THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

SOSC 13100 8 - Social Science Inquiry I - Instructor(s): Richard Cooley

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

Number Enrolled: **18**
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.

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

Comments
How to make a study valid
Research design, research papers, experiments, social science topics.
Experimental design and other factors of sociology experiments.
Understanding the quantitative aspects of the social sciences.
I learnt so much! Mainly everything about how to construct social science research: the methodology, analysis, research techniques. Lots of experimental designs, concepts like internal/external validity, bias etc.
how social experiments are conducted
Experimental design and strategies for analyzing studies in social science
I learned how to interpret statistics in both political science and economics research papers
The principles of social sciences, the ability to read and evaluate statistical papers, etc.
normative and positive science, control and confounding variables, randomization, counterfactuals, central limit theorem, different types of biases/threats to validity, difference–in–differences design, regression discontinuity, instrumental variables

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

Comments
I really liked Dr Cooley's lectures and the recaps were helpful
Lectures helped to clarify the readings and assignments (papers) applied knowledge gained from readings.
Discussions were helpful.
Readings introduced concepts, lectures reviewed them and reinforced understanding.
The lectures were amazing. Perfect mix of discussion and presentation by the professor. The readings are also great.
discussions were useful for picking up parts of the reading i missed
Lectures were important for understanding overarching concepts and readings supplemented lectures with in–real–life examples
This contributed to my learning by giving me a deeper understanding of how papers are written and the experiments used to create supportive claims.
Our discussions on papers we've read reinforced concepts we encountered.
The readings and class discussions were very helpful

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.18	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	45.45%	36.36%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	36.36%	63.64%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.64	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	36.36%	63.64%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.73	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	27.27%	72.73%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.73	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	27.27%	72.73%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.82	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	81.82%
I felt respected in this class.	4.82	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	81.82%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.91	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	90.91%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
Great course.
Essays were really easy as long as you do the reading. Otherwise the class is really chill.
Professor Cooley is super smart and kept things interesting. He's also super accommodating when it comes to sickness/extensions/etc which is nice.
I loved this course and would recommend it to everyone, regardless of interest in the material.
cooley the goat
Great Professor and great class!

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	0.00%	100.00%
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 |
| --- |
| Examples |
| I liked how he explained the readings and had lectures designed so that they were discussions and were very active. |
| Prof is really chill in discussions. Class discussions were fun. |
| Class discussions were great. |
| The personal anecdotes, humor, willingness to encourage discussion, open–ended questions. The slides were also great. The class atmosphere in general was very conducive to great discussion and learning. |
| his ability to explain a topic if you didn't get it and his willingness to help on papers. |
| Such a good prof! His examples/lectures were very clear, he is very inclusive, and he made expectations for the course very obvious. |
| He created a really warm environment for class discussion. I always felt included and he made sure to build off of the points that the students were making. He also would take time to break down complex research designs if the class had a hard time understanding them. |
| The guided questions used during discussions and time for breaking out into groups to discuss contributed most to my learning |

What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

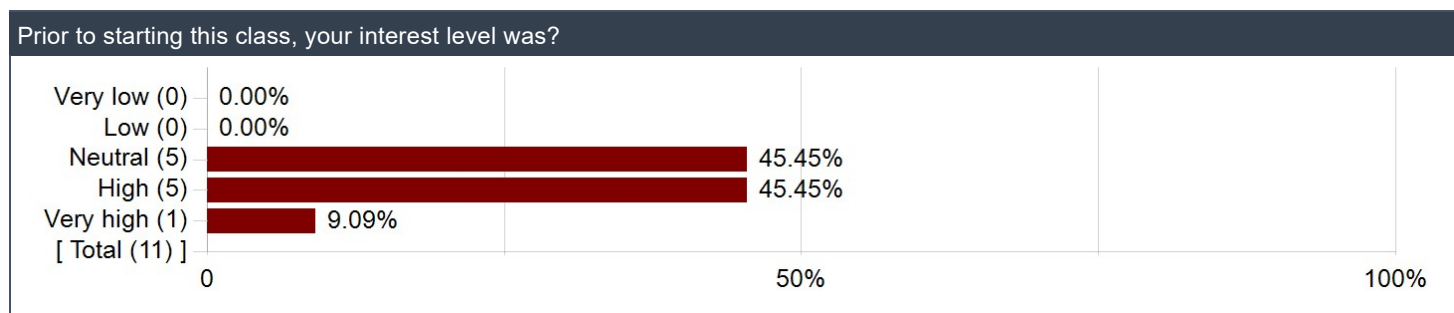| Comments |
| --- |
| Maybe have more text on the slides that we can refer back to? |
| Nothing. |
| post the essay prompts earlier so we can start on the essays earlier. |
| Nothing. |
| Maybe take slightly more control and teach some concepts directly without opening the floor for a lot of discussion. Sometimes students did not have the right idea of a concept and he didn't correct them because he was trying to make the class atmosphere very comfortable and engagement–heavy. But overall, not much to be improved, the course was great. |
| nothing cooley the goat |
| N/A. This was a fantastic class. |
| n/a |

The Instructor . . .

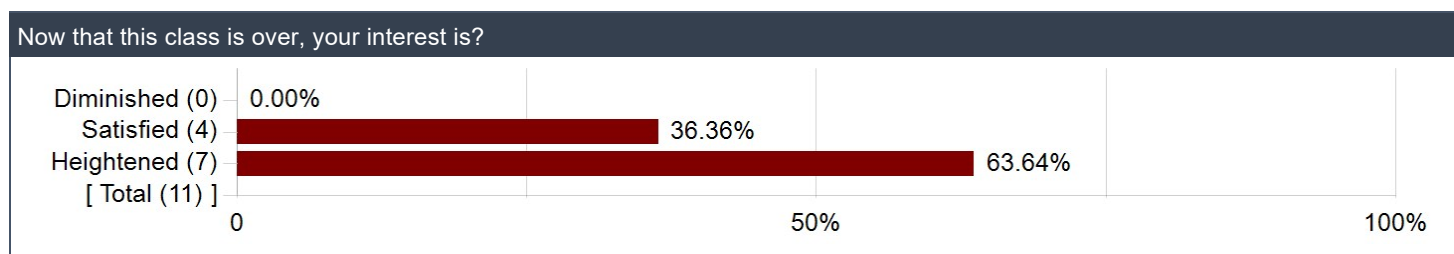|	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.91	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	90.91%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.91	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	90.91%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.73	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	27.27%	72.73%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.82	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	18.18%	81.82%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.91	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	90.91%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	5.00	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%

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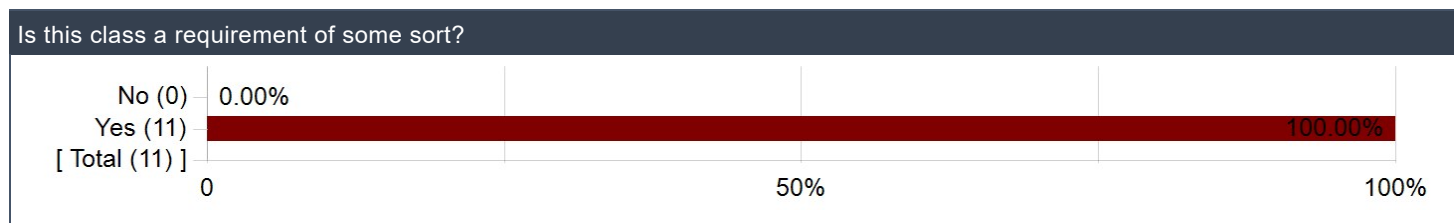
Is this class a requirement of some sort?

No (0)	0.00%
Yes (11)	100.00%
[Total (11)]	

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?

Very low (0)	0.00%
Low (0)	0.00%
Neutral (5)	45.45%
High (5)	45.45%
Very high (1)	9.09%
[Total (11)]	

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Now that this class is over, your interest is?

Diminished (0)	0.00%
Satisfied (4)	36.36%
Heightened (7)	63.64%
[Total (11)]	

Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)
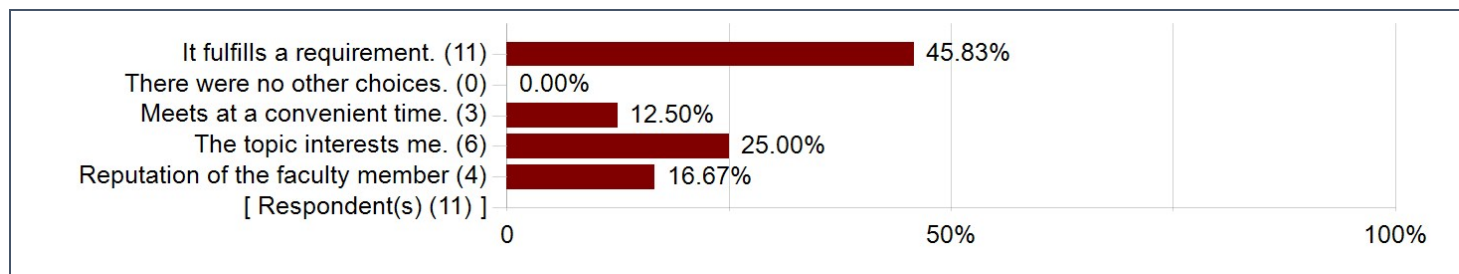
It fulfills a requirement. (11)	45.83%
There were no other choices. (0)	0.00%
Meets at a convenient time. (3)	12.50%
The topic interests me. (6)	25.00%
Reputation of the faculty member (4)	16.67%
[Respondent(s) (11)]	

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

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<5 hours (6)	54.55%
5-10 hours (5)	45.45%
10-15 hours (0)	0.00%
15-20 hours (0)	0.00%
20-25 hours (0)	0.00%
25-30 hours (0)	0.00%
>30 hours (0)	0.00%
[Total (11)]	

What proportion of classes did you attend?

What proportion of classes did you attend?

None (0)	0.00%
25% (0)	0.00%
50% (0)	0.00%
75% (1)	9.09%
All (10)	90.91%
[Total (11)]	
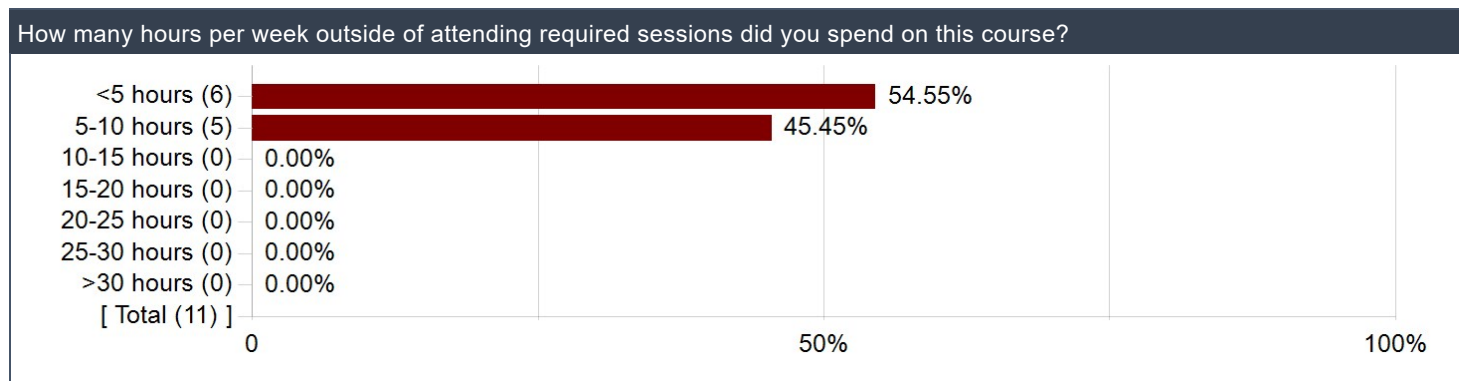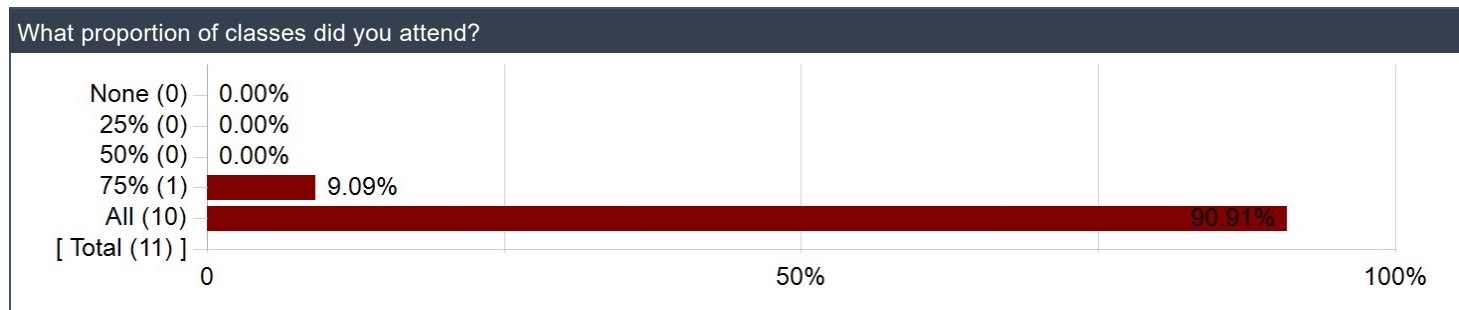
Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments

I have no experience but it was manageable

Not too difficult , some of the readings are more dense/longer than others but very manageable.

This quarter there aren't any technical aspects, it's just papers. So very standard difficulty wise. We'll see how things develop in SSI 2/3!

Low difficulty

not hard if you do the readings

This course was not too challenging. If you do the readings, essays are pretty straightforward and graded fairly.

I took AP stats in high school so most concepts were familiar to me