



HIST 13500 1 - America In World Civilization I - Instructor(s): Matthew Kruer

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2023**

Number Enrolled: **15**

Number of Responses: **8**

Report Comments

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

Creation Date: **Friday, February 2, 2024**

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

Comments
The historical documents of the early United States and of the colonial period.
Primary source analysis, American history 1400s–1800
This course covers the history of Eastern North America from around 1500–1800. Topics covered include Indigenous Societies, British/French Colonization, the lead up to the American Revolution, and the Founding Documents of the U.S..
Lecture
New viewpoints of history from pre–Colombian times to the end of Washington's administration.
I learned about significant American historical events, movements, theology, religion, and law. In doing so, I engaged my reading and writing skills.

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

Comments
The class times enhanced my understanding.
Lectures/discussions were great. Prof Kruer asks good questions that force you to think about the readings in different ways. Papers were helpful in forming our own ideas/interpretations of the sources.
The professor was an ok lecturer but I felt like he wasn't always aware of what some of our comments meant. He was very knowledgeable in most subjects but given that he was an Indigenous historian he was far more knowledgeable in that area.
Lecture
The readings and discussions allowed people to bring up ideas that they had never interacted with before. This was very interesting and gave me lots of new perspectives on history.
Class time was useful as we discussed important themes and ideas from the assigned texts. The assigned papers were a great tool to further express my understanding of the text as they forced me to dive deeper into the material.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	3.75	3.50	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	12.50%	37.50%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	37.50%	37.50%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	12.50%	0.00%	50.00%	37.50%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.00	4.50	0.00%	12.50%	25.00%	12.50%	50.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.63	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	12.50%	75.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	0.00%	75.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.75	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	75.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.38	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	50.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Not the most intellectually stimulating class.
I just wish we could have spent some more class discussion time on some of the topics we had to miss when Prof Kruer got covid. It was really a shame we had to skip right past what I thought were some of the most interesting readings of the quarter.
I think that the selection of topics covered should be modified as the course felt disjoint when there was a real chance to build narratives about this time period. We covered a lot of different peoples and cultures and focusing on one thing in depth may have been more useful.
Professor Kruer is a wonderful professor and really does his best to accomodate students. He really wants to make sure that students get the best out of this class.
N/A

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	12.50%	87.50%
Anyone interested in the topic	25.00%	75.00%

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

Comments
Professor Kruer can conduct a discussion very well, that contributed to my learning.
His discussions/questions.
Lectures were fine, but nothing special.
Lecture
Professor Kruer is very knowledgable about history and does a great job at connecting points and explaining questions. All discussion flowed very smoothly.
The instructor's commentary contributed most to my learning. He directed class conversations and discussed the important aspects of the text that could contribute to our paper topics.

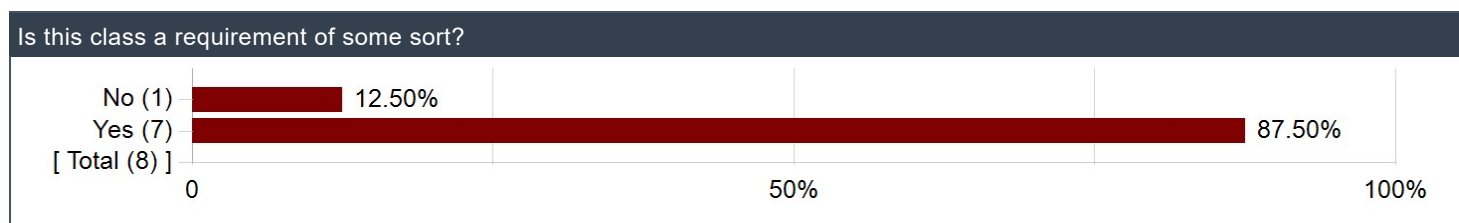
What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Provide more historical context instead of pure discussions among students.
Maybe it would be helpful to know beforehand what texts are more important/what we will spend more time on during discussion? Just some weeks there were lots of readings but then we only got around to discussing half of them, so I wish I had spent the time I spent skimming all of them on just focusing on the ones we were going to discuss. Otherwise, everything was great!
I think that some of the participation standards were unfair. The instructor should be less harsh for students who are talking once or twice per class who don't like talking in class.
None
N/A

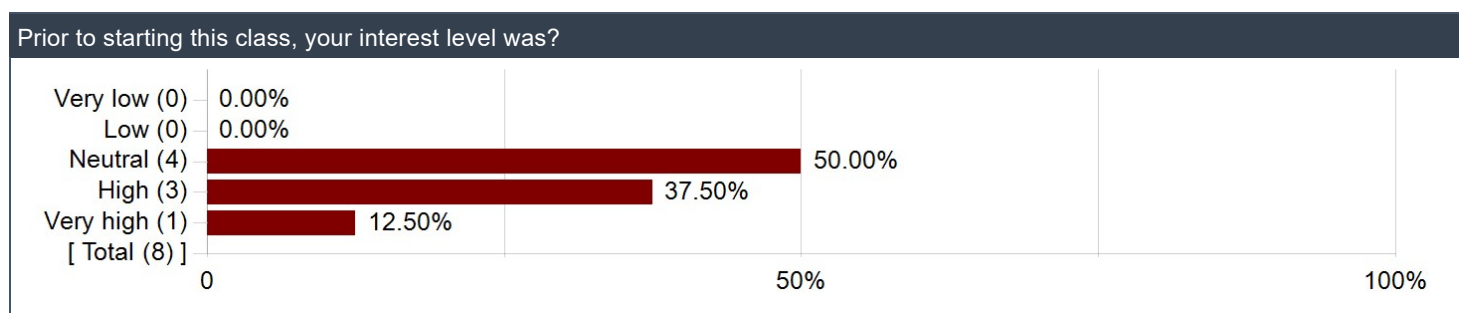
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.86	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14.29%	85.71%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	3.88	4.50	0.00%	25.00%	12.50%	12.50%	50.00%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.63	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	62.50%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	25.00%	62.50%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.13	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	37.50%	37.50%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.25	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	25.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.88	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	87.50%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.63	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	37.50%	62.50%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.88	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	87.50%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.38	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	12.50%	37.50%	50.00%	0.00%

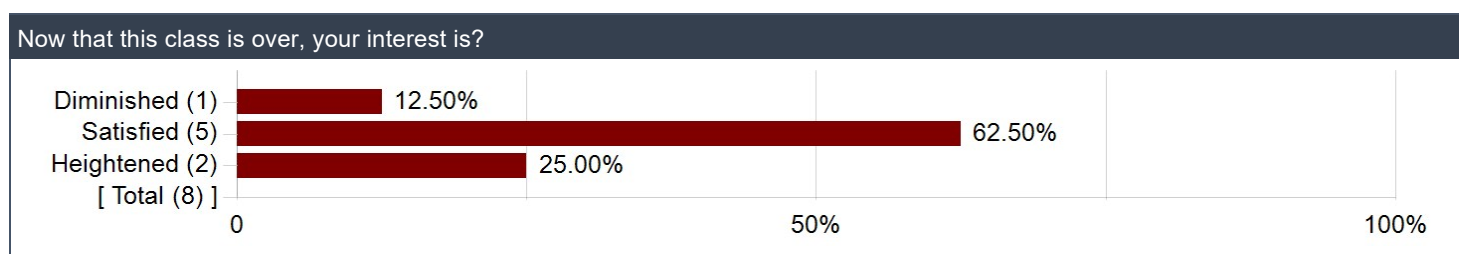
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



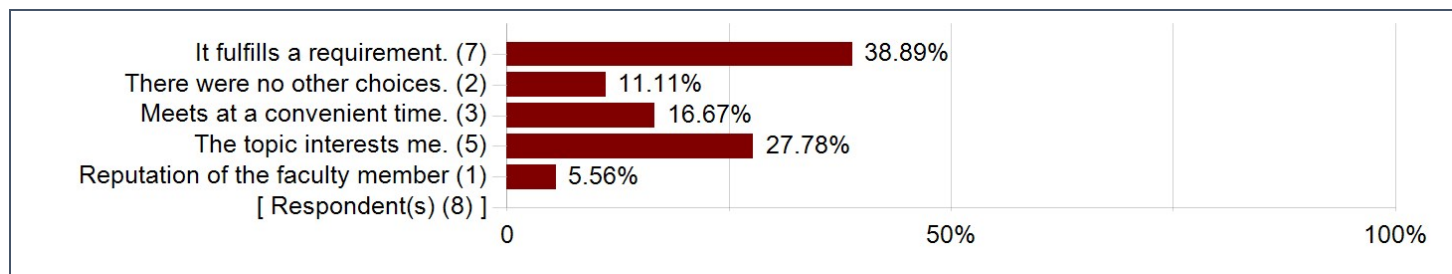
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



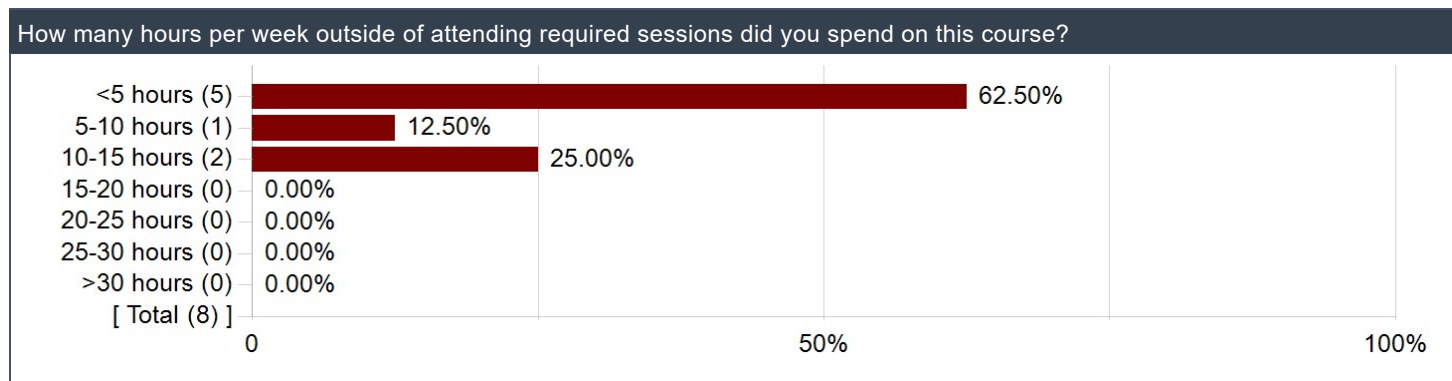
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



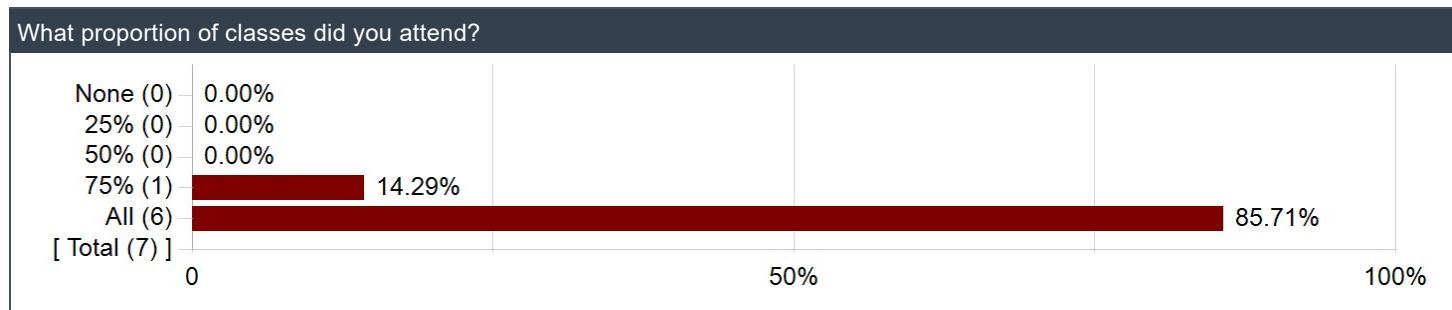
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
Very easy if you have the time to spend on doing the readings and actually writing the essays well.
Harder grader on participation than most core classes. Not your average check off when you participate prof, actually need to make real contributions or you'll get docked.
I had never taken any American history class before and I was not disadvantaged at all, thanks to the professor's focus on primary source analysis rather than testing content knowledge. There were also optional textbook readings for people who had less of a knowledge of the subject; I only did these occasionally and I was still completely fine! As long as you can analyze primary source texts and write a paper, the course material is not the most important part.
Pretty easy stuff but I am rather well versed in this material.
Difficult
This course was not too hard. Being familiar with basic American history makes this class very manageable.
Not too difficult.

