



SOSC 13200 6 - Social Science Inquiry II - Instructor(s): Molly Offer-Westort

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

Number Enrolled: **19**

Number of Responses: **12**

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
We learned how to code in r. We learned about different types of regressions, and when to use them. This class followed very closely with the readings.
linear regression, p-value, null hypothesis
How quantitative social scientists go about investigating relationships and substantiating causal claims.
How to understand and recreate research reports, data analysis, confidence intervals, r, research design.
r
R basics and statistical concepts and their applications
I learned a lot about the processes of analyzing data, as well as some of the coding skills that can make it easier.
"In this course, you will learn to approach data thinking like a social scientist. That means thinking about where your data comes from and how it's measured, and assessing and describing relationships among variables. Throughout the course, you will be exposed to statistical tests and other quantitative methods used in social science research. You will also work on statistical software programming and data visualization. This session of the course focuses on the theme of the "credibility revolution" in the social sciences: a move toward empirical studies built with quality data, rigorous research design, and appropriate strategies for analysis."
R
Studies are not as reliable as we wish they would be. Variables are very easily manipulated and many things can go wrong in a study to alter the outcome. Correlation does not imply causation

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

Comments
This professors lectures were very helpful. Additionally the homework assignments helped solidify what was talked about in the lessons.
lectures clarified stats topics; psets taught us R
Readings introduced us to major papers that contributed to the so-called "credibility revolution" where quantitative methods became more mainstream in the social sciences.
Lectures were helpful because we went over the readings and also had ample space to participate (for some reason half the class was silent all the time) Assignments were also helpful because they were not too time intensive, but still informative. I also appreciated having access to the lecture slides and code so I could follow along in class.
lectures were interesting
The problem sets were easy enough for new programmers to learn R but substantial enough to teach the concepts necessary to pass the classes
Assignments and lectures combined to help me learn a lot about statistical analysis.
Lectures were not as useful/enlightening as in 13100. A lot of lecture time was devoted to reading off prepared slides, which could become a bit hard to follow for 80 minutes. Not much time was devoted to learning how to code in R, but primers and separate office hours with another instructor were provided for this reason. Readings were interesting but not necessary for class discussion, and not much time was spent discussing their intricacies; rather, we spent time discussing their data (probably the most engaging part of lectures). Statistical tools were often skimmed over, and I didn't have enough time to think about what questions to ask.
Lectures and slides were helpful.
Class lectures were helpful in better understanding the topics and the code. Assignments did not help me learn R

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.30	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	50.00%	40.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.40	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	60.00%	40.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.30	4.50	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	40.00%	50.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	3.70	4.00	0.00%	30.00%	10.00%	20.00%	40.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.00	4.50	10.00%	10.00%	0.00%	30.00%	50.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	30.00%	60.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	60.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.20	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	40.00%	40.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
This professor is great, and wants to see you succeed!
It is helpful to have a little background with coding, but not necessary.

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	10.00%	90.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	10.00%	90.00%

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

Comments
Her lessons! She tells great lectures! By far the most interesting and most informative ones I have ever experienced!
Talking about our readings.
Professor Offer–Westort asked the class many questions, which provided space for students to participate.
N/A
The lectures, and walking us through examples of statistical analysis.
Professor Offer–Westort guided us through thoroughly questioning the techniques used to analyze data in the papers we read. This was useful and helped us realize how easy it is to manipulate data in the presentation of one's results in social science research.
The examples in R
Answering questions about homework or slightly off topic questions about the text

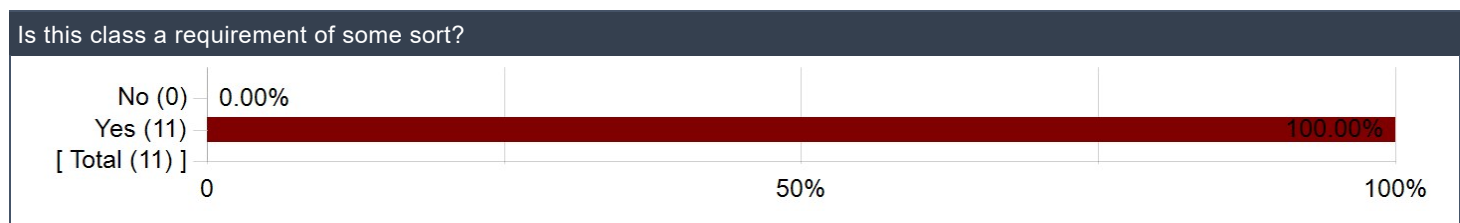
What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Nothing!
–
I think we could spend a little more time on the readings, because sometimes they can be a bit complicated.
I wish she would dedicate a little more time explaining the code and the statistical side of things and a little less on the readings themselves (although that's just personal preference).
She definitely could have used the board more to show derivations/uses of some of the statistical tools that we discussed (or at least linked them in the slides). Slides are easier to present, but they also tend to lose students' attention more easily, especially in longer classes.
Less talking at us and more facilitating a discussion. She could also be more of a story teller than a coding genius when communicating to enhance class engagement and understanding

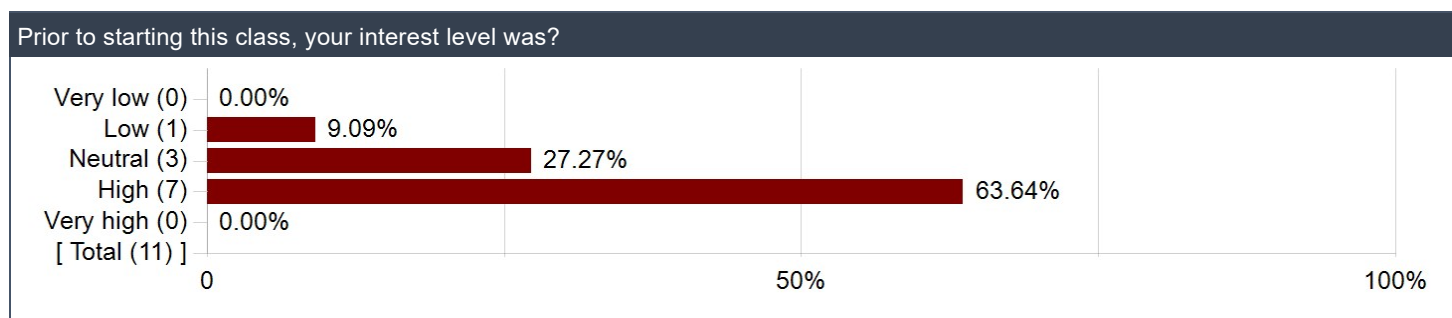
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.20	4.00	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	50.00%	40.00%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.30	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	30.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.30	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	30.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.30	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	50.00%	40.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.40	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	40.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	50.00%	20.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.10	4.50	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	30.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	70.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.30	4.50	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	40.00%	50.00%	0.00%

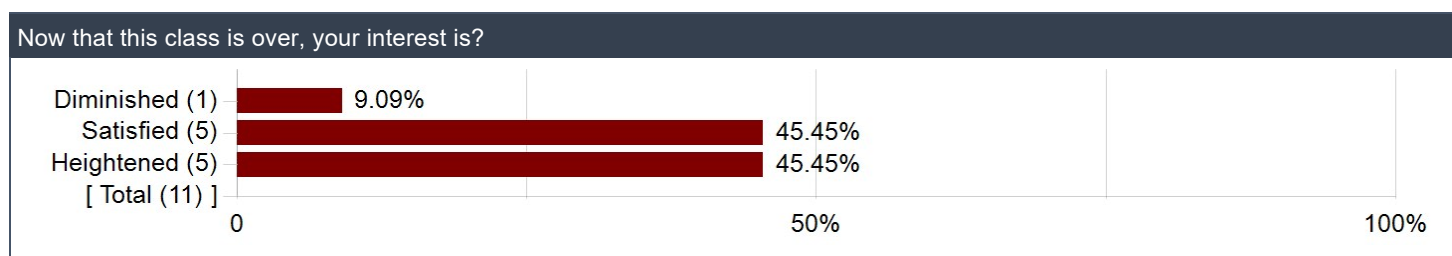
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



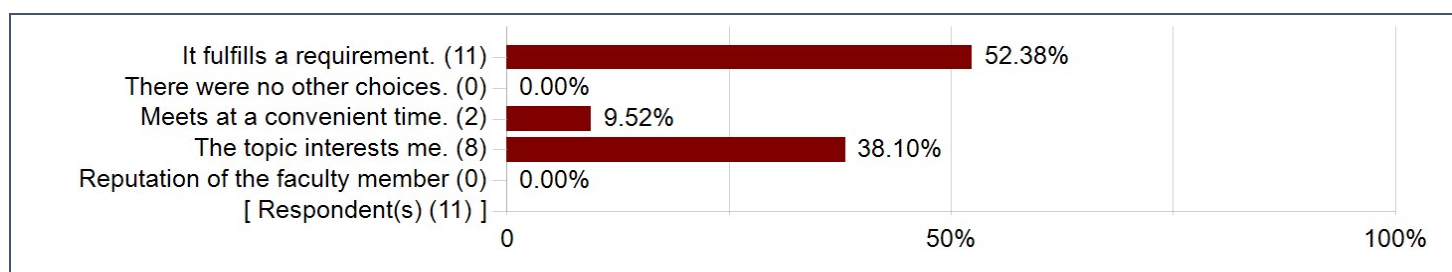
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



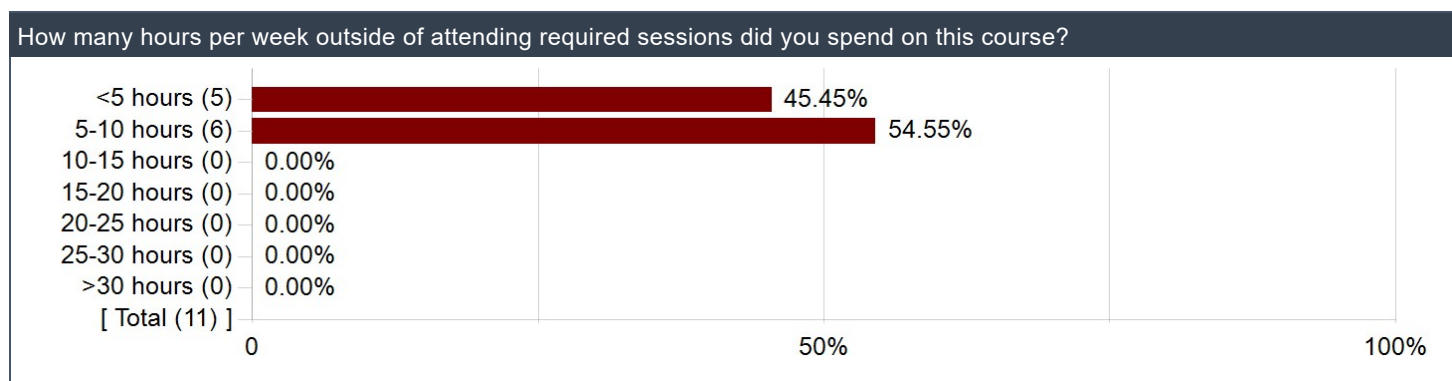
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



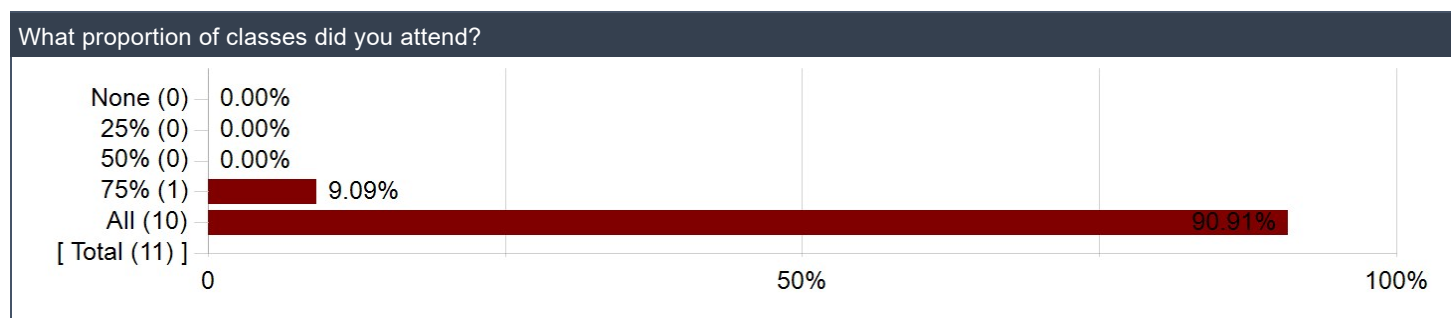
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



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
This class requires a lot of coding, and this professor is very good about making the assignments fair, reasonable, and doable for every student of all backgrounds!
If you took SOSC SSI 1 you'll be fine
It was not very difficult. It just requires a bit of coding, so it may be more difficult for students with no programming experience. Also, if you have taken data science courses, this course will be a bit easier.
I have basic python experience, and the problem sets in this class were both fun and really easy.
Coding experience in R is useful but not required. Many readings were already completed in 13100.
Not hard.
this was really hard if you have not coded before, had a hard time following class
Not much background with coding, but R/ Rstudio was not an issue