00	0.00%	7.69%	7.69%	38.46%	46.15%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	38.46%	61.54%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.69	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.77%	69.23%
I felt respected in this class.	4.77	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	23.08%	76.92%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.69	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.77%	69.23%

## Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Jordan Jochim is an excellent instructor. He provides detailed introductions for each writers, encourages making connections between writers, gives ample opportunity for our thoughts and provides feedback on assignments that truly helped me improve.
This course material can be daunting at times especially coming into the class with no exposure to Greek texts or even some of the more modern texts, but Jordan is AMAZING and is more than willing to work with you outside of class to help you gain a better understanding.
I loved this course.
Jordan was the best professor, he led amazing discussions and had wonderful insights into all of the authors we have read during the quarter. I found discussions to be extremely fascinating and he always had a good structure for how class time was spent. He was very understanding and reasonable when it came to all of our assignments and most of all, he reaffirmed the thoughts of each member of the class. The class was very enjoyable and enlightening and I thought Jordan created a great, open learning environment, helping us navigate even the most confusing philosophers.

## I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	7.69%	92.31%

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

Comments
Jochim is fair and understanding.
Professor Jochim is great at facilitating discussion– he made sure that everyone was included while sticking on topic. Flow of discussion felt very natural, and the discussion posts plus reading assignments were pretty fair in terms of workload. He was extremely flexible and available both in and outside of class– I really appreciated how he held extended office hours to let us solicit feedback on our final essay drafts and allowed for us to edit our first paper and turn it in again. He's an amazing professor who knows the texts well and increased my enthusiasm for the readings and the overall class itself.
Jochim always provides detailed feedback and is open to meet with students as well. His criticism is never harsh and he encourages all thoughts and questions. No one feels ill–equipped to contribute in his class because he is so encouraging and responsive during class discussions.
Discussions and office hours. Out of the entire year, Jordan was the only professor that I actually wanted to go to during office hours. He's extremely helpful and beyond knowledgeable about the books.
Professor Jochim was always very enthusiastic about the text, and it was very clear that he came to each class prepared to discuss key points within the text but also provide significant flexibility to the ways through which we arrived at these points. This created a very inviting environment, which encouraged me to participate and share ideas I still felt unclear/uncertain about.
The teacher's vast knowledge on the subject and daily outline of what is going to be discussed.
i really liked how supportive the instructor was. it's an extra notch above the normal expectations. course is very organized. especially appreciated two things. 1) at the beginning of every new book we got an overview of the author and that helped to put the book into a contextual perspective. 2) the guide for writing a paper is very helpful and appreciated, wish other instructors would do that. just makes it much easier to know what the instructor is looking for as many professors vary
I think what was the most helpful was the fact that the instructor was very kind and understanding. he took the time to make himself available to all of us. He structured his course very well.
His lectures at the beginning of each class were incredibly helpful, and his thoughtful answers to the points brought up by students made our points easier to understand and connect.
his guiding of the discussions
My instructor did a very good job at illuminating confusing parts of the text and our discussion in class were great at reconstructing the author's train of argument for the students to see.

## What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Nothing really– the structure was quite organized and well–paced. Sometimes we wouldn't get to hit upon all points of discussion, but that's expected and I prefer how we really fleshed out one or two points in a more spontaneous manner to a more rigid class.
N/A
N/A, love him!
I did really enjoy the historical connections we made to these texts, since these works are a departure from some of the more antiquated texts of Plato, Aristotle, etc. I would appreciate maybe a few additional resources about historical background, given that there may be insufficient class time to explain these connections. For example, I found the historical context of the conference very engaging.
Rein in the discussion aspect a little more, sometimes interfered with getting through material.
would be nice to take a five minute break in between class. 1 hour and 20 minutes is a long time and most people just get up to use the bathroom sometime after an hour just to walk around. incorporating a break in the structure can help with focus and even more importantly can help build camaraderie amongst peers which in turn will make people more comfortable with sharing
i am not sure.
He would write some things on the board, but only the big headings. Writing larger concepts that we come across in discussion out could be very helpful when we are trying to piece together difficult texts.
I think he can focus more on the flow of the texts.
I think my instructor could have created an outline for the discussion in class based more on the discussion points of students, and how the students were understanding the text rather than following the structure of the text in our discussions. I think that could engage students more in discussion and make our engagement with the text deeper and more meaningful to us personally.

## The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.69	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.77%	69.23%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	30.77%	61.54%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.62	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	23.08%	69.23%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	30.77%	61.54%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.46	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	53.85%	46.15%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46.15%	53.85%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.77	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	23.08%	76.92%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46.15%	53.85%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.69	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.77%	69.23%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.54	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46.15%	53.85%	0.00%

Please include the name of the TA/CA/Intern you are evaluating. What aspects of the TA's teaching contributed most to your learning? What could the TA modify to help you learn more? Please include any additional feedback for the TA/CA/Intern.

Comments
Mia Thacker
Mia Thacker — love them, too! Mia was also one another TA/Writing assistant that I actually wanted to go to because they — like Jordan — were extremely helpful and knowledgeable concerning how to properly format one's argumentation.
Mia Thacker
Mia was very helpful in her explanation during workshops, as well as available to answer any questions
Mia Thacker was amazing!!!!!! She was always responded to emails right away, was always flexible to meet, and gave very thorough critiques!

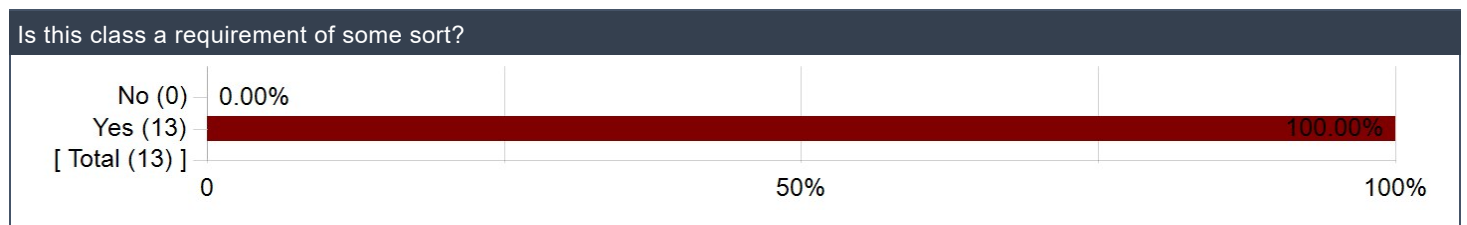
### The TA/CA or Intern. . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Facilitated discussions that supported your learning.	4.20	5.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Gave you useful feedback on your work.	4.20	5.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the class.	4.20	5.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.20	5.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Helped you succeed in the class.	4.20	5.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.20	5.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Overall, this individual made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.20	5.00	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	20.00%	60.00%	0.00%

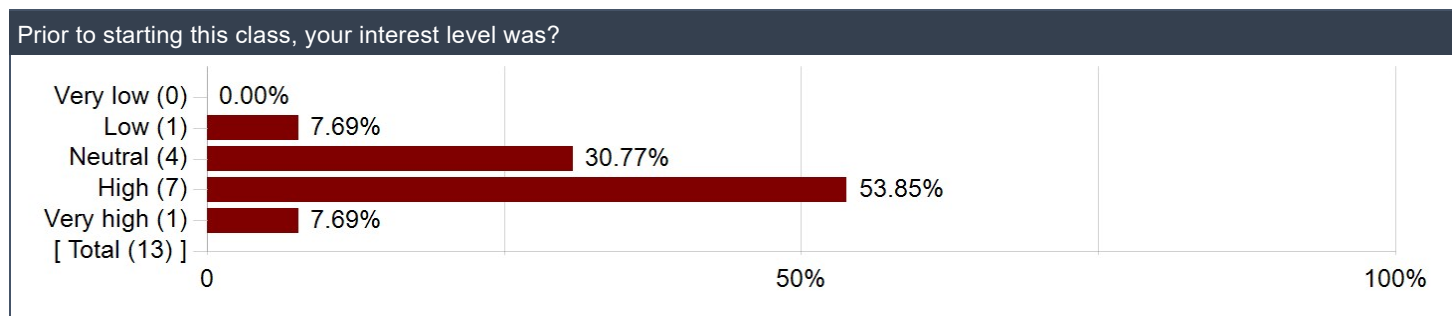
### How much did the following elements of the course contribute to your learning gains?

	Mean	Median	No Gain	A Little Gain	Moderate Gain	Good Gain	Great Gain	N/A
Laboratory Experience	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Field Trips	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Library Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Review Sessions	N/A	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%
Writing Seminars	3.38	4.00	12.50%	25.00%	0.00%	37.50%	25.00%	0.00%

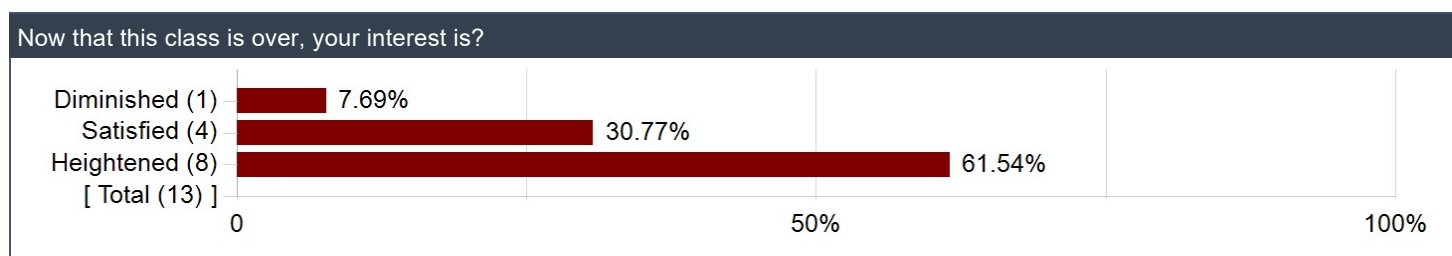
### Is this class a requirement of some sort?



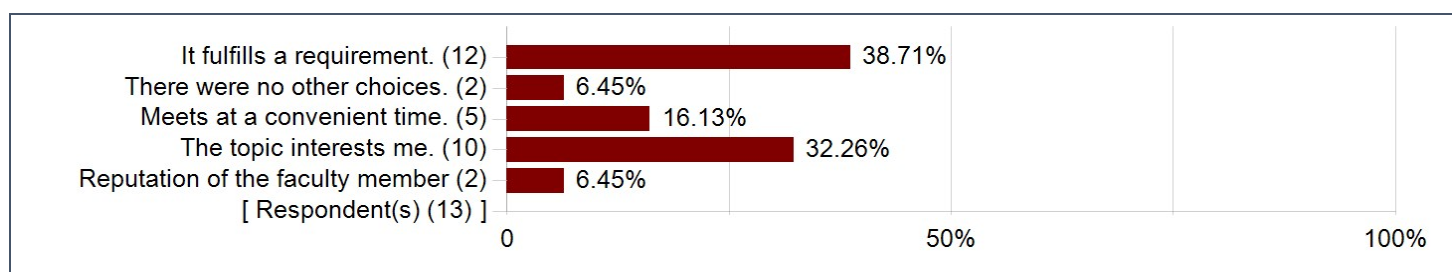
## Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



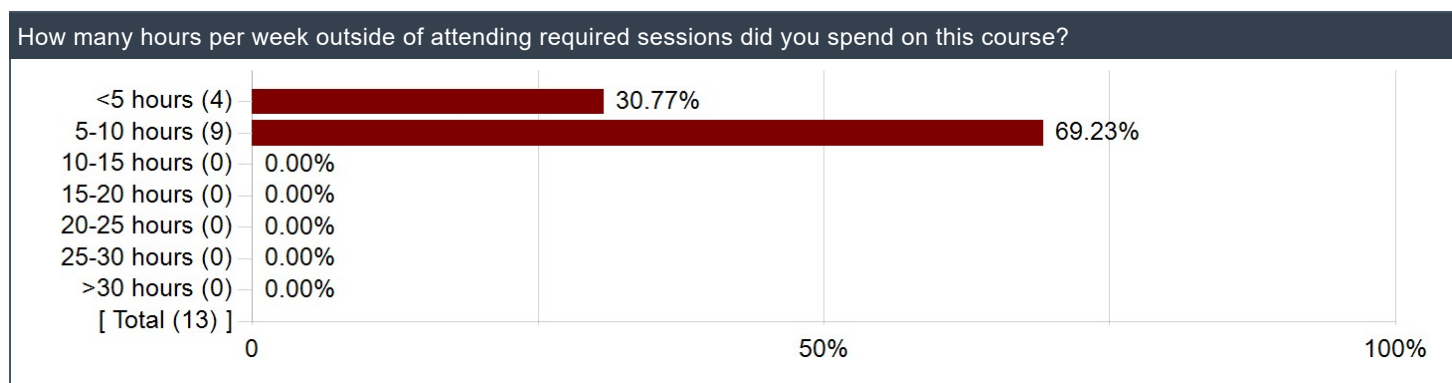
## Now that this class is over, your interest is?



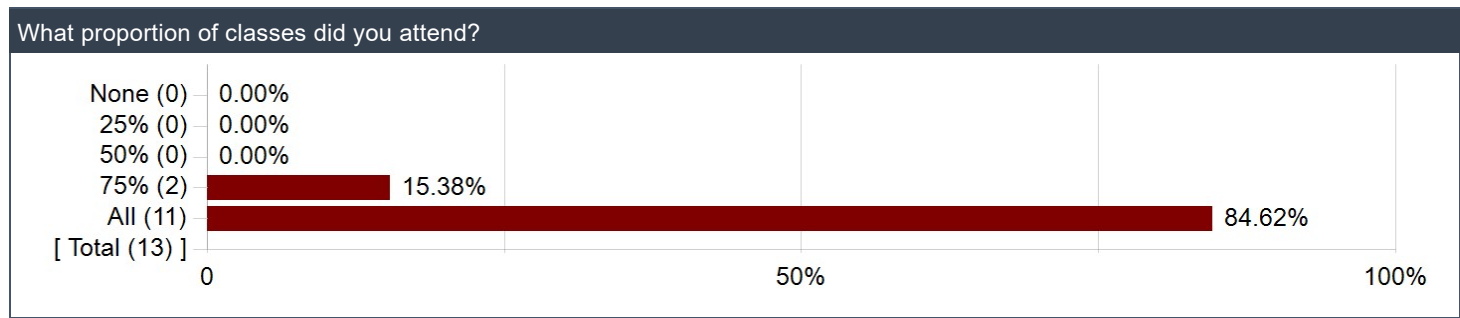
## Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



## 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
The readings are a slog sometimes. On the one hand, we read through the tedious and dragged-out arithmetics of Capital; on the other, we had to wade through the dense dialectics of Genealogy.
As a classics course, it's going to be more difficult– Professor Jochim has high expectations for the essays but overall it's very easy to participate and is better structured than some of the other sections. If you're set on taking Classics then I would opt for this section.
I had zero experience with philosophical writers prior to the Classics sequence. The difficulty is extremely manageable for beginners.
Difficult in terms of not having exposure to works like this, but because Jordan was so helpful, it was much easier to grasp the concepts.
This course flows very nicely from the expectations and skills developed of previous Classics courses. I found Classics III to actually be more approachable than Classics II, and I think it is helped by the historical context of some of these works that readers may be more familiar with.
not difficult
I think it was a pretty hard course taking in consideration i had no significant background in the subject at the beginning of the year.
The courses readings were a bit challenging as someone who had not read these texts or anything like them before, but it wasn't anything too bad.
I think it might not be a good idea to include so many different authors covering so many different topics like democracy, capitalism, racism, and feminism. I would say I like the organization of the last quarter better as it's focusing only on the social contract.
very doable but challenging
The texts of the course were difficult, however the workload was manageable and well spaced out
Not bad at all!